

Town of Winfield
May 15, 2013
Work Session with LaBerge Group
Regular Town Meeting

6:00 p.m.

The LaBerge Group informed the Board of many changes in the grant application process this year. This is the first year that ALL of the grants will be under one single application and that will be dispersed to the correct agencies. (Consolidated Funding Application) Community Block Grants and “Home” Grants are still separate and are usually due a month later.

Supervisor Osborn asked that if the Village and the Town were to merge, would the Town have to absorb the debt for the water department of the Village. He was informed that no, there would have to be a separate district set up as a water district. LaBerge also informed the Board that consolidation of Villages and Towns do not necessarily mean that there would be job loss or less efficiency. He gave several examples of better efficiency upon consolidation. He also stated that there would be more grants available for a community that consolidates.

He also informed the Board that a Comprehensive Plan is a must for a Township to qualify for a grant. The process would be started with this and a Town wide survey about income, etc. The residents of the home must be income eligible. Homes within the Village may not be included unless the Village does this on their own. The income survey must be done before anything else should be done.

Under the “Home” grants, the Town would state how many homes are in need of help under this grant and the number of people that live in these homes. No home would be granted more than \$25,000. You must bring a house up to code.

The LaBerge Group has no idea how much in funds will be available for the coming year. Supervisor Osborn asked about the administration of the program. The administration may be done by a grant administrator or by the Board.

In review, he suggested that the Codes enforcer drive throughout the Town making charts of homes in need and then survey these homeowners to see if there is income eligibility. LaBerge has forms for the Codes officer to use as a guideline and the income eligibility applications. There will be homes that will not qualify because there is too large a need of repair as well as too little. This will be a start.

Councilman Royce questioned whether there were grants available for municipal building. LaBerge informed him that the State does not have funding for that specific use, but if it were to be a Community Center or the like, Parks and Recreation may have a grant that would apply.

7 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Winfield Town Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by Supervisor Charles Osborn. Members present were Councilman Howard Marsh, Michael Peo, Robert Royce and Councilwoman Sandra Smith. Guests present were Bill Kwasniewski and Ken Roberts.

General Fund claims # 75 - #96 and Highway Fund claims #32 - #39 were listed on Abstract of Voucher sheets. A motion was made by Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Peo to accept these Abstracts as presented. The motion was carried unanimously. The Supervisor's and Town Clerk's reports for April 2013 were audited by members present. A motion was made by Councilman Royce and seconded by Councilwoman Smith to accept these reports as audited. The motion was carried unanimously.

The minutes from the bid opening for the EFIS system held April 10, 2013 were accepted by a motion presented by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilwoman Smith. The motion was carried unanimously.

The minutes from the regular Board meeting held April 10, 2013 were read by each member. One correction was requested by Councilwoman Smith. Under the Supervisor's report article one the sentence should read: Councilwoman Smith motioned that if the cot is insignificant and will help the situation that we proceed with increasing the speed of the internet. A motion was made by Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Royce to accept these minutes as amended. The motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor's Report:

1. The Park has a shorted out line which services the concession, bathroom and garage in the park. Cedar Lake Electric has installed a temporary solar panel converter for light in the bathroom. This line is next to a high voltage line and because of this, Cedar Lake Electric has suggested that a new line be installed from the pole, up the hill and back down to be away from the high voltage line. Approximate cost will be \$5,000 with help from the Highway Department.
2. Supervisor Osborn informed that on May 26th, 2013 the DAR will have the dedication of the bench that it has had placed at the Willow Walk.

RESOLUTION 2013-04

On a motion presented by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilwoman Smith the following was Adopted:

Ayes 4 Marsh, Peo, Royce, Smith
Nays 0

The Board approves the work to be done in the Park to restore electricity to the concession stand, bathroom and garage by Cedar Lake Electric, Inc.

Town Clerk's Report:

1. The Law Office has asked if the Town has any of the fire proof cabinets purchased earlier that they are not using as they are in need of one. The Clerk informed the Board that there is one available.
2. BAS has been contacted and will be getting back to us with a price for the Codes/Zoning portion of the program for Ray Donley.
3. Trash Day was very successful with 135 participants and 11 participants with 2 loads.
4. Windstream has been contacted concerning the Internet. It will be upgraded for Hi Speed internet at no additional cost to the Town for 2 years.
5. Grievance Day is May 29 from 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.
6. Jeff Barrett has once again been chosen as Chairman of the Planning Board by its members.
7. Codes Officer/Zoning Officer Ray Donley has informed that the Special Use Permit for Dan Brown (mining) was approved by the Planning Board on May 13, 2013.

Codes/Zoning Report:

1. He has received no new permits this month.
2. Has done several inspections on current open permits and he is working with the current owner of the Doremus Doublewide.
3. He has received notification from the ZBA that they did approve the chicken process plant citing Ag & Markets approval.
4. He informed the Board that Attorney Quinn wrote the letter to Bernie Taylor but sent it to the wrong address. Mr. Donley notified the Attorney of the proper address and was told it would be corrected.
5. He is still working on badges and signs.

George Hazzard was present to ask about the mobile home next door to him. He questioned that if and when the Town does demolish it what about liability, etc. He stated that this has been many years and would like to know the process for example would the demolition be a bid process, etc. The process was explained to him by Supervisor Osborn. The Supervisor explained that the cost incurred would then be put on the Town and County Tax Bill. The Supervisor will check with Ray to make sure that the demolition process needs to be put up for bid.

Old Business:

Ken Roberts was present and informed the Board that the contract (a standard AIA document) for the EFIS system has been sent to Attorney Quinn for his review. Councilman Royce stated that he would like a list of drawings specified in the contract. Mr. Roberts also presented plans for the office renovations at the Highway Garage. The Board reviewed the plans and made several recommendations. Ken will revamp them and return with more plans and also send them via email for the Board's review.

Supervisor Osborn informed the Board that the Fire Department budget review has been postponed until June.

The website is near completion and will be available soon according to Jim Thompson from Driven Media.

Councilman Marsh questioned why the plow by the salt shed and 2 old salt sanders along with other miscellaneous metal have not been taken to the “scrap yard” as Highway Superintendent Gigliotti was authorized to do this before. Supervisor will check into this. Councilman Marsh also questioned whether the highway department has time sheets for the employees to sign. Supervisor Osborn informed him that Superintendent Gigliotti takes care of the time sheets and faxes them to the Calogero office for payment.

The next meeting of the Winfield Town Board will be June 12, 2013 at 7 p.m. at the Highway Garage.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Councilman Royce moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debrah B. Jones, Clerk