

TOWN OF LODI
2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2017

Meeting called to order by Town Chairman Tom Marx @ 6:00 p.m. in the Lodi Town Hall.

15 Town Residents Present: Dan Parks (Bay Dr.), Jim & Allison Seaton (Bay Dr.), James Bechen (Arbor Valley Rd.), Tom Marx (Lake View Dr.), James Brooks (River Rd.), Jon Plumer (High Point Rd.), Jim Tooley (STH 60), Tom Hildebrandt (Summerville Park Rd.), Peg Vaughan (Cactus Acres Rd.), Chad Wolter, Jerome Williams (CTH V), Robert & Jennifer Zumm (Bayview Dr.), John Pickle, Jr. (N. Lake Point Dr.)

Also present: Roberta Arnold (Town property owner), Tamar Myers (Lodi Enterprise)

Swearing in: Town Chairman Tom Marx, Town Supervisor 1 James Brooks, and Town Supervisor 2 James Bechen sworn in by Town of Lodi Clerk-Treasurer April Goeske for 2-year terms beginning April 18, 2017 and ending April 16, 2019.

Allison Seaton: I would like to present a resolution regarding the Enbridge Line 61, which does not run that close to us, but that in the event of a situation with that line it would require responses from many local, county and state agencies and the related costs. Statement read by Allison Seaton:

Enbridge Energy Line 61 in Wisconsin – “While the country has been focused on Keystone XL, Enbridge Energy was quietly upgrading four pumps, adding nine pumps, and increasing the pressure and volume to Line 61 in Wisconsin. The proposed daily volume is almost 50% greater than the cancelled Keystone XL pipeline. Line 61 extends from Duluth/Superior diagonally through Wisconsin, existing into Illinois near Delavan.

In Columbia County, WI, Line 61 enters near Portage and exits near Columbus. With upgrades in place, the 42” line 61 pipe, at capacity, will increase from pumping 560,000 barrels of oil daily to 1.2 million barrels daily through Columbia County. Line 61 crosses under most major rivers in Wisconsin, notably the St. Croix, Flambeau, Wisconsin, and Rock rivers. Enbridge environmental violations have occurred in 14 Wisconsin counties with significant spills in Clark, Rusk and Adam counties.

Tar sand oil is dense and abrasive, and requires toxic chemicals to dilute it, sinks in water, and remains on the floor of riverbeds. Line 61 oil is pumped from Canadian oil fields to refineries in Illinois, the Gulf Coast, and to overseas markets. Enbridge is in the planning states to increase Line 61’s 80’ width to 280’ through “acquisition”.”

Tom Marx – while you, Allison, were reading this to us, I was looking to WSS relating to Annual Town Meetings. The closest one I find would be WSS 60.10(2)(j) *Watershed Protection and soil and water conservation “Authorize the town board to engage in watershed protection, soil conservation or water conservation activities beneficial to the town”;* but if this line doesn’t run through the town I’m not sure if this resolution would be binding. It’s something that the people could express support for. Margaret Vaughan – I would like to urgently support this because of the costs related to those pipelines leaking incurred by local governmental entities. Tom Marx – is this something the WI DNR has approved? Allison Seaton – I don’t think so, but I’m not sure. The only county that stood up and stated they believe this is a problem was Dane County, who was able to stop it on a technicality. John Pickle, Jr. – when Enbridge increased and added to the line

exactly what did they do? Did they address safety concerns? Allison Seaton – the responders along the line have been trained to respond to any issues with the line. Chad Wolter - pumps don't always mean more pressure, often it means more volume. As far as the joints there's a lot of liability in that, so I'd think they'd have to meet a lot of requirements, and often these companies give money to pay for additional responder training. John Pickle, Jr. – what does Pat Beghin at Columbia County Emergency Management (CCEM) have to say about this? James Brooks – Pat Beghin retired, it's now Kathy Johnson. John Pickle, Jr. – I suggest that we research this more and have CCEM come speak to the Town Board.

