

Rushford Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, May 6, 2020

The Town of Rushford May 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: 6 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, the road tour, the Annual meeting and the municipal board of canvassers was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K&E in Eureka, the Waukau post office and the Towns website. In addition, notice of Public hearing and Notice of Open book were published in the Oshkosh Northwestern.

Tom Egan moved Andrew Ballard from Rural Mutual up on the agenda. Mr. Ballard presented an estimate to the Town for insurance. It was asked how this compared to our existing policy. Hendricks said she did not see a copy of the presentation from Rural Mutual and someone would have to go through each policy. Our policy renews in June. It was not advertised that we were accepting bids for insurance this year. Schoonover asked what the total cost would be. Mr. Ballard quoted \$4,004 with workman's comp depending on what that cost is. Kafer stated that claims should be submitted to our current company – The Horton Group for our boiler repair and water damage in the hall.

Clerks Report & Minutes: *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer, to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2020 board meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurers Report was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance for the general account at the end of March was \$251,630.73 The balance in the tax account was \$1956.17. *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 May in the amount of \$36,685.50. Discussion – Bonnie Barkow asked if our current insurance provides internet security, why does the Town pay for internet security software. Hendricks stated she applied for a grant from WEC and they require each town to have extra security because of elections. The grant received is to help pay for this. Pat Schoonover asked what the bill was for Northeast Asphalt. Egan explained when Friends pick up material from them, they bill us directly. *Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to pay the bills for the month of May. Motion carried.*

Public Input: Jim Moore mentioned that the ATV signs are being put up wrong on Cty Hwy M. He said his property is right at the end of Town of Rushford Road and that is where the sign stating the route ends should be. Egan said if the signs are on a County Road, the County highway department are putting them up. Jim Moore asked why the Town of Rushford does not have a Town trash pickup for large items, leaves and appliances. Egan said that the Town has no place to go with it. Other surrounding Towns have their own dump. If Advance picked it up, it would probably be added to everyone's taxes. This is something that can be asked of Advance and should be presented at the Annual meeting. Hendricks stated on the Towns website under Recycling, there are numbers of people who will pick up miscellaneous junk. It was said that Power and Light will pick up appliances. It was also suggested to talk to the Public works director in Omro for they have an annual pickup by Sterns park or the Fire Department.

Paul Romer from Bluestem Ecological Service LLC was present for Dan Stokes asked him to come to the meeting for the Town was looking for someone to do some brush control. This company can do chemical foliar applications, cutting, stump treatments and if would be happy to give the Town an estimate for his services. Egan asked if it would be beneficial to spray at this time of the year. Paul said stump spraying should be done immediately after cutting. It would be beneficial to do a foliar spray before things grew up too tall. He also mentioned that he does not spray when plants are actively growing for they will not absorb the chemical. Mid July would be a good time to apply. Tom Egan will get a list so an estimate can be worked up.

Communication & Correspondence: Tom Egan read a letter sent from William Carpenter requesting the Town to put a sign up on the sharp corner on Fox Lane. Friends will put a sign up. Hendricks read a letter from State Senator Feyen thanking the service of everyone who helped out in the election during these unprecedented circumstances.

Town Zoning Report: Dan Stokes, Chairman of Zoning Committee gave the report on the Committee meeting on April 29th. ***Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to approve a Conditional use permit for Jeffrey & Jill Doro, 5996 State Rd 21 to put up 40x60 accessory building on parcel 022 0033 04 on Liberty School Road, Omro, before their home. Motion carried.***

Tom Egan said Tom Jackson said he did not get notice of the zoning meeting which was held last week. Jackson said he also can not get hold of Dean Kaderbek. He was to add to our zoning ordinances. Attorney Blazel said he would be able to rewrite these for the Town. Tom Egan will try again to contact Dean,

New Business: There were a few residents who wanted extra garbage totes. Since the Town is paying per ton this year, there is no track record of what normal tonnage is. Jim Moore stated that his neighbor received large totes and they should have been the smaller one. Hendricks said she had in the yearly newsletter that if anyone wanted a smaller tote, they would have to contact her by February 28th. Kafer thought that once we had a year of billing, we would know how many tons would be considered average. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to table this until we get further information. Motion carried.***

Culvert aid can be applied for by July 2nd. Egan said we have 2 culverts which we can add to the application.

Bryce Pomplun has submitted his insurance, application for fireworks stand and inspection to the Town. The only thing needed is the official permit from the Town. When a person buys fireworks, they need a possession permit. He was wondering if he could be the designated person from the Town to issue these permits. He will have them made up (the Town will reimburse) and the permit money would go back to the Town. He will have copies if the Town would ever need to see them. ***Motion by Schoonover, 2nd by Kafer to grant Bryce Pomplun his firework stand permit for 2020-2021 and also to agree for Pomplun to acquire the possession permit and turn the permit money into the Town.*** Discussion: Jerry Schoonover confirmed that only Class C fireworks would be sold from the stand. This is now considered 1.4G which is consumer retail fireworks. ***Motion carried.***

Hendricks asked the Board if they would consider lowering Class B liquor & beer license for this year only because of the COVID 19 pandemic which has forced these establishments to close until further notice. Kafer said it should only be for the active establishments. Egan thought the health department was going to issue a notice for all licenses to be extended though December. Hendricks could not get verification of this. Tom Egan said he did not think we should drop the fees if the license will be extended to December. If they are not going to extend the time, then he would agree with a reduction of license fees for this year. Egan said we will move this agenda item down to the bottom before adjournment. He will see if he can get more information tonight.

Discussion on Hall Maintenance: Hendricks said the floor waxing looks very nice.

Discussion on Town Maintenance: The Board toured and inspected all the Town roads. On the 30th, the Board went though to see what work would be done this year. Lost Lane, Banner Hill, Broadway, Delhi, Eureka Road, O'Reilly, River road and Liberty School. There is money set aside for crack filling and stump & brush cleanup. A bid from Superior Sealcoating was received for the Town hall parking lot. The Board will request an estimate from Fahrner for crack sealing. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to sign the contract with Superior Sealcoating to seal the parking lot for \$2850 after it is crack filled. Motion carried.***

Assessors Report: Mr. Timm was not present, but Chairman Egan got 2 complaints of residents not receiving a change of assessment until after Open Book. Hendricks stated that on all the notices the assessor sent out did not include dates for Open Book or Board of Review which must be on the reassessment notice. Tom Egan advised the residents to come to the Board of review. Kafer said we should check with the Town Attorney to see if the assessor could send out reassessment notices after Open Book.

County Report: Tom Egan reported the County has been shut down basically because of stay at home order. There have not been any new committees picked until possibility June.

Reports of attended meetings: Hendricks reported there was a Municipal Board of Canvassers on April 13th to close out the April 7th election which had 486 voters. The Annual meeting was held on April 22 with the annual report presentation.

Upcoming Meetings:

Board of Review will be on May 15th from 5 – 7. Congressman Grothman Town hall meeting at the Rushford Town Hall was canceled for May 28th

Building permits – Tom Egan:

Bob Eckstein, 4556 Eureka Rd Omro, for 100 amp overhead for \$1600

Phyllis Zimmer, 2826 Cty Rd K, Omro for foundation repair by Basement Repair Specialist for \$22,839.32

Jesse Vollmer, 7323 Hiwela Trail, Pickett for a 50 x 36 building built by self for \$50,000

Don Wagoner, 3094 Quarry Drive for a 16x16 building built by self for \$8000

Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to adjourn the meeting at 8:25. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk
