

T H E T O W N O F
MERRIMAC

56911 State Highway 113 – P.O. Box 115
Merrimac, WI 53561

MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 3, 2010

Present were Steve Peetz, Chair, Supervisor John Gaedke, Supervisor Terry Frosch, and Tim McCumber, Town Administrator & Clerk – Treasurer.

Peetz called the **TOWN BOARD MEETING** to order. McCumber confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed. The board considered approval of minutes of the town board meeting of January 6, 2010. Motion by Frosch to approve both, second by Peetz. Motion passed. The board reviewed the financial reports and approval of bills. Motion by Peetz to approve, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. Under **PUBLIC COMMENT**, no one appeared. Under **CORRESPONDENCE**, the town had received a press release from Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB) regarding DNT in Lake Wisconsin, the topic appears later on the agenda. Sauk County announced the NIXLE Emergency Management system where residents can sign up for emergency announcements from Sauk County and the town that can be sent to their email and/or cell phones. People can sign up at NIXLE.com or go to the town's website for instructions. Under **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**, McCumber reported on his attendance at a meeting in Lodi where a group is forming a lake association forming for Lake Wisconsin. McCumber reported they had invited the town and asked to have residents participate, but they were not real specific as to what they wanted from the township. McCumber reported that the Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs will be holding a public hearing on SB-172, a bill targeted at repairing the annexation law that he has been working with the town's association on. The bill has been approved by the Assembly Committee and is waiting a floor vote. Peetz reported the fire department is seeking to be part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). He asked to have the topic placed on the agenda for next month. There was no **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**. Under **NEW BUSINESS**, the board discussed possible action regarding a request from CSWAB, Laura Olah representative, to adopt a resolution a resolution requesting the US Army prevent and remove contaminants from the Badger Army Ammunition plant that may be entering Lake Wisconsin and private wells. Laura Olah gave a presentation regarding a new study from SpecPro, the Army contractor, which was released in December 2009. This report suggests groundwater contamination from Badger Army Ammunition Plant is contaminating wells and is also entering Lake Wisconsin. CSWAB is asking the Army to now take action to prevent the spread of contamination rather than monitor its progress as it does now. They believe there are actions the Army can take based on known technologies. She said that there are a number of residents on Bay Road who have complained to her that their wells are not being tested. Joan Kenney, US Army, had additional information that the board requested to see. Kenney reported they have not found any contaminants in the lake or the wetlands, but the SpecPro report makes assumptions based on topography. She also said the testing process is determined based on where the army believes the contaminants may be spreading, so not every well is tested based on this priority. She believes the private wells that are not being tested are not an immediate threat. McCumber read the resolution presented by Olah with amendments he added that would also address Lake Wisconsin, not just drinking wells. He also amended a section calling for reports to the town noting that the town does not have jurisdiction over the Army or the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural resources (DNR). amended resolution addresses reporting to the DNR and DNR enforcement as the Town does not have jurisdiction over the Army or private wells. The amendment calls for the DNR to receive reports and take the appropriate actions. A motion was made by Peetz, second by Frosch to adopt the resolution 2010-01 with amendments as drafted by McCumber. Under discussion, Kinney further reported they do test threatened wells for free, but there is no practical way to remove the contaminants. She also reported there that not all of the contaminants reported by CSWAB have standards for contamination. Some of them only have proposed standards that are not required to enforce yet. They believe they have put in a cap in the questioned site to prevent rainwater from spreading the contamination and they do believe it works. The bio-remediation process Olah reported on at the deterrent site is being modified to improve the process. She said they are attempting to do the work being requested, but the process has constantly reviewed to assure the work is being done at the best cost. She believes there are some TCE contaminants that may have come from an old gas station on the property. She said that the three main requests of the

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resolution are items that the Army is trying to address. Olah made some clarifications to Kinneys testimony noting specifically they want health advisories enforced over health standards. No other discussion of the board. Motion passed. The board then discussed possible action to consider a resolution to oppose Dept. of Revenue (DOR) County Assessment proposal, which appeared as an amendment to the agenda and posted on February 2. McCumber read the resolution noting that the DOR proposal estimates the assessment process could be done for \$25 per parcel where the town currently does the same thing for \$18 during a full revaluation year and for considerably less during maintenance years. The resolution also discusses how residents would lose the right to have Board of Review here in the township. A motion was made by Gaedke to adopt Resolution 2010-02, second by Peetz. With no further discussion, the motion passed.

Motion by Frosch to adjourn. Second by Gaedke. Motion passed.