

Rushford Town Board Minutes  
Wednesday, February 1, 2023

The Town of Rushford February Board meeting was called to order by Thomas Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with Thomas Egan, Pat Kafer, Jerry Schoonover, Kathryn Lewis & Peggy Hendricks present. Also present for all or part of the meeting: 8 additional persons per attendance record on file, though others were present who did not sign in.

**Statement of Public Notice:** Notice of this meeting was posted on the Town hall door, the corner of K&E in Eureka, the Waukau post office and the Towns website.

**Clerks Report:** *Motion by Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schoonover to approve the minutes from January 4, 2023. Motion carried.*

**Treasurers Report** was given by Kathryn Lewis. The balance for the general account at the end of January was \$256,436.21 The balance in the tax account was \$1,172,395.15 ***Motion by Schoonover, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kafer to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.***

**Payment of Monthly Invoices:** *Motion by Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schoonover to approve and pay \$29,118.07 for invoices for February along with final tax settlements. Motion carried.*

**Attorney Blazel:** Attorney Blazel was present to discuss compliance and enforcement of several residents who are not complying to Towns Ordinances. First discussion was on Ronald Ansay, 9681 Liberty School Road, Omro, WI. This case went to Winnebago County Court and the judgement was in favor of the Town of Rushford in the total of \$12,030. There is a 10 year lein on the property. If compliance of cleaning up the property does not happen, the Town might have to start a different court action to issue an order for compliance. The attorney will check with the Courts to see if this will be sent to debt collection if it is not paid. Kafer suggested that we find out a little more from the Court which the Board agreed upon. The Attorney will report back to the Town when he gets more information.

Three other parcels are not in compliance with the Towns ordinance located at 3107 Quarry Road, Omro, 2648 Fox St, Waukau and 2536 State Rd 116, Omro. The Attorney suggested he would send them a letter with a time line of May 15, 2023. If that does not bring results, forfeitures will be issued.

Egan asked the Attorney about a retention pond that a resident wants to put in. He asked if the overflow could be sent into the road ditch. Attorney Blazel said it would be fine if it was the natural flow of the water.

**Public Input –** Cory McMullin 4020 Spring Rd, along with Paster Peter Berg and Jeff Rosman, members of the Eureka Community Bible Church were present. They would like to build a nicer facility for the food pantry and a youth activity community center at 3067 County Rd K, Eureka WI, parcel #022 1496. They were wondering if the Board would consider the variances that they would need. Egan explained that the Board does not decide on variances. They would need a sanitary permit and well from the County. Kafer said a template of their plan would be helpful. This property should be zoned commercial. Right now, it is HD. The Board said they would support them if all variances and permits went through. This would be a great addition to the Town of Rushford.

**New Business:** Brian Wilke presented plans for a retention plan and permission for the discharge location and the ability for flow to go into the road ditch. RA Smith engineering said they might need a right away permit. ***Motion by Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schoonover to approve the plans if the County approves. Motion carried.***

**Discussion on Town Maintenance:** There are still concerns of residents plowing snow to the middle of the road or to the other side. This is against State Statute and it can be very dangerous if the snow turns to ice and for snow plows. Friends will get names to the Clerk so she can send out letters to them.

**Old Business:** Hendricks received information from Green Lake animal shelter pertaining to a contract with the Town to bring in stray dogs. They would set up an animal fee with it being the same cost for dogs or cats. The Town does not have a cat ordinance and is not suppose to bring stray cats in, but Chuck Mier had done so previously. Municipalities can bring in stray dogs and if a resident bought in a cat, the shelter would determine if the cat is a stray or not. Stray animals are not billed. If it is, the Town would be billed and if the Town brings in a cat, the Town would be billed. The fee could be discussed, but they think \$75/animal fee is reasonable. Previously the Town was not billed. Hendricks contacted Oshkosh and Neenah, but Neenah has not replied back yet. The Board decided to table this until next month.

**County Report:** The County has not passed anything on the ARPA money distribution as of yet. Sue Ertmer will be retiring in February. She has been County Clerk for 40+ years.

**Attended Meetings:** Tom Egan reported on the Winnebago Town association unit meeting on Jan 5, 2023 at the Town of Winneconne.  
Town Caucus was on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. The minutes are available and online.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Spring Primary on February 21st  
WTA District meeting in Fond du Lac, March 3rd

***Motion by Kafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schoonover to adjourn the meeting at 8:10. Motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk

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