

TOWN OF LODI
2019 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019

Pursuant to WSS 60.11 the Town of Lodi will hold its 2019 Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lodi Town Hall located @ W10919 County Road V.

Town residents/property owners present: Tom Marx, Kathy Marx, Brian Henry, Jennifer Henry, James Brooks, Aaron Arnold, Jay Gawlikoski, James Seaton, Allison Seaton, Rich Braun, Doris Braun, Robert Collins, Chad Wolter, Nancy Mitchell, Tom Dunn, Jane Zavoral, Kerri Severson, Terri Michels, Joan Zavoral, Dawn Joachim, Tom Crum Sr., Hugh Cushley, Roberta Arnold.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tom Marx. Marx – I would like to thank all our commission, committees and people of the town who have given their input and work the years I've been town chairman, and my wife for having the patience with me these past few years (and many before that). We recently transferred our bank accounts to Settler's Bank. The first quarter of this year we've made more than double the interest we did the first quarter of the same period last year. In 2018 we paid off the 10-year loan on the town hall (6 years early). We also hired a part-time Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, who has taken over the financials for the town, and also for the LAFD and LAEMS. We currently have all but 2 of our roads with Paser ratings of > 5 (7-8 =good, 9-10 = excellent). We made the main entrances of the Town Hall handicap accessible. Brian Henry has taken over running the Transfer Site and it's running smoothly. We vacated Mack Road, which was basically only a driveway to 1 farm, heavily travelled and needing more-than-normal repairs and maintenance. We updated our Erosion Control and Storm Water Management ordinances. Our budget at the end of the year we had only around \$500 balance at the end of the year, which is how it's supposed to be. I now turn the meeting over to Brian Henry.

Brian Henry – I've been Town Supervisor 3 for several years, and I've been working out at the Transfer Site since September 2018. I open the floor to you.

Jon Plumer – I want to thank Tom Marx for his tremendous service to the Town.

Aaron Arnold – I had a resident call me this morning regarding the park dog waste stations being overflowing. Brian Henry – I'll be taking care of those this weekend. Chad Wolters – so the full-time public works person will be doing more than work at the Transfer Site? Brian Henry – yes, maintenance of parks, all town buildings, and the Transfer Site. Chad Wolter – will the public works personal also take over road signs, etc. on town road? Brian Henry – if it's town property we will address how to get it done.

Mark Prouty - Wildenberg Prairie, are they going to improve and add to the trails in that park. Nancy Mitchell – the Park Commission is setting aside money for that park for improvements to Wildenberg. Mark Prouty - all we need is hiking trails at this time, doesn't take much money.

I've been mowing the current path, will the Public Works employee be doing that? Brian Henry – yes.

Jane Zavoral - any info on STH 60 roadwork? Tom Marx – work supposed to start this Spring. April Goeske – watch the town's website for updates.

Terri Nichols – there's a property on Summerville Park Road next door to me that had junk cars on it, which the town was able to get removed. But the building is still in deplorable condition. Tom Marx – that's something we have to follow-up on with the building inspector, who was waiting for specific instructions as to what we wanted them to do. Terri Nichols – the owners have been saying for years that someone (relative) was going to tear the house down and rebuild, but it never happens. Brian Henry – I will make calls tomorrow.

Mark Prouty – the culvert on the corner of Park Street and West Harmony is nearly plugged again, and the blacktop is sinking. James Brooks – that's on a list we've started compiling. Marx – we had the county do a culvert inventory to possibly prevent this in the future. Brooks – I looked at this culvert yesterday and something needs to be done asap.

Allison Seaton – I'd like to comment on stormwater management. Between CTY Y and Riddle Road there's a huge runoff into the creek, also on CTH K/Mack Road into Spring Creek, this and others is why the City of Lodi flooded worse this year than previously. One of the things the WI DNR pointed out 20 years ago was that we have runoff filled with manure, silt, etc... ending up in Okee Bay and creeks. It's causing the blue green algae problem at the swimming beach in Okee. And when you go to Harmony Grove then you get all the runoff from the Poynette area that comes in from Whalen's Grade. In the past the Town of Lodi Park Commission used to give the City of Lodi Park Commission money for upkeep of the pool in the City of Lodi. ***Allison Seaton/Terese Carr motion that the Town of Lodi donate \$1,000 to the City of Lodi for that purpose; motion carried by voice vote.*** Tom Marx – this is not an action, per Wisconsin State Statutes regarding Town Meetings, that is binding to the Town of Lodi Park Commission and/or Town Board. Terese Carr – are the lakes, etc. in our area tested by the WI DNR for phosphates, etc.? Allison Seaton – they used to be, but don't know that they are now. Jon Plumer – I had the conversation with Ted Goeres a couple years ago and he was adamant that his donation of that pool was restricted so that NO ONE ever be charged to use that pool. Chad Wolters – I don't think the Town should be paying the City of a pool that cost too much to build. And it's not only local community people who use that pool, there's also people from out of the area and state. Joan Zavoral - \$1,000 is not a large amount, and it's a token of good will to the City from the Town.

Terese Carr/Hugh Cushley motion to pass Resolution (see attachment A on Page 4 of 4 of these minutes) against gerrymandering by the State when redoing the district maps. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Terese Carr - the party in power will do this because it's legal, but it's bad for democracy. It dilutes our power to vote. A large number of Democrats and Republicans feel gerrymandering is wrong. This is a non-partisan issue. Wisconsin is in the spotlight as the most gerrymandered state in the United States. Gerrymandering can be fixed, as it was done in Iowa.

Allison Seaton – I think the most important person in the room is April Goeske, who seems to know what others don't.

Chad Wolter – when you turn onto Lakepoint by the bank the shoulder is quite deep up until the first house, water washout and compression from people cutting short when turning.

Aaron Arnold – the town tree that fell on my fence last fall is still there. Henry – I will make a call tomorrow and get it taken care of.

April Goeske – Brian Henry, James Brooks and Aaron Arnold all sworn in last week.

Tami Newman/Joan Zavoral motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm; Motion carried by voice vote.

April D. Goeske
Clerk-Treasurer

ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin legislature is directed to redraw state legislative districts "according to the number of inhabitants" at its next session following the decennial federal census; the legislature also reapportions congressional districts at the same interval pursuant to federal law; and

WHEREAS, manipulating elections by drawing partisan district boundaries is antithetical to a representative, consensus-based democracy because it removes power and trust from voters and promotes candidate polarization; and there is a need to restore fairness and legitimacy to the Wisconsin democratic process; and

WHEREAS, because these state and congressional districts belong to the citizens of Wisconsin and not to any legislator, interest group, or political party, the redistricting process should not be used by those in power to protect their power or achieve partisan gains, but should be designed in the best interests of Wisconsin's democracy:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the citizens of the Township of Lodi hereby request the Town Board of Supervisors to advocate for an amendment to the Wisconsin State Constitution directing the responsibility of legislative redistricting to a nonpartisan commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Lodi requests its Board to advocate that the Wisconsin state legislature, before the start of the next redistricting process following the 2020 federal census, pass legislation establishing a nonpartisan commission to transparently prepare legislative and congressional district maps that emphasize geographic contiguity, consistency with natural and political boundaries (such as county lines), and compactness (generally low perimeter-to-area ratio) and that are not based on past voting patterns, party information, incumbents' residential information or demographic information (except as necessary to ensure minority participation as required by the U.S. Constitution); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Lodi Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to each of the following: Governor Tony Evers, all Wisconsin state representatives and Wisconsin state senators who represent Columbia County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Towns Association, and the Wisconsin League of Municipalities.

Adopted this 16th day of April, 2019 by the citizens of the Township of Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin.

Town Board Chairman

Town Clerk