

**Town of Rhine**  
**Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 1, 2020**

Met at the town hall

Present: Ron Platz, Al Feld, Jon Rost, Bill Jacob, Larry Eberle

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1. **Call to Order and Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Ron Platz. The meeting was posted and published as required, and the media was notified.
2. **Pledge:**
3. **Approve minutes of August 4, 2020:** Motion to approve minutes as presented by Eberle. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Feld. All in favor.
4. **Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Read into record.
5. **Building permits for August:** Read into the record. A copy is in file.
6. **Public Comments:**

Mark Pfaller has concerns about traffic on Shoreland Road. People are frequently speeding, and it has become a frequent and dangerous problem. He feels something must be done about this, whether it is speed bumps, lower the speed limits, signs, etc.

Paul Booher echoes Pfaller's comments about the speeding problem on and around the lakes. There is a drastic lack of regard for traffic regulations in that area.

Julie Dobrynio also addressed the issue of traffic on East Shoreland Road. There have been multiple issues with speeding. She and her husband are concerned with speeding and safety. She would like the board to acknowledge that this is a problem and asked for recommendations on what could be done.

Platz said this issue will be sent to the roads committee for consideration.

There were no other public comments.

7. **Discuss and Possibly Act on:**

**A. Donation to school and IT technicians for use of school and IT assistance:**

The high school allowed the town to hold its town board meetings there over the summer. Platz would like to make a donation to the school and the three technicians who assisted the town during the summer.

Rost made a motion to compensate the Elkhart Lake - Glenbeulah school system \$500 for the use of its facilities and also to compensate the three IT technicians \$100 each. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Feld. Roll call vote: Eberle - yes, Jacob - yes, Rost - yes, Feld - yes, Platz - yes.

**B. Sale of boat:** The town has received correspondence from Police Chief Mike Meeusen regarding the sale of one of the patrol boats which had been used for patrolling on Little Elkhart Lake. It is currently not being used.

Mary Nennig, Jan Nelson, Mark Jaberg, and Paul Booher all expressed their opinion that law enforcement patrol is needed on the lake. They cited instances where swimmer, kayakers, etc. have been put in dangerous situations due to speeding boats.

There were no other public comments regarding this.

Chief Meeusen has reported difficulty in getting parts for the boat. There was discussion on repairing the boat. The engine does not have a lot of hours on it. Rost feels it is unconscionable that LEL has not been patrolled.

Jacob would like to get a cost estimate for repairs. He also agrees that there should be police patrol on the lake.

A decision was made to table the decision about selling the boat until repair estimates can be obtained and additional patrolling on LEL can be addressed.

**C. Set date for annual meeting:** This should have been in April, but it was missed due to COVID. It must be held separately from the regular Town Board meeting. Date set for October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**D. Request of General Lumber and Supply Company to vacate roads:** General Lumber reps were not able to attend the meeting tonight, and waivers from property owners were not returned on time. There is also an issue with one property owner regarding ownership. Action on this item will be tabled for a future date because of these issues.

Mary Nennig inquired about an easement by her house and her concern over trees that are dying and not being cared for. Feld explained the difference between that issue and General Lumber's request. Her question concerns who has the legal right to that easement and what can be done about the trees possibly falling on her property? Feld has been working with the county to determine who is responsible for maintaining that area. The town will get an answer and get back with her.

**8. Chairman's information report and correspondence.**

**A. ATV proposal:** Platz mentioned a request from a group to allow ATVs on municipal roads. He will have a discussion with them tomorrow and, if wished, it will be put on the October agenda.

**B. Outdoor wood furnaces:** The town has received complaints about 2 of these furnaces. Letters have been sent to the property owners.

**C. Letter from Thomas Jehn:** He sent a letter to the town regarding 3 issues of concerns. (letter in file) His concerns revolve around pedestrian and bicyclist safety; discharge of firearms in the town, and a property which he feels has become a junk yard. Platz reviewed these.

Request for a pedestrian/bicyclist path: These are county roads, not town roads. Platz will address it with the county, but it may not be feasible due to setbacks and cost.

Consideration of ordinance regarding discharge of firearms: The Sheriff can only enforce state law unless the municipality has a stricter ordinance. If anyone on the Town Board would like to discuss this, please contact Platz about possibly putting it on a future agenda.

Junk yard: If it is a nuisance property, the chairman will contact the constable who will visit the property. The constable determines if the property qualifies as a nuisance property or not.

**D. Get sub-committee budgets in by Oct. TB meeting:**

**E. Speed limit on LEL Rd.:** To be addressed by Feld in the roads committee report.

**9. Sub-committee reports:**

**Roads:** A request from Keith Abler from the county roads committee regarding lowering the speed limit on LEL Rd. to 45 mph was reviewed. The roads committee decided to not act on this as they felt it was unnecessary to lower the speed limit on this road.

**Lakes and Sanitation:** New tags for the recycling center will be mailed shortly. There will now be a small fee for large items. Also, the attendant's shack at the recycling center is in need of repair and possible upgrades. There is also consideration of adding a compactor to the collection site, which could reduce the amount of trucking needed now.

**Roads:** Plateau Road will be raised approximately 6 inches. Water has been pumped from Snake Road onto Mary Lydolph's property. Feld suggests that the town send Mary a letter of gratitude.

**Ordinance:** Jacob is waiting to hear back from Crystal Lake High Water Committee before meeting again.

**Planning** committee met to review chapter 4 and will meet again on Sep. 9 to finish chapter 4.

**Properties:** Eberle is working on repairing voting booths and the flag at the memorial site.

10. **Approve vouchers:** Motion to approve by Feld. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jacob. All in favor.
11. **Announce Next Meeting Date:** October 6, 2020.
12. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Feld at 7:36 pm. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rost. All in favor.