

Rushford Annual Town Board Minutes  
Wednesday, April 19, 2023

The Town of Rushford 2022 Annual meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Chairman Tom Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present for all or part of the meeting was Supervisors Patrick Kafer & Jerry Schoonover, Treasurer Kathryn Lewis, Clerk Peggy Hendricks and 11 persons per attendance record on file.

Nicole Bahn swore in the Town elected officials – Thomas Egan, chairman, Patrick Kafer – supervisor, Jerry Schoonover – supervisor, Kathryn Lewis – treasurer, Peggy Hendricks – clerk and Chuck Freund – Town constable.

### **Guest Speakers:**

**Attorney John Blazel:** Attorney Blazel is located in Berlin and presently the work he is doing for the Town is sending letters to residents who have property issues that the Town would like to see addressed. He went through the steps that would be taken if the letters did not get results.

**Representative from Winnebago Co Sheriff Department:** Deputy Hedert has been with the department for the past 7 years and he is a canine handler. Typically, he works nights. Concerns are drugs being laced with fentanyl. They do have narc test kits available now so they know exactly what they are dealing with. There has been an uptake in violence in municipalities.

**Art Rathjen – Greater Oshkosh:** Art passed an informational packet. They offer funding and many resources to many businesses in the Towns of Winnebago County. Their office is located on 100 N Main, Oshkosh. They work with 14 municipalities.

**Action Appraisers & Consulting:** Zac Zacharias is one of the new appraisers that have taken over Larry Timms' job. They are a family-owned business. All the fieldwork has been completed and open book along with Board of Review have been set. The Town is out of compliance, but they do have time to get back in. Amy stated we are 87.25% where last year we were at 90.36%. They work with 10 other municipalities in Winnebago County. They are open 8-4 every day and residents can call the office if they have any questions. It was suggested that if they take a building down, they should call or at least let the Town know.

**Freund Excavating:** Chuck said this year they already had 23 snow plowing events with Christmas weekend being the worst. A lot of people did not heed the warning to stay home during the blowing snowstorm. Blowing snow in the roadway can cause a lot of damage to the roadways and the plows. Also grass in the roadway is dangerous to motorcycles. They alternate plow routes.

***Motion by Dan Stokes to appoint Attorney John Blazel as the Town of Rushford Attorney for 2023-2024. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schoonover. Motion carried.***

Jerry Schoonover and Jim Moore of the zoning committee have their terms up. Egan asked if he could have until the May meeting to appoint someone to replace Jim Moore on the zoning committee. ***Motion by Kafer to appoint someone to replace Jim Moore on the zoning committee at the May Board meetings. Dan Stokes 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.*** Pat Kafer will replace Jerry Schoonover as the Town representative for the next 2 years with term being up 2025.

### ***Motion carried.***

Hendricks gave the annual report. Booklets were printed out with important information along with a PowerPoint presentation. It was asked where the American rescue money went. Hendricks said it was all earmarked for roads. ***Motion by Pat Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jerry Schoonover to approve the annual meeting minutes from 2022. Motion carried.***

**Public Input:**

Pat Schoonover inquired what the Town might be considering spending the Spirit fund monies of \$145,000 on. The Town has not decided yet and they are waiting for guidelines on what we can spend it on. Some ideas were roads. With the cost of roads, it would not go very far. Other ideas were parks or towards the Community Center.

It was asked how much land was at the Town hall. Maybe a baseball diamond could go in here. A defibrillator could be purchased for the Town hall. An automated dial up to the fire department for the hall. A new floor at the Town hall, shelters or gazebos over the picnic tables at the hall were other ideas.

Jim Moore said that Fox St is starting to bust up. The board has looked at this on the Road Tour.

***Motion Pat Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Stokes to adjourn the meeting at 7:20. Motion carried.***

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk