

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, October 2, 2024

The Town of Rushford October Board meeting was called to order by Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Tom Egan, Jerry Schoonover, Katheryn Lewis & Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 7 additional persons per attendance record on file, though others were present who did not sign in.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting, a possible quorum of the Board at the Fire House meeting on 9/25, and the special meeting of the board on September 30th was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K&E in Eureka, the Waukau post office and the Towns website.

Clerks Report: *Motion by Schoonover to approve the minutes from September 4, 2024. 2nd by Kafer. Discussion: Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Katheryn Lewis. The balance for the general account at the end of September was \$139,029.38. The balance in the tax account was \$2,127.43 *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Payment of Monthly Invoices: *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to approve and pay \$43,411.28 invoices for October. Motion carried.*

Public Input: Jay Jones, Omro School District Superintendent, was present to speak on the referendum for the School District that will be on the ballot in November. He passed out information and a person can go to <https://www.omro.k12.wi.us/o/sdo/page/referendum> which explains about the referendums and there is a tax calculator online to see what it will cost you, Adam Breest, Winnebago Parks Department, was present to explain the work that will be done at the Eureka Boat Landing and ramp, and the Waukau Dam. They were awarded a grant for about \$700,000 from the DNR that the County matched. They have a dam restoration permit which will begin next Spring for the Waukau Dam. It will start in April and they hope to be done by the end of July.

Mike McMonigal, Berlin Boat Club, whose responsibility was to negotiate the lease from 15 years ago from the DNR which expired but was extended to after boating system. This time the DNR wanted to work with the Boat Club, but the obstacle was insurance, so basically it has to stay the way it is now. The Town now supplies the insurance for the lock and the lease is between the Town and the DNR giving the Boat Club the right to run the lock and they have an operating agreement with the DNR. He was requesting that the Town approve the lease and operating agreement for a term of 15 years from October 15, 2024. Egan asked about the tubing which starts at the Lock. All the boat club does is open the locks to let the tubers go down. The business has provided insurance that names the Town and Berlin Boat Club for that activity. Kafer asked if there was anything in the lease that will allow either parties to opt out, which there is. It is 120 days, the DNR can cancel the lease if there is a violation, and if the locks needed maintenance which they could not afford, the lease can terminate. Egan asked who was in charge of the road going down there. That is owned by the DNR. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover that we approve the 15 year lease renewal and operating agreement for the DNR and Berlin Boat Club starting from Oct 15, 2024. Motion carried.***

Winnebago Co Sheriffs Dept Representatives: Patrol Officer, Gabriel Wildeman was present. He stated last time he was here, there were questions about firework regulations. He did some research and essentially a permit has to be given out by the Town Chairman. There were also questions about small game hunting. A person with a small game license can hunt some year-round and others have seasons. This is regulated by the DNR. Schoonover stated that there is speeding on Archery, for people are using that for a short cut. He asked for some presence now and then to deter that.

Communications & Correspondence: None for this month.

Old Business: Updates on Kasuboski: Because the last inspection did not pass, the Attorney filed a motion to reopen the case for default judgment.

Egan said the last time he talked to Attorney Blazel, he was looking into what our next step on the Spencer property. We could ask for a court order to order the offender to comply with the ordinances, and sometimes called an injunction action. This is a civil lawsuit and can take longer and be more expensive than the citation approach, however the longer process and expense may be worth it since the town has greater options to enforce the judgement. Kafer suggested that the Board go talk to Attorney Blazel.

The property at Carlson has been taken care of and this is closed.

Hendricks sent out a letter to Mr. Edinger and he has since mowed and cleaned up. This case is closed. Hendricks sent out a couple of other letters to residents requesting them to mow, which they all have.

New Business: Tom Egan appointed Eric (Chuck) Freund as the new Town of Rushford zoning administrator. *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to appoint Eric Freund as zoning administrator. Motion carried.*

Discussion of Town Hall Maintenance: A repair man has been contacted to fix the outlets in the kitchen in the hall. Kafer says the "R" on the front of the building that needs to be looked at. Kathy Lewis stated there is a plate on the door that needs to be looked at. Chuck Freund asked if anyone checked the emergency lights, for one is not working. Kafer said he would ask Brad to look at it when he is here for the kitchen.

Discussion on Town Maintenance: Hendricks stated that our garbage/recycling contract will be up at the end of this year. Hendricks will publish bids and it will be decided at the November meeting. It was decided to open the bids at 6:00 prior to the meeting on November 6, 2024. The Town can accept or reject all bids and the public is welcome.

Building Reports:

Hubert Hoeft, 2871 Cty Rd K, Omro
Roof repair on house and garage by Tovar Roofing , Oshkosh, WI
\$7,000 #022 105903 9-5-2024

Poppys Rentals, 3160 County Rd E, Eureka, WI 54963
42 x 36x9 house and 42 x 56 x 16 Shed by Pinno Buildings, Rosendale
\$280,000 022 06150201 6-14-2024

Ryan Hrubes for 2566 Mill Run Omro, WI
New home built by Schroeder Carpentry Inc, Greenville, WI
\$500,000 022 085004 9-13-2024

Tom Brayton, 7279 Meadow ridge Dr, Omro WI
22 x 18 garage built by self
\$30,000 022 1403 9-19-2024

Jim Moore said that there are people building, but he could not see a building permit on the premise. Also there was a lot of material delivered down to the end of Mechanic and he thinks they might not have a building permit.

County report: They are working on budget sessions with the departments and the end of the October they will work on the full budget.

Attended business: Hendricks reported on the EMS meeting she attended on September 12th at the Oshkosh City Hall. Jerry and Pat reported on the September 25th meeting at the fire station with 10 different townships. They had 2 ambulance companies present. They had proposals. There were some townships there that would like to change, but the majority thinks there are too many unknowns at this time. It would be best to stay with Oshkosh for 2025 so there is more time to figure something else out.

Schoonover reported on the quarterly Omro, Rushford, Omro fire department meeting.

Upcoming meetings:

WTA Unit meeting Town of Nepeuskun at 6:00

WTA convention on Oct 7, 2024 at Stevens Point. Hendricks will attend

In office voting starts by appointment on October 22 - November 1st.

Election day!! November 5th 7 am to 8 pm

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to adjourn the meeting at 8:10. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk

