

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

The Town of Rushford April Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Patrick Kafer, Jerry Schoonover, Kathryn Lewis & Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 14 additional persons per attendance record on file, though others were present who did not sign in.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting, the zoning & planning committee meeting on March 30th, notice of information & presentation by Alliant on April 21st and the annual meeting on April 21st was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K & E in Eureka, the Waukau Post office and the Towns website. In addition, notice of election equipment testing was published in the Oshkosh Northwestern. Notices were sent to Board members and the Zoning Administrator.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the minutes as presented for the March 2, 2016 Town board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance at the end of March 2016 was \$275,262.22. The balance in the tax account was \$746.34 *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Payment of invoices: Peggy Hendricks approved and submitted to the board the bills for April in the amount of \$21,227.57 from the general account for approval of payment. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to pay April 2016 bills from the general account. Motion carried.*

Public Input: Mark Elliott, from Fond du Lac, WI, republican candidate for State Senate was present to introduce himself and to answer any questions. Several residents asked questions to Mr. Elliott. Chuck Mier asked about getting stricter dog ordinances. He has a lot of complaints of barking dogs. The Town has a noise ordinance which this would fall under.

Mr Mier asked if he could issue a ticket if he goes out on a dog barking complaint and the dog is in the house. The answer is no. Proof has to be shown before a ticket can be issued. Residents could take videos or take pictures of proof. Tom Jackson said the zoning committee discussed that a warning should be given before fines given out. Pat Schoonover asked if a board member could go out on an animal complaint. The board members have gone out on calls with Chuck Mier.

Steve Myers, 8020 Broadway Road wanted to know what is happening to 8050 Broadway. He attended the meeting as a representative for the residents in that area. The property has been vacant for several years and should be taken down. It is unstructural sound; it is down to the studs inside, the slab is heaved up and the wood is rotted. Tom Egan said this is on the agenda for later in the meeting. This was just sold a couple of weeks ago and Mr. Myers thinks the new owners are just planning on putting a few thousand dollars into the place, where that would not be sufficient for the repair that needs to be done.

On Archery Drive, someone has put large chunks of concrete off on the side of the road. There are also large pot holes that need to be repaired. It was also mentioned that the roads were not plowed well after the snow on Saturday and that they had gotten out late. It was stated that the County did not start till 9:30 am. Tom stated that the pot holes cannot be repaired while they are filled with water.

Discussion of Town hall maintenance/needs: Hendricks read a thank you card from the Celebration Board at Eureka Church, which also donated a flag for the Town hall. Hendricks stated this is a very nice, polyester flag which should last longer than the nylon ones that she purchases. The stem for the clock hands broke on the hall wall clock. A new clock will have to be purchased. Kathy Lewis would like the board to set a price limit on a laptop that will need to be purchased, for the online programs the County will be requiring her to use needs to have Microsoft 10 as an operating system. She has had her laptop for about 10 years. She asked Dean Kaderabek to look into the suggested requirements and to look into maybe purchasing from a government outlet. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover for the treasurer to purchase a laptop at \$850 or less with help of Dean Kaderabek if possible. Motion carried.*

Tom said something will have to be done with the tree in the front. These trees were transplanted from the old Town Hall. The wind has blown it over, but it does not look like the roots are out. Maybe it can be pulled back and staked. If not, it will have to come down.

One of Zillges drivers went off the road onto the town hall lawn, but it will be repaired.

Pat Kafer suggested that we purchase at least a 12' ladder for the hall. The one we have know is not safe.

Sheriff's Department Representative: Deputy Pedersen was present to answer any questions. Pat Kafer asked if extra patrolling could be done on Eureka Lock road, especially with spring coming and the fishermen who frequent the area. Chuck Mier asked what was the correct side of the road if you were walking. Deputy Pedersen said it is best to walk into oncoming traffic, to wear light colors, reflective clothing and to have a flashlight.

Discussion on Town Maintenance: The Board will go on a Town road tour with the County on April 21st. If that does not work, it will be planned for April 22nd. Tom talked to the crew leader who will be trimming trees. The board will take them and show them what to do. The crew does not have a chipper, so one might have to be rented.

Discussion on condemning buildings: There have been concerns on 8050 Broadway. Tom called the realtor and they stated that they had inquired if the property was condemned before they sold it. A building went down in Waukau. This structure looked fine from the outside, but was unstructural sound. This is being cleaned up by the owners. The barns on the Carlson property in Waukau are falling down and there are varmints in them. Tom feels something should be done with these properties. They might be a health and safety concern. The property on 8050 Broadway has mold and the sanitary system is in question.

Letters should be sent to Carlson and to the new owners on Broadway expressing our concern and to inquire what the plans are for these unstructural sound buildings. The feed mill in Eureka owned by Traxler was mentioned, but Kafer stated even though it is an eyesore, the building is in good condition.

Roads: A road tour is planned. River road needs a lot of work. A grant will be applied for. Tom did not think that the County had the equipment to redo River Road. Logs are holding the road up. Friends will go out and do what they can for now.

Burning Permits: Hendricks stated that she talked to the DNR and they are no longer making the booklets we have to issue burning permits. They had 2 booklets left which they sent, but we will have to issue state wide burning permits in the future, which are done online. The resident can do this or they can come to the hall. Hendricks does have the link on the website, but would prefer people to come to the hall, for then the Township information can be added to the permit and then a record would be on file.

911 posts: We have 4 posts left and it was questioned if these could be purchased elsewhere, for the shipping cost is high. The clerk is to call Langes to see what the price is now and if they could be picked up instead of being shipped.

Old Business: Pat Schoonover asked if anything was done concerning the clean up that was discussed at last month's meeting on the properties in Eureka. Hendricks mailed the Constable the pictures, information, our ordinances, etc so he could go to talk to the property owner. Sean Edinger talked to the property owners on April 4th and told him he had 30 days to clean things up.

New Business: A Notice of Injury, sent by Curtis Law Office, pertaining to Jacob Case, who sustained severe and fatal injury on February 5 on County Hwy E, was read by Tom Egan. This was sent to the clerks in the City of Omro, Town of Omro and Town of Rushford. Hendricks is to send Rural Mutual Insurance the copy of the Joint Fire Department agreement.

Peggy Hendricks asked if any members would like the WTA monthly magazine sent to them electronically. Dan Stokes will continue to serve on the steering committee for updating the County Farmland Preservation plan.

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the Resolution for Winnebago County Zoning & Planning Committee for the proposed text amendment changes affecting the Winnebago County Zoning Code (Chapter 23) of the Winnebago County General Code. Motion carried.

Zoning/Planning Committee report – Tom Jackson: Tom Jackson reported the committee discussed the proposed mound in the Blue Belle subdivision, the trailers in Waukau, a fine schedule for animal ordinance violations and sex offender residency restrictions. Minutes of the meeting is posted online and was available at the meeting.

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover for approval of the proposed mound system for parcel 022 1449, Kenneth & Delaine Rew in the 50' no building and landscaping easement zone. Motion carried. A letter of approval will be sent to all concerned. Tom Egan did suggest that the subdivision set up an association as soon as possible. It was stated that they were waiting for Rews to break ground for members have to be living in the subdivision.

Pat Kafer stated a correction should be made to the planning committee minutes. It was said he was in attendance. Pat Kafer was not, but Jerry Schoonover was present. Tom Jackson asked if there was a 300' buffer around the retention pond in Blue Belle. Dean Kaderabek said not if it was put in after 1976.

Animal Report: Mr Mier had mileage, 5 dogs and 1 citation. Mr Mier reminded Hendricks to get an ID Badge for him.

Assessors Report: Larry Timm said that all assessments are done. He asked for verification if Aaron Masters and Fish Tales are out of business for personal property tax, which was verified. He is doing the final review. Open book will be on April 26th from 3:00 - 6:30 and Board of Review is planned for May 20th from 4 pm - 6 pm.

Building report - Tom Egan:

Bob Freid, 3181 Hwy 116, Waukau, WI 54980
Siding doors & windows by D&J Construction
\$7,000

Mike Doro, 9390 Bell School Road for a garage
\$5000

County Report: Tom Egan thanked everyone who came out to vote and thanked the people who voted for him.

Tom Egan mentioned that he got a call from a student who is doing a study on the City of Omro regarding a Municipal court with surrounding Townships.

Attended Meetings/workshops:

- There were 634 voters at the Spring primary election on April 5th. We had 978 on the poll list, which comes out to 64.8% turnout.
- Hendricks reported on the election meeting held on March 24th at the Courthouse.

Upcoming Meetings/workshops:

- Winnebago County Unit meeting on April 7th at Nepeuskun Town hall
- WTA meeting on April 16th at Royal Ridges in Ripon.
- Annual meeting on Thursday April 21st on
- Informational meeting on Natural Gas to Eureka on April 21st from 4:30 - 6:30 with presentation at 5:00.

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to adjourn at 8:45. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk