

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MAY 26, 2020**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pinardi at 6:00 PM at the Memorial Building in Hurley.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, present: Pinardi, Francis, Youngs, Saari, Snyder, Krall, Hanson, Erickson, Sendra, Roberts, Thompson, Hiller, McComas and Byrns. Absent: Thomas, excused.

Clerk Michael Saari certified that the meeting was properly called and posted.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Saari to approve minutes of April 21, 2020 as presented. All aye.  
Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Clerk told board that the June Finance meeting would be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday because of election machine maintenance in the board room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.

**COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Thompson reported that stumpage revenues as of today are \$615,645.32 while they were \$708,555.12 at the same time last year. Thompson also reported that Schomberg Park is being blacktopped with funds donated to the county by Tom Popko, former member of the county board and Oma resident. Lake of the Falls campground is now open but Forestry is looking for a new person to collect money and clean the restrooms. Our current caretaker broke her leg and will not be available for 2 months.

Krall reported that the Harbor Commission held a meeting at Saxon Harbor on the 21<sup>st</sup> and discussed items on the harbor and campground.

Krall also reported that the Fair board will meet tomorrow to discuss whether to hold the fair in 2020 or cancel for this year.

Sendra reported that Economic Development Committee met and elected John Sendra chairman and Vic Ouimette as vice chairman. Plan in place to reopen bars and restaurants with cautionary measures to keep patrons safe.

Hanson reported that Zoning elected Pat Hanson chairman and John Sendra vice chairman.

Roberts reported Highway will borrow money for a new Mercer Garage at 2.5% from Chippewa Valley Bank and Finance Committee turned down a bid of \$3,699 on 40 acres in the Town of Gurney. Property was land locked and timber was stripped off but county believes the land is still worth more than the bid so county chose not to sell. Act 185 was discussed but not approved at this time because all the towns and the county are not on the same page. Regular tax payments and final settlements will remain as in the past. Finance Committee agreed to advertise for a part-time contracted maintenance person to help Bill Nasi with the maintenance of all county building which include 3 additions in Hurley in the past year.

Roberts reported that Northern Waters Library will request same budget amount for next year.

Callie Kilger, Human Services Administrator reported that these are busy times for Human Services with staff working from home and in the office on a rotating basis.

Snyder reported that the airport will be closed for a period of time to complete work on runway and there will be 2 flights per day in the future. New hanger project is on hold for now.

Snyder reported that he was elected Chairman of Health Committee and Thompson Vice-chairman. Health Department has been recommending safe practices, these are not orders. Health Department will move into the Hagemann Dental Office after some renovations are completed. Rent at current location is \$20,000 per year so the purchase of the Hagemann building makes perfect sense.

Youngs reported that the Mercer garage loan is on tonight's agenda and project is moving forward. Youngs reported that summer maintenance projects are starting with culvert work being done on US 2 getting ready for blacktopping of US 2 to be completed in 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

Discussion held on a loan from Chippewa Valley Bank in the amount of \$1,000,000 at 2.5% interest for 5 years. Option 2 was for 8 years with smaller yearly payments but almost double the interest over the 8 years. Clerk Mike Saari told board to pay the least amount of interest with 5-year note. Principal and interest will be due on final payment. Joe Pinardi, chairman, Michael Saari, clerk and Clara Maki, treasurer will be signing the loan paperwork. Current equalized valuation of Iron County is \$978,454,800.

Motion by Youngs, seconded by Saari to approve loan amount of \$1,000,000 for a period of 5 years at 2.5% interest rate from Chippewa Valley Bank. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Hanson to approve the 2019 Zoning Annual Report. All aye. Motion carried.

**Ordinance 9-1-61(f)**  
**Utility Relocation Ordinance**  
**Resolution 2989**

**Section 1: Purpose and Authority.** Utility owners and operators are allowed to place their utility lines for electric, communication, gas, water, sewer and other utilities within the county highway right-of-way with the advance approval of Iron County. The maintenance, improvement and expansion of Chapters 84 and 86 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and consistent with the Utility Accommodation Policy ("UAP") approved by the Iron County Board of Supervisors under Resolution 2989. Prompt relocation of utilities is necessary to avoid costly delays in the completion of the highway projects. This Ordinance sets forth the requirements of the Iron County Highway Department and the utility owners and operators when such maintenance, improvement or expansion of the county highway requires a utility to be relocated.

**Section 2: Requirements of Iron County Highway Department.** Upon learning of the need to maintain, improve or expand a county highway which requires the need for a utility owner or operator to relocate its utility within the county highway right-of-way in the discretion of the Iron County Highway

Department, the Iron County Highway Department shall provide the utility owner a notice of at least 180-days. The notice shall provide where the project is occurring, the area in which the utilities must be relocated from, that the utility owner must provide a plan for where the utilities will be relocated to, the permitting requirements of the utility owner, the deadline by which the relocation must be complete and contact information for any questions, as well as any other information the county believes in its discretion should be provided.

**Section 3: Penalties.** In the event the utility owner fails to comply with the notice and such failure results in delays to the project completion the Iron County Highway Department or its representative, may at its discretion and choosing, impose a citation forfeiture of up to \$1,000 per day for each day of the continuing violation and/or relocate the utility and charge the utility owner for all costs, fees and expenses relating to the relocation of the utility. These forfeitures and remedies are in addition to any other remedies set forth in the UAP, the Wisconsin Statutes and common law.

**Section 4: Other Laws/Effective Date.** Nothing in this Ordinance shall reduce or limit the obligations of a utility owner or operator concerning the installation, maintenance, permitting, marking, use, location or relocation of its utilities set forth under any other applicable law or policy. The Ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication and the Iron County Highway Department shall provide a notice of these obligations and potential penalties in all future permits.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Iron County Board of Supervisors,** in session this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020, that they hereby approve the Utility Relocation Ordinance as set forth above herein requiring the Iron County Highway Department to provide notice of the need to relocate utilities to a utility owner or operator and requiring the utility owner or operator to take prompt reasonable action to relocate the utility, or be subject to the forfeiture and remedies contained in this Ordinance.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Youngs to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Byrns to adopt the employee COVID-19 Health Check and Exposure Assessment Policy. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Roberts to extend deadline for Emergency Administrative Flexibility for COVID-19 in Resolution 2986 until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. All aye. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION 2990**

##### **Thomas E. Popko Bequeathment to Schomberg Park**

**WHEREAS,** Thomas E. Popko served on the Iron County Board of Supervisors and the Forestry & Parks Committee for many years; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Popko was born and raised in the area of Iron County's Schomberg Park; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Popko, upon his death, bequeaths three (3) life insurance policies and a checking account, which at his request, be utilized for improvements to Iron County's Schomberg Park; and

**WHEREAS,** Thomas E. Popko passed away on January 7, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Iron County Forestry & Parks Department was issued beneficiary checks in the amounts of \$3,000.27, \$5,661.38, \$4,139.00 and \$43,349.78 totaling \$56,150.43.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Iron County Board of Supervisors acknowledges the generous gift from Thomas E. Popko and his wishes to utilize these funds for improvements to Schomberg Park.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Thompson to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING/LAND & ZONING COMMITTEE TO COUNTY BOARD ON  
HEARING OF PETITION TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE**

Rezone the following:

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 13, Township 47 North, Range 1 West, Town of Saxon, in accordance to future Land Use Plan. Site address is 9783W County A. Robert Peterson, owner.

Motion by Krall, seconded by Youngs to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone the following:

Rezone from an A-1 (Agriculture) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the S ½ of the SE ¼ and N ½ of the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ lying W of RR R.O.W., Section 8, Township 46 North, Range 2 East, Town of Kimball, in accordance to future Land Use Plan. Site address is 6711W Kimball Drive. Ron & Laurie Stoffel, owners.

Motion by Saari, seconded by Hanson to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Sendra to adjourn at 6:42 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari  
Iron County Clerk