

October 26, 2007

Meeting began at 10:07 a.m.

Present: Bill Muse, Mayor; Gladys LeFevre, Pete Schaus, Randy Ripplinger, Wendell Roundy, Council Members; Judi Davis, Clerk; Kelly Roundy, Kay and Larry Ripplinger, John Veranth, Tim Clarke, Joe Parker, Todd Campbell, Loch Wade, Serena Stockmann, Dick and Connie Reid, Tim Mutcher, Ray Gardner, Ryan Haws.

Pledge of allegiance

Maps showing the platted Town roads were displayed to help everyone become acquainted with the roads proposed for vacation. The proposals were discussed one at a time.

A Street: All adjoining owners have previously approved closure except Lynne Mitchell. No parcel would be landlocked by its closure. Loch asked if there is a standard for the closing of roads? Are we setting a precedent for anyone who wants a road closed to get it? Tim Mutcher asked if we will have to buy it back at a later date because of the needs required by future growth? Tim Clarke stated that the study of Town roads has been ongoing for some time. Much of the suggested transportation plan was done only on paper without consideration of the topography, and that some of the suggested changes are not realistic because of those factors. Wendell suggested that anyone could come up with a reason to have a road closed. Kelly stated that A Street was at one time an important cattle route.

Third East: We need an engineer report before vacating the north part of the road. We could, in the future, offer to vacate the southern section in exchange for leaving the northern part as it is.

First West: The Reids would like the stretch of First West that separates their two parcels to be vacated. The advantage to them would be to keep ATV's and other traffic from the roadway, as people now are straying onto their property and causing damage. John Austin would still have access to his lots from the south on First West. Gladys wondered if the time might come that we would want a walking/equestrian patch through there.

C Street west of the highway: This is the platted street as shown on the town plat, and not the road as it has been historically used. A letter from Jeff Ostler was received and read. (Abbe Sparks and Peg Smith came.) Kelly stated, in response to a claim (in the letter) that cows had closed the road, that they didn't. The gate was only closed to keep the cows in. There are many maps which show the road as it actually is and has been used.

Wendell stated that the existing road historically accessed Otto Haws' place from Highway 12. Kelly stated that the old road went up Boulder Creek. Some years ago, the Forest Service installed and closed two gates on the creek but were made to open them because it was a historic road. Joe used the road regularly until John had it closed off. Most of these issues will be decided in court; all the Town can do now is decide the fate of C Street as it is platted, not as it is used. We should not vacate it until the courts decide the other issues. (Sean Outzen came.)

Randy made a motion we not vacate any streets. Gladys seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Ray was asked to check with the County Attorney as to the procedure to get the gate on C Street opened. Ray, Bill and Marvin will work together to find a way to get the gate on C Street opened.

Gladys made a motion the meeting adjourn. Pete seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

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Minutes prepared by Judith Davis, Clerk

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Approved by Bill Muse, Mayor