

Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday January 16, 2017 7:00 pm  
Regular Board Meeting

Roll Call: Dennis Ferstenou, Frank Braswell, Randy Woodruff, Ruth Knapp-absent due to weather, Laurie Hebert

Motion by Frank to approve regular board minutes from December 19, 2016, seconded by Randy  
Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

Motion by Dennis to approve closed session minutes from December 29, 2016, seconded by Frank  
Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

**Clerk's Report:** Will be a February 21, 2017 primary, we have 4 running for supervisor position. Have ordered copier from EO Johnson, should be here beginning of February. Asking the board and road crew to look at plowing issues. I am getting a lot of calls and complaints: why not out till after it snows, no sanding being done, we have three plows why not using all of them, we have on call employees, how come they are not called out more. People are upset and since I get the calls, I need better answers. Can we come up with a better plan and/or get the guys out more and sooner?

**Treasurer's Report:** Dennis gave report.

MM: \$584,500.95

Tax: \$1015.84

MM Town Equip: \$38,913.64

MM Fire Equip: \$60,480.56

MM Fire Dept. \$103,842.88

**Review/Approve Check Register:** Motion by Frank to approve check register for \$27,133.21, seconded by Dennis  
Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

**Communications/Meetings Attended:** Wisconsin Town Association (WTA) unit meeting on Tuesday January 24, 2017 in the Town of Ruby. Board will Laurie know who is attending.

Public Comment: Chuck Hebert asking why not plowing during the snow and waiting until it is done, the town has three plows and a grader and plenty of people on call. One of these plow trucks is brand new. If we are not using the equipment we should sell it and put the money towards road work and paving. Why are the guys not out today and tonight? The roads are all ice now and we could have been out earlier laying down sand and salt like the County had done. Today. Brian Martells lives on 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave. and has had to plow the road himself three times this year. He called Laurie at 8:00 pm Tuesday and he still had not been plowed. This road drifts badly, could wind rows be made like the ones on Hwy 178? Jeff Bowe said he cannot complain this time his road has been plowed. Lee O'Donnell would like to know why the Town was plowing State Hwy 178 north of Old Barn Rd.

**Chairman's Report:** Bob Sworski from CBS Squared will meet with the fire chief and officers to start gathering information on space needs for the fire department. Plowing is always a challenge myself and Lawrence and Shawn consider: amount of snow, temperature, wind and make a plan for the plowing. We held off on Tuesday until 4:00 pm to start plowing after the snow stopped, we maybe could have started sooner. It is difficult to sand all the roads and hard to make decisions when conditions can change rapidly. We will learn from this for the future.

**Fire Chief's Report:** 2016 we responded to 14 fires and 106 EMS calls, mutual aid calls were 5. When the Anson Bridge was out we had 4 calls. Starting training this week and next.

**Planning Commission Report:** No meeting in January

**Old Business:**

A. Discuss/take action on purchase of flat screen TV: Dennis said trying to move away from paper as you can see tonight we are accessing documents electronically. Also with a TV the audience can see what we see. We will have the ability to access County maps and documents. Randy said projector and screen expensive, a 55" TV is too small, we are thinking to mount in the corner on the north/east wall. A 70" should work well, if go to a 75" they jump way up in price over \$2k. Price at Sam's Club around \$1458. Laurie expressed concern to have a locked cabinet to protect the TV for hall rentals and also not offer to be available for those renting the hall. We only have a \$100 deposit and if damaged will cost more to repair and/or replace. Motion by Randy to purchase a 70" flat screen smart TV, with mounting hardware, and construct a locking cabinet, seconded by Frank.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

B. Discuss/take action approving Resolution 2017-2 Fire and EMS Call Charges: Previously in October 2016 the board rescinded the old Resolution and chose to write a new one. Dennis said we did a lot of checking into with other municipalities, the WTA and State statues. We can charge for EMS calls as long as the person is billed and not the property. For State highway accidents Dennis obtained the procedure and we can. We have to first make every attempt to bill the party before filing a claim with the State, maximum amount is \$500. Dennis asked Rocky how many railroad fires a year, Rocky said 1 or 2 should we bill more or go with the flat \$500. Both Rocky and board felt is easier to do the flat \$500. Motion by Dennis to approve Resolution 2017-2 for Fire and EMS Call Charges, seconded by Frank. Laurie will need to do form for fire department to fill out to do proper billing.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

C. Discuss/take action on wording for Animal Control Contract: Dennis said it was voted in December to hire Lee O'Donnell for this position. Since we are going from the Chippewa County Humane Association (CCHA) to us, we need to be sure our procedures are humane and clear. We need to maintain a standard similar the CCHA. Dennis and Laurie worked a contract out and Randy and Frank have had a chance to look at. Some items in question are:

1. Picking up cats; Randy feels if we leave out we can decide if we want to pick up or not. Jeff said if wording not clear on cats could be a liability if you take a cat in. Dennis said they should be picked up if not feral.
2. Temperature of kennel; Dennis put in maintain 60 degrees. Lee will have them in a building and the kennel can be heated and insulated. Laurie said Lee will collect all fees before animal can be released, this includes licensing, medical, impound, and daily fees. Will do contract for one year and see how it goes. Dennis said CCHA warned him about hoarding issues with cats, can present a big problem. Motion by Randy to approve contract with changes to item #4 on first page and corrections to item #12, seconded by Dennis.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

D. Discuss/take action on final adjustments to 2016 budget: Laurie has prepared Resolution 2017-3 to move monies from contingency fund to accounts to adjust items over budget. The total is \$7094.56 to be transferred, this will not change the ending balance of \$24,862.92 in the black. Motion by Frank to approve Resolution 2017-3, seconded by Randy.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

E. Update to Pledge and Custodial Agreement with Citizens State Bank: Dennis said Ruth has signed agreement and will keep with her tax papers. She collects and sometime has over \$3M in the bank which would not be covered if the bank went under. FDIC provides \$250K and the State 450K. With this agreement we are covered during the tax period when high dollar amounts are in the Town's accounts. There is no cost to us to do this agreement, the other option would be: splitting up monies to various institutions.

#### **New Business:**

A. Discuss/take action on fire department recommendation to approve applications received: Laurie reported all applications filled out properly and background checks OK. Rocky said all recommended by Fire Department Officers. Motion by Randy to approve hiring of: Anthony J. Wold, and Jennifer a. Adrian, seconded by Dennis.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

Motion by Dennis to approve the hire of Kathleen M. Tomkowiak, seconded by Frank.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-abstain

B. Discuss/take action on letter received from Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on two parcels near County Hwy Y, State Hwy 178, 145<sup>th</sup> Ave., 182<sup>nd</sup> St., and along the Chippewa River: DNR sent a letter to Dennis asking to take over fire protection for these areas. Randy said if our Fire Department is OK with covering these areas should leave as is. Rocky said not real reason to change this. Motion by Randy to leave areas the same, seconded by Dennis.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

C. Discuss/take action on Planning Commission (PC) recommendation to work with County Zoning on possible re-zone of southwest area of town from R-2 to R-1. Dennis said most of this area is R-2 and with new construction of single family home needs to be rezoned to R-1. Some is AG and will be left as AG. Dale Shipman said County will sort this out and then bring back to the PC. Dennis said County provides three zoning changes a year at no charge to us or the resident.

D. Discuss/take action on Resolution 2017-1 to discontinue a portion of 85<sup>th</sup> Ave. East of State Hwy 124 and South of County S: Laurie said is approved to start process in November, this takes two months for paperwork and postings which have been done. All recording and attorney fees will be paid by Clyde Goettl. Laurie said this resolution prepared by the Town Attorney Ben Lane needs to be approved tonight unless there is any objection. Motion by Randy to approve Resolution 2017-1, seconded by Frank.

Dennis-yes; Frank-yes; Randy-yes

E. Bartender/Liquor/Picnic Licenses: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm on Monday January 16, 2016

Minutes prepared by Laurie Hebert, Town of Eagle Point Clerk