

## **Rushford Town Hearing for Proposed 2013 Budget and Special Meeting of Elector Minutes**

**Wednesday, November 14, 2012**

The hearing was called to order by Pat Kafer at 7:00 pm. Attendees were Patrick Kafer, Jerry Schoonover, Kathryn Lewis, Peggy Hendricks, Pat Schoonover, Patsy Pomplun, Fred Kasten, Larry & Jean Hildebrand.

The budget was presented with questions being answered by Peggy Hendricks and the board members. The assessed value for the Town of Rushford is \$107,610,500. The levy proposed is \$262,403 with a mill rate of .002438. Fred Kasten spoke about raising the salary of the clerk. Peggy Hendricks said this should be decided at the Special Meeting of the Electors. The budget would show any changes that the Electors voted on for the Town Board to vote on in the December meeting. A question was asked about deferring the payment to Ripon Truck until 2013. Hendricks stated that at the end of the year, a better idea of the money available will be known and Ripon Truck will probably be paid in 2012.

It was asked if there was any way to lower the garbage pickup. Hendricks explained that the amount in the budget covers the year previous. This year the estimated cost of garbage pickup is \$101,033. Veolia charges us for 635 people. This will increase the garbage on the tax bill from \$150 to \$160 to be paid in 2013 to cover the cost in 2012.

***Motion by Pat Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Pomplun to adjourn the hearing.***

The hearing was adjourned at 7:30 pm

**The Special Meeting of Electors** was called to order at 7:30 pm. Attendees were Patrick Kafer, Jerry Schoonover, Kathryn Lewis, Peggy Hendricks, Patsy Pomplun, Fred Kasten, Larry & Jean Hildebrand and Thomas Egan. A reminder was given that only people living in the Township are able to vote.

***Motion by Fred Kasten, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Pomplun to adopt the 2012 Town tax levy of \$262,403 to be paid in 2013, pursuant to Section 60.10(1)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes. Motion carried.***

***Motion by Fred Kasten, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Hildebrand to increase the salary amount in the 2013 budget from \$40,200 to \$42,200 for increased salary compensation to the Town Clerk.***

Discussion: Pat Schoonover stated that he does not think anyone needs a raise. He said at the annual meeting in July of last year the clerk got a raise. He does not think we should compare our township to other townships, where it was stated by Fred Kasten earlier quite a few townships have a higher salary for their clerk. He also thought per diems should not be paid. Mileage and meetings should be. Peggy Hendricks stated that the annual meeting is in April and wages are only discussed every other year. The last time wages were increased was in 2010. The per diems that are included in the budget besides mileage and meetings are small and few. There are the dog license writing and Real estate assessments for the treasurer & building permit writing for the Inspector. The mileage and meetings also include everyone from the Planning and Zoning Committee, Constable, Human Officer and the Appeals Board. Mr Schoonover felt that salaries should only be discussed at the Annual Meeting. Peggy Hendricks stated that this was a Special Town Meeting called pursuant to Section 60.12 of Wisconsin Statutes and

any business which may be transacted at an annual town meeting may be transacted at a special town meeting. ***Motion carried by Voice Vote.***

Patsy Pomplun stated she felt if the clerk's salary was raised, everyone should be raised. Pat Kafer said that the clerk puts in many hours on the job and the web site. He said he does not need a raise, but feels the clerk should be compensated more. He feels that all the salaries are in line with other townships except for the clerk's wage. Mr Schoonover stated he does not know what takes so much time for a clerk job. Other clerks did not spend as much time that he knows of. Mr Schoonover wanted a breakdown of clerk's salaries. Ron Bahn did a survey in 2010 of 7 surrounding Townships. They ranged from \$6000 to \$18,000 with two being below Town of Rushford.

Tom Egan said that wages are usually discussed before an election. The Town official's terms are up in April of 2013. He stated that these wages are for whoever is elected in 2013, not necessary for the people who are on the board now.

***Motion by Pat Schoonover, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Hildebrand to increase the salary of the treasurer and Town Chair by \$1000 and the supervisors by \$300. Motion failed on Voice Vote.***

Fred Kasten asked if there were any hidden costs for the Town for the bridge that will be built in 2013. Pat Kafer stated there might be, but we are not sure.

Larry Hildebrand feels the supervisors should have a raise. ***Motion by Larry Hildebrand, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean Hildebrand to increase the Chairman and Treasurers salary by \$750 and the supervisors by \$500. Motion carried.***

***Motion by Pat Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jerry Schoonover to increase the Zoning Commissioners salary by 8%, which will be \$368. Motion carried.***

***Motion by Fred Kasten, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jerry Schoonover to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried***

Meeting adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk