

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

## **Thursday, August 17, 2023**

The Town of Union meeting was called to order by Chairman Jon Franke on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 7:00 pm. 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 Patrolman David Smith, Donald Subera, Lonnie Muller, Elaine Fronk, Tim Hotek, Julie Hotek, Carol Franke, and Bob Vodak.

Chairman Franke asked for affirmation of proper public notice. Clerk Urban replied “Yes”.

**Public Comment** – Donald Subera commented on Pine Ave having an overgrowth of trees that cause a road hazard with the additional traffic due to a music festival held along Pine Ave. The county has given the OK to cut down the trees on the corner of their land.

**Review and Approve June Minutes** – Motion made by Rauls and seconded by Huber to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported the general checking account has a balance of \$7,514.46 and the MMDA balance is \$67,293.77 as of Thursday, August 17, 2023.

### **Clerks Report**

Clerk Urban presented the board with the monthly bills. The board reviewed the budget. The board discussed the bill for the grader boot and why it came in higher than estimated. Motion made by Huber and seconded by Rauls to transfer \$27,000.00 from the general MMDA and \$53.72 from the Vernon County Grant account to the general checking account.. All in favor, motion carried. The board reviewed a request for an address sign on Morning Star for a local business. Also discussed was leaving the old address signs with the property owner once the new ones are put up. There have been requests from property owners to keep their old signs.

### **Old Business**

**Rest of the Year Gravel and Road Expense** – Discussion was held on purchasing additional salt, sand, and screenings. Because there was no bid requested for the sand, the amount purchased needs to be under \$5000.00. The board would like to wait until September before these items are purchased.

**Canyon Lane Fence Removal** – Patrolman Smith has talked to all the property owners except one. La Farge Electric is planning to be there once work begins. The patching and gravel are done on Canyon Lane.

**Timber Lane Update** – Chairman Franke has been doing a lot of research on Timber Lane. He has a couple of maps from 1930s. He recommends the board go into a close meeting to discuss it further. This will be done in the future.

**Pine Ave. and Shop Lot Work** – The board received a bid of \$3,513.40 to do the prep work for the shop lot from Krueger’s. They also submitted a bid of \$900 for the work on Pine Ave. Motion by Franke and seconded by Huber to accept the bids for both projects. All in favor, motion carried.

### **New Business**

**Request for a House Being Moved Through the Town of Union** – Chairman Franke was informed of a

possible house being moved through the Town of Union. The cost to move it through the town would be the homeowner's responsibility. An alternative route was found that would bypass the Town of Union. The homeowner was 80% sure they would go with the alternative route.

**Address Signs** – There were questions about several address signs if they were ordered. Treasurer Janecek will verify the address to make sure they were ordered. There were two requests for new address signs. The website shows the cost of the sign is \$70. There is an additional charge for the post of \$20. Clerk Urban will verify the posting on the website. The board discussed the cost of shipping the new address signs for the Community Development Grant. The cost to have them sent to the town is \$500. It was discussed that when they are ready it would be cheaper to send someone from the board to get them. The cost to send for one address sign is \$21. The address sign orders will be sent quarterly to help save on postage and they should be paid for by the property owner before they are ordered.

**Contact Insurance Company for Explanation and Coverage** – Supervisor Rauls has contacted Rural Insurance to request a breakdown of the coverage for all equipment and buildings. There was a Case tractor on our policy that was leased a while back. They are removing that from our insurance policy. The Rural Insurance representative will come to the September meeting to review our current policy.

**Attorney Acquisition** – Chairman Franke will get a list of municipality attorneys.

**Patrolman's Report** –

Road work – Smith reported they did some tree removal after recent storms. They have started the second round of mowing, some seal coat patching and grading.

Equipment update – The grader boot is done. The 2008 truck is pulling to the right. The board would like to get a quote on the cost to have it realigned and tires rotated from Hartje's in La Valle.

**Supervisor's Report.** – Huber is continuing to work with Martha Graham and the Amish community on supporting road maintenance. Also, Glen Oliphant chief EMS officer paid a visit to Huber to discuss getting younger people involved as an EMS. Huber will be attending a meeting in September to learn more. Currently the first responders are not paid.

Rauls has contact the Vernon County Highway commissioner regarding the blind spots by the town's building and around the corner by Pine Ave. The county will be taking care of both issues this winter.

Rauls reported on the Hillsboro Fire Association meeting. There was discussion on maintenance on their trucks, and a new fire inspector hired to inspect the public business. They also discussed a bad section on highway 33 by Doctor Burch's and a quarry. There have been several motorcycle accidents there.

**Chairman's Report** – Franke reported there were no new construction forms submitted and several new address sign requests.

**Other Comments** – Rauls has talked to Kevin Winchel regarding a new building going up by his place and that he needed a construction form filled out.

**Set Date for Next Regular Monthly Meeting** – Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Motion by Huber and seconded by Rauls to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Fay Urban, Town Clerk