

**VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM
COMMUNITY PROTECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2023 - 3:30 PM
9996 WATER STREET**



ACTION ITEMS:

Dukehart moved, Krist seconded to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023, with Mulliken recusing herself, all ayes. Motion carried.

Cox moved, Dukehart seconded to investigate through the WisDOT and relevant state statute(s) to determine what can be done for parking signage on STH 42 along with the distance between signage if allowed, all ayes. Motion carried.

Cox moved, Krist seconded to invite Door County Highway Department Commissioner, Thad Ash to the August 2023 meeting to discuss speed issues on CTH Q and the procedures and rules for changing speed limits on a county highway, all ayes. Motion carried.

Cox moved, Krist seconded to adjourn at 4:30 PM, all ayes. Motion carried.

Present: John Cox, Keith Krist, Dan Shannon, Tad Dukehart, and Carly Mulliken - Chair.

Staff: Justin MacDonald – Village of Ephraim Fire Chief and Kim Roberts-Deputy Clerk.

Guests: Matt Meacham, John Held, Julie Watkins, BD and Mary Thorp, Geoff and Claudia Werner, and Kelsey Stone (EBC).

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mulliken at 3:30 PM. A quorum was present for this meeting.

2. **Changes to the agenda:** There were no changes.

3. **Approval of the previous minutes:**

Dukehart moved, Krist seconded to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023, with Mulliken recusing herself, all ayes. Motion carried.

4. **Visitors' Comments:**

Held inquired about the decisions made to not install crosswalks at Brookside Lane and the Ephraim Wetlands this year.

MacDonald noted that the discussion came before the Physical Facilities and Utilities Committee during the June Meeting. It was not a Community Protection Committee "CPC" item.

5. **Discussion regarding parking on STH 42 (Water Street):**

A discussion was held regarding the best way to review parking sections on STH 42. Dukehart felt that timing and different views of circumstances were a struggle; it is important to note the chokepoints, especially from an emergency response point of view. John Held and Julie Watkins discussed striping no parking areas and "no parking" signs so that motorists do the right things based on the rules of the road. Cox felt there was a need for a Village parking plan because the parking problem is not going to go away. He noted that enforcement would be a key element in crafting a solution. The Door County Sheriff's Department doesn't have the time to enforce parking.

After considerable discussion, the committee members present decided to find out what the state DOT will allow on STH 42 regarding signage. Mulliken reminded the committee that parking restrictions would also need to be part of the Village Code of Ordinances.

Cox moved, Dukehart seconded to investigate through the WisDOT and relevant state statute(s) to determine what can be done for parking signage on STH 42 along with the distance between signage if allowed, all ayes. Motion carried.

6. **Discussion regarding parking during Fyr Bal:**

A discussion was held regarding parking issues that occurred during Fyr Bal. Mulliken noted that despite a lot of "no parking" signage there were a few places where cars parked that caused a backup in traffic. Held agreed, shared the Marinas and Moorings "M&M" committee observations from Fyr Bal, and that the

committee agreed to discuss closing the marina for Fyr Bal 2024. Stone stated that the Ephraim Business Council would love to see the marina closed to allow for the shuttle bus to turn around and drop off. She added that using the lot for handicapped parking would be helpful because there is no good location in downtown Ephraim. For the safety of everyone, it may be best to close the launch to boat/trailer traffic we are on board with that 100%, Stone said. The item was noted as new business for the August 2023 meeting to consider for safety reasons.

7. Discussion regarding speeding and other concerns on CTH Q and Village Streets:

A discussion was held regarding speeding concerns. Mulliken noted that there is a Sheriff's Department speed sign located on CTH Q. MacDonald added that the Village speed sign is deployed on Settlement Road. Cox explained that CTH Q has turned into Road America. Cox felt that it was the Village's responsibility to take care of issues, start remedial actions, and keep going until the issue is fixed. We've received emails from residents, we are responsible to them, and it is time to make a strong recommendation to the Board, Cox said.

Further discussion included resident, summer resident, and contractor by-pass routes to avoid downtown Ephraim, speed study data results, enforcement, previous resident petitions to the County Highway Department to move speed limit signs on CTH Q, and the Village's inability to move speed signs on a county highway. Cox asked about the signs in the brush on CTH Q. MacDonald replied that the County is currently working on clearing CTH Q.

B D Thorp discussed the lack of adherence to traffic signage at the intersection of CTH Q and Moravia Street. He noted that the South Bound traffic rarely stops, or slows down at the intersection and expressed concern about pedestrians coming up and down the Cherry Street Steps. He suggested a crosswalk to slow people down as well as reflectors on the stop signs.

A discussion was held regarding the CTH Q and Moravia intersection. Cox agreed that the area is a problem spot and it was not an option to do nothing. Mulliken noted that there were very specific guidelines for crosswalks on state highways. MacDonald added that it would be easier on Village Streets.

Cox moved, Krist seconded to invite Door County Highway Department Commissioner, Thad Ash to the August 2023 meeting to discuss speed issues on CTH Q and the procedures and rules for changing speed limits on a county highway, all ayes. Motion carried.

Krist noted that something needed to be done with the German Road and Hoganson Rd corner.

Cox stated that the county had no authority over Village streets; CTH Q is their authority.

8. Discussion of general safety issues in the Village:

A discussion was held about safety concerns. MacDonald updated the committee that tree trimming had already commenced with stop signs as the priority. Cox stated the area between Spruce Street and Anderson Lane is dangerous for pedestrians; the area needs to be revisited for the safety of pedestrians. Julie Watkins asked why there were no sidewalks in that area, and why weren't the sidewalks continued all the way to Anderson Lane. Mulliken stated that the intention is to eventually connect, piece by piece. Julie Watkins asked what the status was with the repair to the Spruce Street and Norway Street stone column. Matt Meacham stated that the column is in litigation.

9. New business for the next meeting:

The next meeting of the Community Protection Committee will be held on August 3rd, 2023, at 3:30 PM.

New business:

- a) Firehouse Marina Closure for Fyr Bal 2024.
- b) German Road Safety.
- c) Door County Highway Commissioner - CTH Q speed issues.

10. Adjournment:

Cox moved, Krist seconded to adjourn at 4:30 PM, all ayes. Motion carried.

Recorded by, Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk