

Minutes of the Town of Newbold Town Board Regular Town Board Meeting held on Thursday, October 6, 2022

The Town of Newbold, Town Board, met on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 6:30 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 Dave Kroll; Supervisors Jim Staskiewicz, Mike Suefloh and Dan Hess; Kim Gauthier, Clerk and Jodie Hess, Treasurer. Absent and excused, Mike McKenzie.

Chairman Kroll called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., led the audience in the pledge of allegiance and the Clerk verified the agenda was properly noticed to the public.

Public comment. Dorothy Skye suggested the board consider succession of board members and forethought of getting high school students involved in local government with a possible intern program to introduce students to the roles of board members or an advisory role.

Approval of prior town meeting minutes. *Motion made by Mr. Hess and Mr. Staskiewicz to approve the amended minutes of September 8th and September 22, 2022. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and action on town hall project, updates, re-bidding process and any other project matters with Keller, Inc.

Devin Flanigan, Keller, Inc. presented the re-bidding notice for board review. Discussion on bid bond requirements and bid form along with changes to the bid notice regarding the bond. The clerk will place in the newspaper as a class two notice. The bid notice will also be posted on the town bulletin boards and placed on the website.

Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Suefloh to approve the bid notice as amended. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Mr. Flanigan will attend the October 25th pre-bid walkthrough and be at the November 3, 2022 bid opening.

Monthly District Library report by Newbold Representative(s).

Ruth Jaeger was present and reported on the library budget items, several towns have called for arbitration. Programing discussed and a written report was provided.

County Board of Supervisors report by Newbold Representatives. Both were absent and excused.

Monthly report of Public Works by Director, Mark Fetzer.

A written report was provided by Mr. Fetzer. It was noted the town shop building was painted this month by McNaughton Correction inmates along with work on clearing trees to allow for storing and accessing equipment and plows. Brush mowing continues along roadsides on the north end of the town, the fog sealing work is complete, the new picnic tables for the recreation area were assembled and installed, the two bike racks arrived but will wait for installation until spring, the county replaced the culvert on Red Pine Drive and correspondence received from the DOT indicates the town did not receive grants for road work.

Discussion and action on contracting or hiring a beaver trapper for town beaver management.

Mr. Fetzer indicated Aaron Mangerson is no longer available for trapping and the board needs to consider another trapping option. Prior to Mr. Mangerson the town utilized the USDA but discontinued use due to pricing. In the interim, Roger Morken was called on as town roads and

the bike trail has suffered the effects of several beavers. Most recently Mr. Morken removed nine problematic beavers at a cost of \$100/beaver with no mileage fee. Mr. Fetzer presented two other options, Mike Kortenhof charges \$75/beaver plus \$.75/mile and Ray Yonk charges \$55/beaver plus mileage at an unknown amount.

Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. Sueflohn to continue beaver management with Roger Morken as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and action on rates for plowing private roads.

Mr. Fetzer asked if the board wanted to consider raising the rates due to the fuel price increase. No action by the board. Mr. Hess recommends this be an item for discussion in July, as some citizens have already paid for plowing for 2023.

Monthly report of Newbold Fire Department by Chief Fetzer.

A written report was provided by Chief Fetzer showing 14 fire calls and 32 first responder calls from August through today's date. It was noted the town is in need of First Responders, as we only have two certified and one plans to let the certification expire.

Discussion and possible action on naming the new town hall building (Newbold Town Hall & Community Center; Newbold Community Center; Newbold Municipal Center previously discussed).

Table this item until Mr. McKenzie is present for further discussion.

Discussion and possible action or update on fundraising activity for the town hall.

Mr. Hess indicated \$2,875 was received thus far. The clerk provided the board with a citizen comment received after the mailer went.

Discussion and action on Oneida County Land and Water 2023 grant application for 'High Quality Waters Protection Project'.

Stephanie Boismenu was present on behalf of the county land conservation staff and presented the project summary. The results of the study will be shared with the area towns and request the town support the project in the form of a letter of support. The grant committee is also looking for a committee member representing each town. Members will be responsible for attending approximately five meetings in the two year grant time frame along with educational efforts. Chairman Kroll agreed to draft a letter of town support and send it to the county and DNR. Mr. Sueflohn agreed to represent Newbold on the committee discussed.

Discussion and action on Oneida County Zoning requests, Plan Commission and citizen zoning requests and chairman's report.

Chairman Sueflohn noted the commission met today on a one lot division of Mr. and Mrs. Roehl and will report to the town board next week on this matter. The commission was also updated on the town hall project.

Discussion and action on Bartender/Operator License applications.

The Clerk presented a bartender application for review by the board from Teresa Hofmann to serve at MACKZ Hideaway.

Motion by Mr. Sueflohn and Mr. Staskiewicz to approve the bartender license application for Teresa Hofmann, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and possible action on fireworks permit application.

Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Hess to approve the town fireworks permit application form as presented by the Chairman. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and update or possible action on 2023 proposed town budget.

The Clerk and Treasurer presented a revised 2023 town budget with the changes previously discussed including updated figures on road crew wages and health insurance and various revenue updates. Mr. Hess proposed the board consider increasing the tower lease revenue at a rate of \$250/month or \$3,000/year. The board will review the updates budget and discuss scheduling another board budget discussion at the next meeting on October 13th.

The board decided to schedule the Budget Hearing of electors for Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., at the fire station.

Discussion and possible action on employee health insurance and benefits.

Clerk Gauthier presented the board with the final health insurance premiums through the state high deductible health insurance plan for local government. The town's portion of single coverage premiums will be \$649.39 per month and the family plan premium of \$1594.49 per month. The employee will pay the remaining amount dependent on the plan they choose. The open enrollment period is now running through October 21st. Mrs. Gauthier prepared a memo to the employees in the past explaining the employee benefits and used this as a guide for board decision on benefits for 2023. The decided to leave the town contribution into a health savings account for the full-time road crew employees at \$1,500/year single plan eligible and \$3,000/year contribution for family plan eligible employees. Supplemental dental and vision is offered at the employee's expense if they choose along with a state accidental injury plan. The board also agreed to retain the employee option to opt-out of health insurance with the town compensating the full-time employee for 50% of the town premium at a rate for 2023 of \$324.70/month single plan or \$797.24/month family plan opt out. The enrollment information and updates will be provided to the eligible employees by the Clerk.

Approval and Payment of any bills and/or funds adjustments. *Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Suefloh to approve the transfers of \$4,000 from general fund to garage utilities budget and transfer of \$163 from general fund to designated Newbold Outdoor Recreation Area funds from donations. 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 town board meeting is October 13th at 6:00 p.m., finance meeting and 6:30 p.m., regular board meeting.

Mrs. Gauthier provided an updated emergency management plan document received from the county for board review. Treasurer, Jodie Hess asked the board if the town should utilize the drop box for tax collection this year. The board decided not to utilize the box this year and have in-person tax collection available.

Public comment and communication period per Wisconsin statutes whereby the town board may receive input on any matter raised by the public.

Ruth Jaeger commented that the library is open 49 hours per week and the arbitration date will be discussed at the library October 11th committee meeting.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:00 p.m., with no objection.

Respectfully submitted by
Kim Gauthier, Town Clerk