

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 5, 2020

The Town of Rushford February Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Patrick Kafer, Jerry Schoonover, Kathryn Lewis & Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 14 additional persons per attendance record on file, though others were present who did not sign in.

Statement of Public Notice: Notice of this meeting and the Zoning meeting was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K&E in Eureka, the Waukau post office and the Towns website. In addition, the Public hearings were published in the Oshkosh Northwestern.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer, to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2020 board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance for the general account at the end of January was \$127,666.50 The balance in the tax account was \$961,616.50. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.*

Payment of invoices: Hendricks approved and submitted to the board the bills for February in the amount of \$93,607.92. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to pay the bills for the month of February. Motion carried.*

Guest Speakers: Ron Harke, Commodore of the Berlin Boat Club gave the Town a report on the Eureka Lock for the year 2019. Also present from BBC was Josh Nigbor, Dick Schramer and Dave Peck. Their corn roast will be held on August 7-8, 2020.

Alan Erickson, Winnebago Co Public Health Supervisor and Jennifer Bonzelet, Environmental Health Specialist was present to explain what they offer and to answer concerns from the residents. Kafer had asked about the Corona Virus and if Winnebago County was set up for that. They stated this is not their department, but Winnebago County are on it.

Public Input: Pat Schoonover was wondering why the Town spent money fixing Commercial St in Waukau. Tom Egan said it is the Towns road and because of run off, the State said it had to be redone for water runoff. Schoonover asked if it ever came up on the County/Town road inspections, which it has for the past couple years.

Communication & Correspondence: Tom Egan received information on a flagger training course from Gary Kennedy, WCHA Professional Development Director. He also received an email from the Census Bureau. Tom Egan read an email from Attorney Blazel pertaining to the adult entertainment that was at one of the Eureka establishments last fall. The Attorney was asked to look into this. Attorney Blazels findings were this was not to be permitted according to the Towns ordinance unless a Conditional use permit was granted. It was suggested that the Clerk send the letter to the establishment.

He also received a letter from the Highway Commission thanking the Township for their relationship and stating they would like to improve the timeliness issue. They would like to complete as much as the Town work as early as possible and they would like to be notified by May 1st of each year of the work that should be done. Egan also received from Wisconsin Asphalt pavement association pertaining to a seminar which will be held March 5th at Liberty Hall in Kimberly.

Town Zoning Report: Tom Jackson reported on the January 29, 2020 zoning committee meeting. *Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to approve the zoning change for parcel 022 0022, 7762 Liberty School Road for Brian Wilke on Lot 2 on the proposed CSM from A-2 to SER. Motion carried.*

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the CSM for parcel 022 0022. Motion carried.

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve the CUP for parcel 022 0022 to allow building of storage units on Lot 1 of the CSM, located at 7770 Liberty School Road. Conditions are to purchase a building permit, one unit would be for personal use, to use existing driveway off Liberty School Road for buildings 1 and 2 with all proper permits from the County. A site plan is required, and the permit will be revisited before the start of any additional units. Motion carried.

Larry Timm – Assessor: He attended the meeting on the regular meeting date but was not notified it was changed. He has sent out personal property forms to the businesses that are required. He has been reviewing the sales from 2019. He would like to start doing assessments on the Town as soon as possible. He did receive a phone message from someone who did not receive a personal property tax bill, but the person did not leave a name, number or address.

New Business: Hendricks was served an unlawful tax claim by Midstate Amusement Games, LLC. Mr. Timm commented that in 2017 the rules were changed on what could be assessed as personal property. It exempted properties that were being reported under Section C – Machinery & Tools. The owners of Midstate had reported their machines (bar machines) under electronic equipment, but the owners are claiming they are machinery and be exempted from personal property tax. His advice was to ignore the claim. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to contact Attorney Blazel for his advice. Motion carried.***

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to approve the Town of Rushford Fire Stand permit. Motion carried.

Discussion on Hall Maintenance: Hendricks had requested bids for floor finishing/waxing at the Town hall. She received 2 bids with another one coming. One bid was for \$498.75 and the other was for \$750. The Board did not know why there was such a difference of price. There was not a number of commercial wax coats on the lower bid. It was asked what other places they have done. Hendricks did not know. Kafer has heard of Pioneer, for they do the Town of Utica. Egan thinks that Chores LLC, which was the lower bid should be contacted to see how many applications of wax that includes. Jackson said the floor should only have to be done once a year as long as buffing is done though out the year. Pioneer had a price for buffing which should be done every 30-60 days depending on traffic. Jackson thought you could purchase a used buffer at a reasonable price. The concern from the Board is how many other businesses has Chores LLC done. ***Motion by Kafer to have Hendricks decide who will do the floors after more information is receives from Chores LLC. If she feels they would do as good of a job as Pioneer.*** Discussion: Tom Jackson will get Hendricks more info on the company that does the fire house. Tom Egan would like to know why the bids are so far apart. ***Schoonover 2nd the motion. Motion carried 2 ayes, 1 nay.***

Discussion on Town Maintenance: The Town has been doing brushing on Rush Lake, 37th, Liberty School Road, River Road and Poygan Ave. It was commented that it looks like a good job was done. Kathryn Lewis commented that residents have mentioned how nice the brushing was done.

Reports of attended meetings: Jerry Schoonover reported on the WTA unit meeting on January 9th. The main topic was ATV/UTV routes. There was a representative from The Census Bureau and they are looking for workers for \$20/hour. Winnebago County has a program called Catch-A-Ride for people who are needing a ride to work. They are also looking for drivers.

Upcoming Meetings:

Spring Primary on February 18th

Fire Department meeting on February 19th

WTA District meeting on March 6

Election equipment testing and election inspector meeting on February 10

Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk
