

Town of Verona Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2018  
Town Hall, 7669 County Highway PD, Verona, WI 53593

Committee members present: Tom Mathies (chair), Bob Rego  
Committee members absent: Meredith Stier Christensen  
Also present: Town Clerk/Treasurer John Wright

Tom Mathies called the meeting to order at 1:41 PM.  
Without objection the agenda was approved.  
Without objection the August 15 meeting minutes were approved.

Discussion:

- Road opening permit
  - ◆ Discussion:
    - Utilities (TDS, Alliant, MG&E) are larger and established so perhaps treat them differently from smaller operators.
    - Need to know who is working where. Subcontractors don't always follow Town procedures so language about subcontractors is needed.
    - The Committee reached consensus to follow Dane County's permitting process. This process will be familiar to utilities and other applicants so this should result in improved compliance and efficient administration by Town personnel.
    - An ordinance can authorize Town personnel to issue permits. Conditions that we have been discussing for the ordinance will be part of the permit application rather than written into the ordinance. This approach is followed by Dane County and the Town of Berry.
    - The permit application can highlight (box) the conditions that differ from Dane County's conditions.
    - Follow Dane County's liability requirement (currently \$1M) and fees.
    - As with building permits, fees may be doubled if a permit is not issued prior to work commencing.
    - Need to decide if the ordinance should be added to Chapter 6—Highways or included in a different chapter.
  - ◆ Next steps:
    - Bob and John: prepare a draft ordinance, permit application, and fee schedule for possible Town Board consideration or for additional Committee discussion.
- Updates to Chapter 3 – Fire Protection and Prevention
  - ◆ No update.
- Updates to Chapter 1 – General Government
  - ◆ No update.
- Regulation of engine braking.
  - ◆ Discussion:
    - Tom discussed engine braking last week with Dane County Deputy Sheriff Christopher Kauer. Deputy Kauer suggested that signs saying “No Engine Braking” or “No Unmuffled Engine Braking” would be effective. He has

experience as a trucker and said that truckers generally respect such signs. Signs need not include "Except in Emergency" since this is understood.

- An ordinance that applies to the entire Town might allow signs to be posted as needed and avoid having to modify the ordinance when Town boundaries shift.
- ◆ Next step:
- John: ask a Wisconsin Towns Association attorney if this ordinance could apply to the entire Town and be enforced only where signs are posted.

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.

Approved: November 28, 2018

Prepared by Tom Mathies