

November 30, 2016

The Saratoga Town Board met at 5:30 p.m. in the town office. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. Forbes was absent. The meeting was officially noticed on November 28, 2016. The Town's Attorney Paul Kent was present.

Paul Kent reviewed his memo evaluating the building permit and nonconforming use status of the Golden Sands Dairy production facility. As with the Towns' long standing practice, building permits are valid for a period of two years after the date of issuance. The permit was issued May 22, 2013 and there has been no building construction. In addition, a property that is designated as a nonconforming use loses that designation if it is discontinued for 12 consecutive months, and any future use shall conform to the regulation of the zone in which it is located. Mr. Kent recommends that the Town Board direct the Towns' Zoning Official to notify Golden Sands Dairy that they must now conform to the Town of Saratoga Zoning Ordinance in all respects. Heeg made a motion to have the Zoning Official issue a letter advising Golden Sands Dairy that their building permit and nonconforming use permit status for the production facility have expired. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed 4 to 0.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed Manure Storage Ordinance. The Ordinance would cover the pit and storage of manure at a production facility. The Town can adopt the ordinance in accordance with state standards. The Ordinance would give the Town the right to issue permits, inspect at the site, and enforce if necessary. The Ordinance must be sent to Wood County for review and comment before the Town could adopt the ordinance. Passineau made a motion to recommend adoption of the Manure Storage Ordinance and instruct legal counsel to send the Ordinance to the Wood County Planning and Zoning and Land Conservation Departments for review and comment. The Board will continue with possible adoption at the January 18th, 2017 meeting. Frank seconded it. Motion passed 4 to 0.

The Board discussed the Livestock Operation Ordinance. This ordinance includes an extensive finding of facts and declaration policy. It summarizes scientific studies explaining why experts believe the application of manure to the soils in the Town will create groundwater contamination issues. It also includes the USGS map with soil classifications, various studies of nitrates at Central Sands Dairy, and monitoring well information from the last two years from within the Town. The Ordinance follows state permitting requirements and standards and will allow the Town discretionary enforcement regarding land spreading of manure. The Town will be able to monitor and take action and not wait for the DNR if they notice that there is a problem. The ordinance will be sent to DNR for review. Frank made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-30-16; Livestock Operation Ordinance. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Passineau made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski
Town Clerk

