

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, October 2, 2013

The Town of Rushford Board met at 6:45 pm on October 2nd to open bids for 2013-2014 snowplowing. Tom Egan went through the bids that were submitted by Jeff Foust Excavating, Inc, Radtke Contractors, Inc, and Freund Excavating.

The Town of Rushford October Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Gerald Schoonover, Patrick Kafer, Kathryn Lewis and Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 6 additional persons per attendance record on file.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting, possible quorum of the board for 9/25/2013 Network meeting and notice of Rep Schraa office hours at the Town Hall were posted on the Town Hall door, the Waukau post office and the corner of K & E in Eureka. Notices were mailed to Town Board members and the Zoning Administrator.

State Representative Schraa was present and gave a legislative update. He spoke on a couple of bills he co-authored and co-sponsored. They are just getting back into their fall session. Fred Kasten inquired about the proposal for land set aside for frac sand mining in the Hurley area. Tom Egan inquired about the new law which would allow using rifle for deer hunting and where the Township could designate shotgun only. Rep Schraa is not aware of this bill and does not know why it was fast tracked in the State and then given to the Towns. Rep Schraa will see if he can get any further information.

Sheriff's Report: Officer Chris Nicla was present to answer questions and concerns. Mr Egan inquired if the Town voted to leave the Town of Rushford as shotgun only and the Townships around us allow rifle, who is going to be patrolling this – the Sheriff's office or the DNR? Officer Nicla stated that the Sheriff's department would probably have to regulate this, but it would be tough to distinguish between a shotgun or rifle, and also to figure out where the Town lines are.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the minutes as presented for the September 4th Town board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance at the end of September in the general account is \$171,823.84. The balance at the end of September in the tax account was \$323.59. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Payment of invoices: Peggy Hendricks approved and submitted to the board the bills for October in the amount of \$44,459.78 for approval of payment. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to pay October bills as submitted. Motion carried.*

Communications & Correspondence: Tom Egan reported the following:

1. An email from Ernest Winters, Winnebago County Highway Department on the TRIP organizational meeting which was held on September 23, 2013. Tom Egan will contact Jon Groth on when the TRIP applications will come out.
2. A letter from Sarah Adkins, Water Management Specialist along with documentation of "Notice of Complete Application" for a proposed boat ramp for Bruk Thompson and Thomas & Connie Schuster to place a boat ramp on the bed of the Fox River located on 8072 Channel Lane, Omro, WI.
3. The report from Joe Baeten which summarizes the compliance inspection performed by the DNR at the Town of Rushford Landfill, Winnebago Co, License # 834.

Peggy Hendricks reported that she received an email informing that clerks who are "reliers" to the County for elections will have to train through the Government Accountability Board to be their own "providers" for future elections. This will require quite a bit of extra training to learn the SVRS recording.

Discussion of Town hall maintenance/needs: A letter was received from the County stating that the Town hall needs to complete the annual 3 year pumping and inspection requirement. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to contact Hyler and to issue payment at the time so the paper work will be filed in a timely manner. Motion carried.*

Discussion of Town Maintenance: Snow plowing bids were opened before the start of the monthly Town Meeting. The Board went through the bids from Foust, Freunds and Radtkes. A representative was available for Jeff Foust Excavating and Freunds Excavating. It was asked if salters were on the dump trucks, if any of them have other Township accounts, if they were tandems or single dump trucks, where the chips and salt if would come from, how timely the plowing would be, if they would be going out to contract other Townships, and how many trucks would be out at one time. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to have Freund Excavating, 3135 Delhi Road, Omro, WI do the Town of Rushford Snow removal for a 3 year period.*** ***Motion carried.*** Tom Egan thanked Jeff Foust Excavating for submitting their bid.

An email was received from Jon Groth informing us that a culvert at 37th and Bell School with a sinkhole on the shoulder. He suggested to trim the end and backfill the hole. Kafer had called Freunds to go and look at it.

Hendricks stated she received a bill today to pay the sales tax on last years snowplowing bill. She will call and inquire about the cost of \$412.00. Freund stated that a culvert was repaired on Edgewater Ridge. Trees and brush were reported laying in a field on Banner Hill. The Town will take care of that.

Kafer told Freunds the reason he made a motion to go with them was because they had tandem trucks.

Old Business: Tom Egan reported that he had gone to talk to the Town Attorney on Blue Belle roads. He said if we get pressure to do the roads, we can do the roads and tax it back to the land owners. Hendricks took all the paper work to the attorney and she could not find a bond for the roads. The bank has that sub division. As far as mowing, etc, the people who own the subdivision should mow. Patsy Pomplun asked since it is not being farmed, will the land be taxed as residential? Larry Timm said for next year the tax classification will change. Tom will talk to the one homeowner in the subdivision.

Tom Egan went through a bid from R & R Wash Materials to Reconstruct Liberty St. West at the Proposed Western Construction limits of the Cul de sac to the Stop sign at CTH K. They are proposing to reconstruct approx 470' of roadway x 24'. The 80' directly south of the stop sign going south is 33'. It was for \$31,696. The quote does not include shouldering, painting, bonding, fine grading before asphalt/concrete, new signs, new asphalt, sit fence, e-mat, permits or testing. The Board felt this bid was high since it does not contain asphalt. Tom will call Northeast and the County for a cost on this.

They are starting the cul de sac and will go until the area of contamination. Waste management would not take the dirt. It was checked and it is no worse than it was 10 years ago. They are waiting for Waste Management's decision.

Tom asked Kathryn if she had received any dog licenses from the letters which were sent. None have been received. Hendricks stated that the attorney sent the certified letters. She has not received anything, but maybe the attorney received the cards back. She read the communication between herself and the attorney. She will contact the attorney and this will be tabled until next month.

New Business: Larry Timm presented his contract for 2014 for Town assessor.

Tom read an email from David Schmitz which stated that the State of Wisconsin has passed a new law effective November 1, 2013 that will allow the use of a rifle for deer hunting this coming deer season. The Township can stay shot gun only, but will need to create an ordinance to reflect this change with shooting guidelines. Tom had called the other Townships in Winnebago County and contacted everyone except for one. The rest of them are not going to be taking action and some are not even bringing it up at their meetings. Kafer expressed concern regarding the villages in the Town of Rushford. Schoonover said that many go and hunt other animals, (coyotes, foxes, etc) with a rifle. Many are using pistols now and many of the newer shotguns shoot as far as a rifle. The Town also has ordinances where shooting is restricted in certain areas. It was agreed it would be very hard to police. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to allow rifle under the recommendations of the state. Motion carried.***

Pat Kafer suggested a ceremony upon completion of the bridge. Peggy Hendricks said that Elissa Ewald called and would like to present the Town of Rushford an acrylic painting of the old bridge. It was suggested to have Ed Tanner, who was one of the original ribbon cutters, along with a young person from the Ronnie Barris family, who was the 2nd youngster who cut the ribbon in 1940 do the honors. Tom said this was a good idea as long as the County and the State agree. Tom was concerned with liability in case someone would get hurt. It was mentioned that there are street dances, parades, etc.

Pat Kafer approached the Eureka Snowmobile Club to see if they would take care of the beverage end of the celebration. It was thought that beer, soda and water could be sold with donations going to the Fire Department or an organization of their choosing. A band, ribbon cutting, and dignitaries were suggested. No one has a definite date of the bridge opening. Since the bridge is closed now, a date could be picked in the future.

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to donate \$300 for the bridge opening celebration if it will be allowed. Motion carried.

Animal Report: Peggy Hendricks reported that Chuck Mier had 1 dog and 1 cat. The attorney has sent letters to the dog owners that were involved in the dog fight.

County Zoning Report – Fred Kasten: Fred reported that the Town of Rushford planning committee attended the Zoning Commissioner Network meeting which was held at the Rushford Town hall on September 25th. The discussion was road maintenance and heavy equipment. He would like culvert standards for heavy equipment discussed at the next Town planning meeting. The next network meeting will be discussing subdivisions. Pat Kafer suggested that the zoning committee go through the Town of Rushford animal ordinance. In our ordinances, it pertains to animals in R-1 areas. The animal ordinance is much more detailed. It was also suggested that the zoning committee go out to Roger Kasuboski. Tom Egan has been called and there are mounds of gravel, gravel trucks, etc. It is not a farm use any more and the Conditional Use permit is not be utilized for what it was given for. He might have to be issued a conditional use permit since he is in the trucking business.

Pat Kafer stated that there is a property that is zoned commercial and has a lot of miscellaneous items around, but it is not being used as a commercial business. Tom said there is nothing we can do since it is zoned commercial. It should be looked into if these properties should be fenced.

County Report – Tom Egan: The County has been discussing purchasing a baler for the airport.

Reports of Attended Meetings:

1. Jerry Schoonover and Pat Kafer reported on the Fire District Meeting held September 11th. They went over the new budget. The responders will start receiving a little money for fuel. Pat's concerns were that the City of Omro has a much higher number of EMS calls than the Town of Rushford and the Town of Omro. The majority of these calls come from the nursing homes, etc. These are for profit businesses and he does not feel we should be paying for these calls.
2. Peggy Hendricks reported on the 2013 Finance & Budget workshop which was held in Ripon on September 24th.

Upcoming Workshops and Meetings:

1. Winnebago Town Association Unit Meeting on Oct 3 at the Town of Vinland Town Hall.
2. WMCA District 6 Training Day in Manitowoc. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to allow the clerk registration money if she decides to attend.***
3. Hendricks stated that a budget meeting will need to be scheduled once she has completed a rough draft.

The Town books were audited.

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk