

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 3, 2021

The Town of Rushford February Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Jerry Schoonover, Patrick Kafer, Kathryn Lewis & Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 10 additional persons per attendance record on file, though others were present who did not sign in.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting and the special meeting of the board was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K&E in Eureka, the Waukau post office and the Towns website.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover 2nd by Kafer, to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2021 board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance for the general account at the end of January was \$145,837.50. The balance in the tax account was \$806,111.69. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Payment of invoices: Hendricks approved and submitted to the board the bills for February in the amount of \$74,489.38. Discussion: Kathryn Lewis asked for approval to send out the February settlement checks when the amounts were known. It was questioned what a PILT payment was (Payment in lieu of taxes) and Pitney Bowes took out 2 payments for the purchase of stamps, which the clerk will just use the 2nd payment for more stamps. *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to pay the bills for the month of February. Motion carried.* Hendricks stated one bill she did not approve was an invoice from Oshkosh Humane Society. A resident dropped off a male check and a litter of kittens. Hendricks said she had written the shelter numerous times informing them that the Town of Rushford does not have a cat ordinance and only the humane officer, chairman or supervisor could bring in animals. If a resident did, they would have to cover the cost themselves. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to not pay the \$133.90 invoice to the Oshkosh Humane Society. Motion carried.*

Guest Speakers – Ron Harke, Dave Peck & Sandra Cartmill from BBC: The BBC presented a report on the Berlin Boat club operating the Eureka Lock. Mr. Peck explained that yearly, the BBC presents a report for the lease agreement signed by the BBC and the Town of Rushford along with the Wisconsin DNR, requested as part of the agreement to develop a report that is given each year. Mr Harke went through the report of operations from 2016-2020, Property report, flood damage to the Lock property, the problems and duties of the DNR who hired a local person to take care of tires, trash and larger items, the road, and other items. One item they are in need of because of the flood damage is fill. If anyone has fill they want to give away, please contact the BBC at 920-.361-4891 or rharke123@gmail.com

Public Input: Pat Schoonover asked if the website had changed, for he could not find the agenda. Hendricks stated it might have been an error on her part, or it is always a good idea to refresh the web page you are at to make sure you have the most recent.

Communication & Correspondence: Tom Egan went through a report from the Omro Rushford Joint Fire Board by Jay Treleven. Usually there is a February meeting scheduled, but this was canceled. The report is available at the Town hall if anyone is interested in a copy.

Town Zoning Report – Tom Jackson: Tom mentioned that he has had inquiries about people who would like to install solar panels and what our ordinances were, which we do not have anything for solar power. He inquired if we should have separate regulations pertaining to this. Kafer said that he should look to see what other townships have for regulations for we will see more interest in the Township for solar power. Mr. Jackson has an appointment with the Attorney on February 11th.

Discussion on Appeal Board: There was a special meeting of the Board to approve/disapprove a CSM for parcels Jake Peeters for parcel 022 0393 which the board denied for it left one parcel with road frontage of

111.61' instead of 150' which is in the Towns ordinance. They have decided to apply for a variance. The last time the Board appointed an appeals board was in 2015 and it was not quite sure who was appointed at that time, for the Appeals Board has not met since 2011. It was thought that Pat Schoonover, Cory Craig and Susan Bohn was appointed. Hendricks will go back in the records to see who was appointed and send out letters to see if they are still interested. It was thought if we did not have enough people, to consider Ryan Helmuth, Nicole Bahn or Charlie Knigge. Pat Schoonover said he would still like to serve on the appeals board. We need 5 people and 1 alternate.

New Business: CSM for parcels 022 0698 & 022 0701, Patricia Davey Revocable Trust, 8726 Riverdale, Berlin for property located on River Road.

The Board looked over the CSM. From GIS, this is a 40A parcel which the CSM shows split into 2 parcels – Lot 2 at 40A and Lot 1 at 18.94A. They have someone interested in purchasing the property. There are 40A to the North, which is not on this CSM, and Lot 1 on the CSM of 18.94 and Lot 3 which is a small sliver that is an access path. Lot 2 of 20A would stay with Pat Davey. Kafer asked how a resident who owns land on parcel 022 0068 gets down to his land. It is believed that he uses Lot 3 which is an access point and has always been its own tax parcel of .5A. Kafer said Lot 1 should be 20A instead of 18.94A. This Lot is not intended to be a buildable lot, only recreational. Kafer would like to have clarity on Lot 3, which is used as an easement. Tom Jackson would like to see the parcel North of the proposed CSM be combined with Lot 1, since he is buying both, it would stay Agricultural zoning. The buyer has the option of rezoning the proposed 18.94A – Lot 1. . *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to deny this CSM because Lot 1 is not 20A and the Board would need clarity on the Easement. Motion carried to deny the CSM 3-0.*

Discussion on Town Maintenance: The County contacted Tom Egan about doing brushing in the Town this winter. Tom said we would have to wait. Tom also was contacted by a County worker informing him that the County will not be winging back with the plow on County roads this winter. Tom Egan got a call from a resident in Blue Belle who does not want sand down on the road. He would prefer salt. This was the only person who complained. Tom Egan said if he wanted salt on the roads, he would have to get something from all the residents.

Building permits – Tom Egan:

Patty Fink, 3072 Quarry Dr for 8804 Ann St, Eureka WI
Replace windows & siding by Jim Driessen, 5070 Cty Rd K, Oshkosh, WI
\$8,000 1/4/2021

Mike Hoffman, 8065 Island Rd, Omro, WI
Furnace & AC replacement with ductwork
Done by Oshkosh Heating & Air, 920 S Main St, Oshkosh, WI
\$13,200 1-6-2021

BW Enterprises, 4832 Rivermoor Rd, Omro for:
7398 Mechanic St, Waukau, WI 54980
Extensive remodel by Tomorrow Home Property Investments LLC
1014 Michigan Ave., N Fond Du Lac, WI 54937
\$50,000 1-13-2021

Brian Loos, 3460 Wren Ct, Omro
Remodel done by self – Finish basement 1200 sq ft with bath and bedroom
\$27,000 Parcel# 022 1427 01-12-2021

Bongert Homes LLC, 2029 Crestwood Dr, Oshkosh, WI for
3239 Delhi Rd, Omro WI
New roof, kitchen & bath remodel, new furnace and electrical update
Complete remodel done by self
\$30,000 not counting septic and well 1-14-2021

County Report: The County has a meeting coming up. Covid vaccines are being given out at Sunnyview.

Reports on Attended meetings:

Town of Rushford Caucus was on January 9, 2021 at 9:00 am. Dan Stokes ran the caucus. 8 residents were present. The present Town Board will be on the ballot in April unopposed.

The Board met on January 26th to vote on the Peeters CSM, which was not approved because of shortage of frontage.

Hendricks attended the Winnebago WTA Unit Zoom meeting on January 28th. There were 2 legislatures present and Mark Harris, Winnebago Co Executive and Doug Gieryn, Director of Winnebago Co Health Department were the guest speakers. They spoke on updates in Winnebago Co and reported on the Covid 19 situation in the County.

Upcoming Meetings:

Spring primary on February 16, 2021

WTA district meeting by zoom on Marcj 12, 13, 22 or 23rd

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to adjourn the meeting at 8:20. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk
