

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 6, 2013

The Town of Rushford February Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Jerry Schoonover, Patrick Kafer, Kathryn Lewis and Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 5 additional persons per attendance record on file, although several others were present, but did not sign in.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting and the zoning meeting was posted at the Town Hall, the town web page, the Waukau post office and the corner of K&E in Eureka. In addition, the Public hearing notice for a conditional use permit was posted in the Oshkosh Northwestern. Notices were mailed to Town Board members and the Zoning Administrator.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the minutes as presented for the January Town board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance at the end of January in the general account is \$79,165.34. The balance at the end of January in the tax account was \$855,326.90. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Kathryn Lewis stated that total tax collection was \$1,597,963.24. This includes real estate tax, personal property and special assessments.

Township policing discussion: A Winnebago County Sheriff's department representative was present to answer questions. Mr Egan inquired about break ins over in the Waukau area. The Deputy was not familiar with anything in that area. He also inquired if the Sheriff's department had heard any complaints on snowplowing in the Township. The Deputy is not aware of any complaints. Most of the complaints are on Hwy 41. There was other discussion with Town residents on a number of questions.

Payment of invoices: Peggy Hendricks approved and submitted to the board the bills for February in the amount of \$31,657.97 for approval of payment. She also requested \$1,160.41 from the tax account to pay the Real Estate tax over payments along with \$125 for payments to residents for garbage fee overpayments. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to pay February's bills as submitted. Motion carried.* Hendricks stated that there was \$1,035.41 of real estate tax over payments and 25 residents were over charged \$5.00 on their garbage fees. She is requesting a total of \$1,160.41 from the tax account to pay these charges. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to pay the tax overpayments and over charges of garbage fees in the amount of \$1,160.41 from the tax account.* Kathy Lewis stated that there may be some residents being paid the \$5.00 over charges who have not paid their taxes yet. *Pat Kafer rescinded his motion. Pat Kafer made a motion to pay the tax overpayments and to pay the \$5 over charges of garbage fees to residents who have paid their taxes. Schoonover 2nd the motion. Motion carried.*

Kathryn Lewis stated that 5 signed checks will be needed for County settlement which is due on February 20th. The County will not have the final figures until the 16th or 17th. *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to make out the 5 settlement checks. Motion carried.*

Tom Egan asked how much it cost James Schoonover to close the alley. Hendricks stated that the total costs came to 551.70. It is paid in full and is registered with the Register of Deeds. Tom Egan was surprised for he knew it was given to the County attorney. Hendricks did not hear anything that anything was amiss.

Public Input: Ellen Newman asked if we are trying to collect the money that was taken from the CD's to pay off the Town hall. Egan stated that there is nothing on the taxes for the town hall. Kafer stated that it was thought at the time if we borrowed the money from the Fire Truck CD's to pay off the town hall, that we would be able to replenish the fund though taxes, but according to the WTA attorneys, this is not possible. He thought that excess money that was in the CD's originally came from back in the time that Frances Schuster was chairman.

Communication & Correspondence: Jerry Schoonover said that the previous night he had a call from the County Sheriff informing him that they are still working on the signs that were stolen on River Road. There were a total of 3 signs found. A high water sign, the solar sign on River Road which the solar panels are gone

and a horse crossing sign. The signs are still in lock up in Waushara County until the court hearing. The Town hopes to be reimbursed for the signs.

Discussion of Hall Maintenance: Peggy Hendricks stated that the Town hall floor will be stripped and waxed February 10-14th. Tom & Nancy Jackson will be doing the job along with volunteers. She asked for help on the 10th to clear the hall. Patsy Pomplun and Ellen Newman volunteered to help.

Discussion of Town Maintenance: Tom Egan reported on the meeting with Radtkes. He thinks they have been doing a good job. Dan Stokes said that on a few places the road has been peeled up. This is because there is not much frost in the ground. Schoonover said that he had discussed this with Radtkes and if we write down the areas where this has happened, they will look into repairing the damage.

New Business:

1. **CSM for Dan Kallas, parcel 022 061801 (Laverenz) & 022 1319 (Kallas)** – The CSM changes the lot line to include the shed on the parcel. Pat Kafer was concerned with the setbacks and with the footage on the vacated streets on the CSM. Both owners have agreed with the setbacks. According to CSM's, the 66' was divided between the property owners correctly. ***Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the CSM for parcel 022 061801 and 022 1319 as presented. Motion carried.***
2. **Larry Timm** went though the "arms length" sales that were made in the Town of Rushford in 2012. Most sales were lower than the assessment. The average ration was 1.14 for residential properties. The other groups were properties that had agricultural land and a home, a group that was split and vacant land group. Pat Kafer inquired about the assessment of gravel pit on Morrow Road and if this sale could be used in helping with assessment of other pits.
3. **CSM for Donald Malson, parcel 022 073901(part), 022 0740 – Eureka Cemetery Association**
Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to table this until March, for no one was here to explain the CSM.
Fred Kasten stated that Don Malson had explained the CSM to him last summer, but he can't exactly recall the details. ***Motion carried.***

Town Zoning Report – Dan Stokes: Dan Stokes reported that a public hearing was held for an amendment to the Conditional Use permit for US Cellular for additional antennas on the Waukau, Rush Lake cell tower. The committee recommends approval of the CUP. Dean Kaderabek was present to go though the ordinance rewrite.

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Egan to approve the amendment to the Conditional use permit for parcel #022 0794 for US Cellular to include up to 12 antennas. Tom Egan explained that Mr Stewart from US Cellular was asking for approval for 3 antennas for the 195' self supporting tower, Waukau, Rush Lake. The Committee extended this to 12 for future growth, for there is room for that many. ***Motion carried with 2 ayes and one abstained.***

Building Permit Report by Thomas Egan: James & Diane Laabs for remodeling a home at 8531 Liberty School Road, Omro for \$11,000.

County Update by Thomas Egan: Tom had talked to the Winnebago Co Planning & Zoning Department about the new wind turbine that is coming out. He says that the most noise it is suppose to make is comparable to a refrigerator running. There will be a new cell tower going up by Wylde Wood Baptist church. A person will see a big flag and all the antennas will be inside the flag pole. This will be owned by US Cellular. The County is still going around about the Ice Arena in Neenah. If they decide to keep it, it will cost between \$200,000-\$500,000 to repair just the parking lot. The roof needs work. The ice hockey team wants to purchase the arena for \$1.00. The County has had a presentation on a big sweeper for the airport and they want a big blower for around \$750,000 from Oshkosh Truck. All this is coming in after budget time.

As far as road work, they will be working on Hwy 44 down to the County line on M – cutting down some of the hills and straightening up some of the curves. They will be working with Fond du Lac County. There is still talk about reducing the size of the County Board, but not as much as earlier. Tom feels this would not be a good move, for there would not be enough representation for the residents of the County.

Pat Kafer asked if there will be any informational meetings on the Eureka Bridge. Tom said they will be scheduled when it gets closer. The bridge is scheduled for April. Tom will ask again, for everyone is suppose to receive letters. Tom also does not know if they will be taking the bridge down in April or if that is the road work.

Peggy Hendricks went through an email about Fox Wisconsin heritage Parkway that she received. They will be having Community input sessions to review the findings of the recently completed Interpretive Master Plan. The closest one for the Town residents will be in Oshkosh on February 27th. When more information is received, she will post it and put it on the Town website.

Reports of Attended Meetings:

Tom Egan reported on the meeting with Radtkes. They had good discussion and went through all the Town roads, for both Radtkes and the County have new drivers and some roads were not getting done.

Peggy Hendricks reported on Town Caucus which was held on January 19th. The minutes are posted on the Town website. The current board was all nominated for another term.

Jerry Schoonover reported on the Winnebago Town Association Meeting at Poygan Town Hall on January 3. The guest speaker was Linda Kollmann, Winnebago County Emergency Management Director. She spoke on Disaster preparedness. The next meeting will be held in the Town of Rushford on April 4th.

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings:

Omro-Rushford Fire District Meeting February 13 at 7:00
Primary Election day on February 19, 2013

The board felt that it will probley be a small election and the clerk should go with the very minimum of workers needed.

Larry Timm mentioned that he has been provided with new aerial pictures of the Town. Market Drive software is now available free of cost to the Town.

The Board audited the books.

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to adjourn at 8:25. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk