

Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday April 18 2017 7:00 pm  
Annual Town Meeting

Roll Call: Dennis Ferstenou, Frank Braswell, Randy Woodruff, Ruth Knapp, Laurie Hebert

Dennis asked if everyone had a copy of 2016 annual report and explained the rules of the annual meeting.

Dennis asked Laurie to read the minutes from April 19, 2016. Motion by Jeff Bowe to approve, seconded by Lee Flug. All in favor-25; Opposed-0

Dennis asked if anyone had questions on the annual report.

**Annual Report:**

Jeff Bowe asked what the \$302.50 taken in under public charges #463100? Laurie did not have a detailed copy of the income side, will look into and give Jeff a call. Jeff asked about the Mack truck payment amount, #5331101 and #5810000; first one is interest paid and second one is principal paid. Julie asked why current year tax collection much higher this year than 2015? Ruth explained took in more in December 2016. Dennis said Rick Bowe could not be here and submitted an email to Dennis with these notes: Propose two changes: 1. Increase the number of board members from 3 to 5. 2. Require there be an inventory of all assets valued at \$500 or more with the annual report. Also noted in Ricks' email: At the 2016 annual meeting it was brought up to opt out of county zoning. Presentations from Bloomer and Doug Clary from County Zoning for discussion on opting out it did not seem reasonable to take on the task of our own zoning. The town would have to take on costs and management which now is already provided by the County. Opting out may create incompatible or unacceptable use of property.

Motion by John Rasmus to change board from 3 to 5, seconded by Tony Bowe.

All in favor; 21

Opposed: 9

Motion by Patty King to set pay rate for additional board supervisors the same as current board supervisors annual salary of \$5487.00 each, seconded by Tim Hutson

All in favor; 29

Opposed; 0

John wanted to thank Rick Bowe for looking into and studying the request to opt out of zoning.

**Fire Department Feasibility Study:**

Dennis has Bob Sworski here tonight to present the study on the options for either remodeling the existing fire station or building a new one. Study is available on the website. Bob said currently the building has space issues, not enough room for access to equipment. With the new rescue trailer there is not area for a meeting room. Bathroom does not meet code and very little storage. As you will see on the addition drawing we made a revision to access the meeting room and storage area separately instead of going through the meeting room to get to the storage room. Bob added if wait until 2018 will see a possible increase of 4% to 5% in costs. Dennis added loan rates are low this year. Also added is \$49k to remodel the old fire station to accommodate the town shop needs. Laurie added this could be done at a later date and not added on to the cost at this time.

Dennis said we want to hear from you as to what direction you would like to take. The original Comprehensive Plan from 2008 indicated a desire for a station closer to the south end of town. We have to look at land costs if this is the way we went. The ballfield (2 acres), could be used as long as we do not use any of park area, unless we give back same amount of land back. The comprehensive plan survey done in April 2016 strongly supported keeping fire service in Eagle Point and had to increasing taxes to accommodate this. Patty would like to hear from the fire department. Rocky said it is a lot of money, but it is for the future people and their needs. Looking at the cost of

\$557k for a remodel, and \$834k for a new building, it makes sense to build new. Our ambulance contract is up in five years and the city has indicated they will be may be looking at the cost increasing. We could combine with Anson and Tilden to provide ambulance service. In the new building we can build in the area for an ambulance bay and sleeping quarters. We can do fundraising and promotions to help with cost, we need to get the information to the people, before a decision is made. Bob had indicated they can help with those who want to donate to help with the process and tax credit the donor may receive. With a new building the town shop can make good use of the old fire station space. Tim asked for a site where is town is best? Rocky said staying here in this area is best for town, we are centered and cuts back on time to the scene.

Bonnie Ferstenou added that space was not there before and is not there now. I have been to fire department meetings in the past and they reference the equipment. If they meet at the town hall they cannot do this. It makes more sense to be in one building. I cannot see adding on to a forty year old building. The north side roof will have to be shorter and will not allow the correct door height.

Dennis said Laurie has a ballot for you to advise us on what direction you would like to go: New, Addition, or none. Steve Soden said if new site will have land cost, get direction then vote on financing. John said I am on the south side and with the new station just built for Chippewa we have to consider how much we want to put into this. It should go to a referendum on a regular election to see what the voters want. Ruth asked if the ballfield is big enough. Dennis said should be fine for the fire department needs. Jeff added more needs to be looked into for the ballfield use including setbacks and visual.

Motion by John to put on regular election as a referendum question, seconded by Jeff. Show of hands;  
All in favor; 16  
Opposed; 13

Dennis said Laurie contacted Wisconsin Town Association and it was clear this had to go to Special Electors meeting for approval to build. Patty would not like wait to do this. Mike O'Donnell asked what will happen to the concession stand, Dennis said it would stay. Kevin Lueck would like to see station here in central location. Can we send out a letter on cost, with meeting dates, everyone needs to be informed first. Dennis said there is the cost per levy to look at on direction town will take, I have prepared a spreadsheet on levy amounts. \*See packet attachment first one shows old fire station with town shop conversions. \*\*See packet attachment this is without town shop conversions. Laurie said there is a difference of about \$1 to \$2 to do the town shop adjustments.

Jeff asked Dennis last night you indicated borrowing \$107k to do roads this year, Dennis said asphalt is lowest we have seen for last 4 years and want to take advantage of that. It was voted 2 to 1 to do all of Clear Lake Rd. Dennis we can pay off Mack Truck and use that budgeted money to pay a payment to the road borrowing and will be paid off in two years. Patty is supportive of road financing, we have a lot of roads over 102 miles. Chuck Goettl asked if there is a plan. Dennis said he presented a five year plan at the board meeting last night. Steve asked for how many miles for dollar amount, Dennis said 175k will do about 1.5 miles; but price of asphalt will make a difference. Also most towns to 3 inches, we are doing 2.5 inches. If we raise levy \$200k a year will do about 4 miles. Kevin how may miles on 10 year plan, Dennis-8 miles. This is not just asphalt we have shouldering, erosion control, ditching, and prep work. 187<sup>th</sup> St. should not have been turned over to the town. It is only 10 years old and needs to have base dug and properly done. Cost will be over \$250k, and only 3/8 of a mile.

Motion by Jeff to adjourn, seconded by Mike O'Donnell.

All in Favor; 7  
Opposed; 17

Motion by Laurie to vote on fire station direction of: new, remodel, or none, seconded by Tonya Greger.  
New; 17  
Remodel; 6  
None; 3

Motion by Laurie to adjourn, seconded by Patty.  
All in favor; 25  
Opposed; 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm on Tuesday April 18, 2017

DRAFT