

**Minutes of the Town of Newbold Town Board Regular Town Board Meeting held on
Thursday, September 28, 2023**

The Town of Newbold, Town Board, met on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., for the Town Board Regular Monthly Meeting, held at the Newbold Fire Station, 4588 Highway 47, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, Oneida County, Wisconsin. The following were in attendance: Chairman Dan Hess; Supervisors Scott Ridderbusch, Mike McKenzie, Petra Pietrzak and Brad White; Kim Gauthier, Clerk and Jodie Hess, Treasurer.

Chairman Dan Hess called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Hess led the audience in the pledge of allegiance. The Clerk verified the agenda was properly noticed to the public.

Public Comment and Communication Period per Wisconsin Statutes whereby the Town Board may receive input on any matter raised by the public. Dave Schmitz commented on the town outdoor recreation plan and requests, on behalf of the Friends of Town Line Lake, the town consider establishment of a connecting bike trail to the lake in the Town of Newbold to the plan.

Approve prior Town Board meeting minutes. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the meeting minutes of September 14, 2023, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye. Mr. Ridderbusch abstained.*

Monthly County Board of Supervisors Report by Newbold representative(s). Mr. Winkler was present and reported on the county outdoor recreation plan and work with Northcentral Wisconsin Regional Planning. Mr. Winkler emphasized the importance of including any potential recreation activities considered in the Town of Newbold into the NCWRP plan, as this will aid in potential grants available or sought after. Mr. Winkler also commented on updates in the veteran's services, human services and labor relations committees within the county.

Monthly District Library report by Newbold Representatives. Petra Pietrzak distributed a report of budgetary statistics and proposed 2024 district library budget of \$1,061,015. The Newbold portion is an increase of 0.9% over last year and equates to \$168,391 total for 2024. Ms. Pietrzak also reported of the seven counties in the Wisconsin Valley system, Oneida County is the only county to increase the overall number of registered users in the last couple years.

Monthly report of Terrestrial Invasive Species activity by Newbold representative and WHIP. Tabled until next month. Tabled at this time.

Monthly Newbold Fire Department report by Chief Fetzer. A report of fire calls and first responder calls provided. Four fire calls in the month of September and six first responder calls reported in the month of August.

Monthly Newbold Public Works report by Director, Mark Fetzer. Mr. Fetzer provided a report of public works activities including patching asphalt, brushing road side shrubbery, grading gravel roads and shoulders, applying fertilizer on some fairways at the town disc golf course, pressure washing privies at NORA and town parks. The engine for the broom sweeper was ordered and the old engine removed. The Flannery Lake Road project began and should be completed in October.

Discuss and action on Oneida County Zoning Requests, Plan Commission and Citizen Zoning Request, if any along with Plan Commission Chairman's Report.

Discussion and action on legal pre-existing lot and reconfiguration proposal of lands owned by Michael Venney and further described as; Part of Govt. Lot 7, Section 36, T37N, R8E, PIN# NE402-3, at 3896 and 3898 Highway 47, Town of Newbold.

Chairman Hess indicates page three of the land division proposal and page four lot split proposal complies with Oneida county zoning and Ordinance 13.08. The plan commission reviewed with no concerns, although there is no formal reconfiguration at this time and the owner is exploring the possible split. Mr. Ridderbusch indicates the town subdivision ordinance does not address legal pre-existing in this situation. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ridderbusch to approve the configuration proposed by Michael Vanney for the described land division. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and action on Two Sisters Lake Association and WI D.N.R. grant for clean boats clean water. Kent Bradshaw present representing the lake association. Mr. Bradshaw presented the grant application and town resolution #2023-04, as read by Chairman Hess. The request is for a \$4,000 grant endorsed by the Town of Newbold and managed by the TSLA. *Motion by Mr. Ridderbusch and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the Resolution #2023-04, for Two Sisters Lake grant as read. Roll call vote: Mr. White, aye; Ms. Pietrzak, aye; Mr. McKenzie, aye; Mr. Ridderbusch, aye, Mr. Hess, aye. Motion carried.*

Discussion and action on new signage at Newbold Outdoor Recreation Area for the walking/ snowshoeing trail. Mrs. Cody, Oneida County Biking and Walking Trail Council representative presented an updated trail sign with key code as a 15"X18" new sign to be purchased by the council from Hahn Printing. Also requested is an updated ordinance sign from Rent-a-Flash with OCBWTC donating the signage to the town. *Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. White to approve the new signage at NORA as presented with the old trail sign donation to Mr. Martinez (trail designer). Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and possible action on town 5 year outdoor recreation plan and correspondence from county and Wisconsin North Central Regional Planning. Board discussion on the questionnaire previously submitted to NCWRP and town plan through 2020 which needs board review. Board decision to bring back any additions to the NCWRP questionnaire to the October 12th board meeting and discuss town plan in December to allow time for review.

Discussion and possible action or update on Fundraising Activity for the new town community center. Funds received to date \$17,758.

Discussion and action on Town Building Project, Updates and any other building project matters. Chairman Hess provided the board with the following building project updates: the black top change order was reduced to \$8,910. Wi-Fi connection is scheduled with Spectrum. Purchase of a router and three access points made in the amount of \$1,387. Chairman Hess has requested the concrete in front of the door be replaced due to abnormalities. A change order is needed for an increase in electrical amps in the kitchen. *Motion by Mr. White and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the change order of a 50 amp to 100 amp connection in the amount of \$1,146.20 as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.* Other updates; siding block sealant from the mason made no change when applied and so Mr. Hess purchased sealant and requested a refund for the previous change order. The exterior light fixture bird nest barriers are in storage and will only be installed if needed. The parking lot will be striped this week. Appliances arrive in a couple weeks. Contact was made with Sounds-n-Motion to install the town sound system in the new building. Discussion on window coverings needed yet at a budget request of \$5,000. *Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. Ridderbusch to approve up to \$5,000 in window covering with color selection by the Clerk, Treasurer and Supervisor Pietrzak. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.* Board discussion on community center letter with Clerk noting color selection was not made by the board and the board should consider if the lettering is visible. Furniture will be installed the week of November 13th. The project remains in budget and very near completion.

Discussion and possible action on town community center rental fees and contract. The board received a copy of the former rental agreement and fees. Discussion on possible fees, cleaning fee and deposit. Table until the November board meeting.

Discussion and action on Resolution #2023-03, Amend Ordinance Chapter 2.02, Meeting Time and Date and Chapter 2.03, Order of Business. Chairman Hess read the resolutions proposed. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. White to approve resolution #2023-03, as presented. Roll call vote of: Mr. White, aye; Ms. Pietrzak, aye; Mr. McKenzie, aye; Mr. Ridderbusch, aye; Mr. Hess, aye. Motion carried.*

Continued discussion and possible action on town logo or slogan and Facebook page. Ms. Pietrzak received 109 slogan submissions. Chairman Hess asked that the full board review the slogans and narrow down a top ten favorite for the next board meeting. Direction to also look at possible logo designs and select a favorite by the board for discussion at the October 12th meeting.

Discussion and action on town fee schedule amendments. Board discussion and review of fees. Treasurer request dog license fee changes in compliance with Oneida County. Question on building inspection fees imposed by the City of Rhinelander. Further discussion and review at the next board meeting after research on city fees.

Discussion and action on Employee Health Insurance benefits, premiums and Public Works budgetary items. Clerk Gauthier presented a copy of the state health insurance decision guide, premium rates for 2024 and the public works employee handbook for review prior to the meeting. Changes to premiums for the local government plans are an overall increase of 15.1%. Other changes include an increase in the deductibles to \$1600 single plan and \$3200 family plan. The town and employees will see a significant increase in premiums at the minimum and maximum rates indicated. Discussion on continuing the “opt-out” health insurance option at a rate of 50% reimbursement as indicated in the employee handbook. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. White to increase the health saving account, town contribution rate to \$1600 single plan participant and \$3200 family plan in 2024, along with continuation of the opt-out at a rate of fifty percent premium reimbursement on the plan an employee is eligible. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.* Discussion on the employee handbook to revisions follow at a future meeting.

Approval and payment of any bills and/or funds adjustments. *Motion by Mr. Ridderbusch and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the transfers from designated town hall loan to capital improvement budget in the amount of \$293,829.06 (Keller installment) and from designated funds town hall loan to capital improvement budget in the amount of \$27,000 (down payment furniture). Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye. Motion by Ms. Pietrzak and Mr. White to approve the bills and disbursements, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Administrative review and action, if necessary, concerning general government, public safety, recycling, sanitation, culture, education, job assignments, project updates, transportation, budget items, fund transfers, and future agenda items.

Next regular board meeting and finance meeting scheduled for October 12, 2023. Agenda items must be to the Clerk by the Friday before the next meeting. Board budget discussion meeting set for Tuesday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment and Communication Period per Wisconsin Statutes whereby the Town Board may receive input on any matter raised by the public. Dorothy Skye asked that appropriations be in the new building to accommodate remote meetings.

Adjournment at 8:45 p.m., with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by: Kim Gauthier, Town Clerk