

# **Town of Union – Monthly Meeting Minutes**

## **Saturday, December 21, 2024**

### **Union Town Hall**

The Town of Union meeting was called to order by Chairman Jon Franke on Saturday, December 21, 2024, at 8:01 am. All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call was taken with Chairman Jon Franke, Supervisor Paige Huber, Supervisor Dennis Rauls, Treasurer Starr Janecek, and Clerk Fay Urban present. Others in attendance was Karri Bartlet and Nathan Toth.

Proof of Posting – Yes

Public Comment – None

Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting – Motion made by Rauls and seconded by Huber to approve the minutes from the November monthly meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - The general checking account has a balance of \$18,936.33 and the MMDA has a balance of \$79,284.82 as of Friday, December 20, 2024. Janecek reported the property taxes were mailed on Thursday.

Clerks Report - The board reviewed the monthly bills. Motion by Huber and seconded by Rauls to approve the monthly bills and transfer \$20,000.00 from the general MMDA and \$52,470.00 from the general MMDA to the contingency account. All in favor, motion carried. Mail received was the annual agreement from Gundersen, three construction forms and the TAC agreement. The TAC agreement was tabled until the next meeting. Clerk Urban reported the election machine audit was completed with no discrepancy.

#### **Old Business**

Well Update – The well drilling is on hold. Flaherty is waiting for DNR approval. An extension on the 2024 Vernon County grant maybe needed. Supervisor Huber will contact the county.

Timber Lane – A letter will be sent to the property owners regarding the trees being cut.

South Canyon – Brush piles will be burned.

Update of Class B Liquor License – Blue Highway would like to get a class A liquor license. The town will need a policy on issuing alcohol license. Clerk Urban will contact the state to get the procedures needed.

#### **New Business**

Set January Caucus Date – The caucus will be held on January 18, 2025 at 8 am and the monthly meeting immediately following the caucus.

Approve 2025 and 2026 Election Workers List – Motion by Rauls and seconded by Huber to approve the list of election workers for 2025 and 2026. All in favor, motion carried

Tree Removed on West Newburn –A truck hit a tree on West Newburn. The tree that was leaning was cut down by Vernon Electric. A The insurance company was notified.

Transfer Funds from the General MMDA to the Contingency Account for Reassessment and Equipment – Motion was made earlier to transfer \$52,470.00 into the contingency account for reassessment and Equipment. The town received \$7,470.00 from the Amish community for road maintenance. Motion made by Rauls and seconded by Huber to transfer \$7,470.00 from the reassessment and Equipment fund to a new contingency account for road

maintenance. All in favor, motion carried.

Patrolman's Report – Patrolman Smith did his report by phone. He was home due to illness.

Road Report – The patrolmen and Franke met with Phil Hewett on November 27, 2024 to review the large culverts. The road maintenance report was completed and Franke submitted it to the state.

Equipment Report – The wrong window was sent for the backhoe repair. A-1 Glass will install it once we receive the correct window. Winter maintenance was done on both trucks. The 2015 truck may need a new battery. New front tires are needed for the 2008 truck and rear tires for the 2015 truck. The 2008 truck didn't want to start. Kris is working on this issue. Vernon Electric cut down part of a tree on West Newburn Ave. A town resident asked if the town could deliver sand/salt to their property. The board recommended that they contact a private company for this service.

Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Huber was in contact with Skip Oliphant, Chief of La Farge Area Ambulance and James Small from the State of Wisconsin to discuss ways to save local EMT services. James Small will be attending the WTA meeting in Vernon County in April to discuss this issue. Supervisor Rauls attended the Yuba Fire Association meeting. He updated the board on what was discussed at the meeting.

Chairman's Report – The Road Maintenance report was completed and sent to the state. This report should be done annually. There are 16 culverts that need to be inspected next year. A bridge report on Warner Creek was received. Bridge reports are done every other year. Franke would like estimates for the tires needed on the trucks.

Motion made by Huber and seconded by Rauls to go into close session at 9:40 am

- *Closed Session – Sec.19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., sanctions the use of closed sessions where governmental bodies are considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of any public employee,*
  - *Discuss and Review Paid Employees Wages.*

Motion made by Rauls and seconded by Huber to go back into open session at 10:03 am.

Action on Closed Session Item – Motion by Huber and seconded by Rauls to increased the patrolman's wages by \$1.00 per hour starting January 1, 2025 and to give patrolman Janecek 80 hours of paid vacation. All in favor, motion carried.

Set Date for Next Monthly Meeting – Saturday, January 18, 2025 following the Caucus Meeting at 8:00 am.

Adjournment – Motion made by Rauls and seconded by Huber to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 am. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Fay Urban, Town Clerk