Resolution for Enbridge Line 61 Environmental Impact Statement

WHEREAS, Enbridge Energy has upgraded Line 61 to pump 1.2 million barrels of oil at high pressure through Columbia County, Portage to Columbus, and

WHEREAS, Line 61 crosses under the Wisconsin River, along with other major Wisconsin rivers, presenting a potential toxic hazard to a major US water source, fish and wildlife, tourism, and recreation, and

WHEREAS, a pipeline spill would require response from the DNR, EPA, DOT, lawyers, insurance companies, and could cause Columbia County government and taxpayers significant financial hardship, and

WHEREAS, the Columbia County public has little or no knowledge of Line 61, its potential for an environmental disaster, cost of spill cleanup, threat to health and safety to Columbia County residents and businesses,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE, we hereby request that the DNR, DOT, EPA, Wisconsin Public Service Commission, and Columbia County Board of Supervisors undertake a full environmental impact statement, engineering study, and local public hearings to inform the Columbia County public of all the health and financial aspects concerning Enbridge Energy Line 61 in Columbia County.

Allison Seaton motion to approve this resolution/Margaret Vaughan seconded the motion; Vote: Yes – 7, No -3. Motion carried.

John Pickle, Jr.: I don't know if this issue is still alive, but at past Annual Town meetings people have asked that the Town install Emergency Warning sirens. Tom Marx – I've been talking to a local sales representative about this, and it would take 2 sirens to cover the major populated areas of Harmony Grove and Okee. James Brooks – I've talked to Dane County Emergency Management (DCEM), and 2 is not nearly enough to cover all of the Town of Lodi. DCEM also said that just because you have a siren doesn't mean everyone who hears it is going to pay attention to it. Weather radios are the best and most reliable warning. Margaret Vaughan – what is the sirens reach and volume? James Brooks – one problem is that our Town is not flat, so sirens are harder to place. Tom Marx – the person who I've been speaking to did give me a map of where sirens would be placed and what they cover. John Pickle, Jr. – you should talk to Town of West Point and Town of Merrimac about whether they have sirens.

Chad Wolter: On my portion of Lake Point Drive the cars go faster up and down my street (which is posted 25 mph) than they go on CTH V (which is 35 mph through all of Harmony Grove to Whalen's Grade). James Bechen – there's the same issue on North Lake Point in the Arbor Valley Drive area. Tom Marx – we have requested that Lodi PD have officers set up radar points in our problem areas. I can contact the Lodi PD and ask

them if they'd do this in the near future. Dan Parks – as far as the speed issue, Summerville Park Road speeding has always been a problem for a long time. Some areas in other municipalities have installed speed bumps that slow drivers down, but don't affect snowplows. James Brooks – I've talked to the Lodi PD Chief and they may be willing to go in with the Town of Lodi on purchasing a system that flashes lights if a driver is speeding. James Bechen – I saw we ask the Lodi PD to allocate 1 hour/week for speed control on Fair Street, and 1 hour/week for the same on N. Lake Point/Lake Point. Tom Marx – we could start with those streets, and then move to other problem streets. James Bechen – there are a lot of children riding bikes and people walking on N. Lake Point, and the cars race by them speeding.

Dan Parks: what is the schedule for roadwork, the intersection of Rapp/Summerville/CTH V is nothing but potholes. Tom Marx – I talked to the Columbia County Highway Department (CCHD) and they should be at least temporarily filling the potholes. CCHD will be doing Lang Road first, then Dalton, and they haven't told me the schedule for the other 3 approved for this year. Dan Parks – I hope CCHD will be doing something before the proposed CTH V project to repair the deck of the bridge before that. Chad Wolter – what are the other road projects approved for this year? Tom Marx - Park Street, Summerville and Thunder Hills.

Allison Seaton: Planning & Zoning – speaking about the “toybox homes” proposed for Rapp Road, is anything being done to create an ordinance relating to them? Tom Marx – not yet, but it's something I plan to work on. I'd like to have people come sit down and talk to me about what they'd like in that ordinance. There are some areas in the Town where these “toybox homes” would fit in the town. Jim Seaton – who has the authority to determine what is and is not allowed? Tom Marx – Columbia County. Jim Seaton – so if the Town says no to something the county could say yes? I have spoken to the town attorney about creating this ordinance. Margaret Vaughan - you'd think the county would not want to approve something that a town is against. James Brooks – the county has recently voted to approve something in the Town of Dekorra that their town board voted against, and now the Town of Dekorra is suing the county. Roberta Arnold – technically no action has to be taken, the county simply needs to follow its own current ordinances, which it did not in the case of the “toybox home” on Rapp Road.

Chad Wolter: I read the minutes from your last Town Board meeting and saw that the faulty CO2 alarm bill for a resident was cut in ½; why? Tom Marx – that was due to hardship. Chad Wolter – I had a same bill back in late 2010, and came before the Town Board in January 2011. A motion was made (James Bechen/Jerry Ritchie) and passed to deny my request to reduce or eliminate my bill. Current Supervisor 3 Robert Benson was on the board back then, and he voted to deny me, but then last month approved reducing a bill. Tom Marx – there is disagreement among current Town Board members regarding whether to rebill for fire calls. This is an active discussion, and this may be brought up at the Joint Lodi Area Fire Department/Lodi Emergency Medical Service/Town of Lodi/Town of West Point/City of Lodi joint meeting next Monday. Chad Wolter – I understand why the town rebills, because so many of the fire calls are for vehicle accidents, which are covered by insurance. When your CO2 alarm goes off, if you call MG&E they tell you they'll charge \$90 if it's CO2 and not gas, but that if you call your local FD there won't be any charge. April Goeske – I did talk with Fire Chief Bobby Annen regarding getting me information that I could use to possibly come up with a possible variable fee schedule based on length of fire run and services provided, and I also am trying to check with other local fire departments to see how they bill and how they are paid. James Brooks – if a citizen comes in with a resolution at a future town meeting saying the town should not rebills these Tom Marx – that's not a power of the town meeting.

Margaret Vaughan: I would like to present a resolution regarding transparency in government. Tom Marx – there has never been in the 2 years I've been in office any discussion with the City of Lodi regarding annexing land in the Town of Lodi to the City. Roberta Arnold – that's not correct, you have talked to the City about properties in the Town that would be possible for expansion of the business park in the City of Lodi. Tom Marx

– that is correct, my personal opinion is with the building of a new school the taxes from additional businesses would help pay for that school. Roberta Arnold – that was your position when you were President of the Village of Waunakee, and now that Village is one of the most expensive to live in. Tom Marx – at that time the City of Madison was talking about annexing from Cherokee Marsh out to the Village of Waunakee, and the plans that we made at that time stopped that from happening. Margaret Vaughan – if a board member has discussions with neighboring municipalities that greatly affect the property owners of the Town they should be done fully before the public. Tom Marx – so what you’re saying is that if any Town Board member talks to anyone in a neighboring municipality they should report to the board that they had these discussions? Margaret Vaughan – I’m just saying when it’s a subject such as annexation that affects everyone in the Town it should be open to the public. James Bechen – I understand what Margaret is trying to say. If there’s a quorum of Town Board members present at these discussions then it does have to be noticed as a meeting. But to say that I can’t talk to anyone about subjects such as annexation is violating my First Amendment rights. Jim Seaton – is there an authority level where the City can say it’s going to annex property without getting permission of the town. Roberta Arnold – it used to be that way, but the laws have changed in recent years – in favor of the towns.

***RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that any quorum or walking quorum discussions by Lodi Town Board members with each other to consider annexation of all or part of the Town of Lodi to the City of Lodi, that such discussion will be fully disclosed in free and open Town meetings.

Margaret Vaughan motion/James Brooks seconded the motion; Vote: Yes – 9, No - 3. Motion carried

Allison Seaton: I want to speak in support of the prairie that surrounds the town hall on 2 sides and maintaining it. 15-20 years ago, this and the other side of CTH V was solid prairie, and there was a Compass plant growing that was problem the last still growing in the Columbia County. There are at least 35 recognized native prairie plants that are growing around the town hall, check in July and you’ll see them. Another comment - wild parsnip and garlic mustard should be added to the list of noxious weeds.

Chad Wolter: The walking path in Wildenberg Park is mowed nice, but in the summer when the plants along it grow so tall they fall into the path. The tick problem is so bad in Harmony Grove. So, if it could be mowed along the path, taller than the path, it could greatly help in keeping the plants from falling on the path and spreading ticks on people walking through. Tom Marx – we’ve substantially increased the budget for Parks so that more can be done with and in our parks.

Tom Marx: just a FYI there’s a proposal for a sign out in front of the town hall that will be presented to the Town Board at the April 25th meeting.

James Bechen/Jon Plumer motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.; MC unanimously

April D. Goeske
Clerk-Treasurer