

Rushford Annual Town Board Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2024

The Town of Rushford 2024 Annual meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm on April 17th, 2024 by Chairman Tom Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present for all or part of the meeting was Supervisors Patrick Kafer & Jerry Schoonover, Treasurer Kathryn Lewis, Clerk Peggy Hendricks and 8 persons per attendance record on file.

Guest Speakers:

Attorney John Blazel: Attorney Blazel is located in Berlin and presently the work he is doing for the Town is working with residents who have property issues that the Town would like to see addressed. The fines that have been issued were discussed.

Tom Egan appointed Attorney Blazel for 2024-2025. ***Motion made by Kafer, 2nd by Dan Stokes to appoint Attorney Blazel for 2024-2025. Motion carried.***

Representative from Winnebago Co Sheriff Department: Sheriff John Matz was present. He stated the issues on Broadway has seem to settle down. On the cleanup properties the Town has, he stated it is a problem across Winnebago County. He is working with one of the other Townships where the people are not happy with the Town leadership. He recommends being open and transparent though zoom meetings. He thought it might be something to consider.

There has been an increase in fraud throughout the County. He wanted to remind people that the IRS will not call you and not give out your personal information. They do offer a fraud school if there is enough interest in the Town. They also have a class on internet safety. The Town has had a problem with people stealing Town signs. Schoonover asked if they catch them, if there is a fine, which the Sheriff said there was and if there was a crash, for example with a stolen Stop sign, they could be held liable.

Art Rathjen – Greater Oshkosh: Art passed an informational packet. They offer funding and many resources to many businesses in the Towns of Winnebago County. Their office is located on 100 N Main, Oshkosh. They work with 14 municipalities. One of the larger funding projects have been for Froedtert ThedaCare in Oshkosh that is expected to be complete in 2025. Art will be retiring in June. It has been his pleasure to work with the Town of Rushford.

Chief Jay Treleven – Omro-Rushford-Omro Fire Department: The Chief gave up dates of the Rescue truck that was ordered. It is scheduled for delivery on July 10th. Covid has put this order severely behind. There is a waiting list now of 5 years. We were lucky to place this order in a good time slot not just for delivery but also for cost. They were very fortunate to get ARPA funds though the County. This will pay for their new radios. That grant was \$258,000. The street dance is coming up which is their largest fund raiser. They have had a lot of CRP burns in the Township this year.

Freund Excavating: Chuck said there was really not much plowing in Dec. In January there was a larger storm with a lot of wind. The issue now is that the ground is not froze. They also do minor road maintenance and as mentioned earlier, sign vandalism is a problem and he asked residents to keep an eye open.

Jerry Schoonover, Ryan Helmuth and Nicole Bahn of the zoning committee have their terms up. Egan would like to make the appointment of Noah Pomplun and Robert Resop. ***Motion by Kafer, 2nd by Schoonover to appoint Noah Pomplun and Robert Resop to the zoning committee. Motion carried.*** Egan would like to appoint Russ Lee and Dan Stokes as alternates. Pat Kafer will be the Town representative for 2024 and 2025, replacing Jerry Schoonover.

Hendricks gave the annual report. Booklets were printed out with important information along with a PowerPoint presentation. ***Motion by Dan Stokes, 2nd by Tom Jackson to approve the annual meeting minutes from 2023. Motion carried.***

Motion Pat Kafer, 2nd by Dan Stokes to adjourn the meeting at 7:00. Motion carried.
Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Hendricks, Clerk