

**Town of Plover, Marathon County, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
180771 County Road Z, Birnamwood, WI 54414**

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

Mike Ritter, 233145 Pleasant View Road (Town of Easton), stopped in just prior to the start of the meeting to introduce himself as the candidate running for Marathon County Board Supervisor, District 13. District 13 now covers Easton, Hewitt, Harrison, Plover, and most of Norrie.

1. Call to Order by Chairman, Tony Kautza

Kautza called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call – Town Supervisor, Pete Marien, and Town Supervisor, Scott McRae

Parker noted both Marien and McRae were present.

Also, in attendance: Clerk, Valerie Parker, and Treasurer, Connie Sippl.

Also present, to possibly speak under Public Comments, were:

Tim Micke, 236841 Eau Claire River Road

Matt Szews, 184001 Pine View Road

3. Public Comments/Concerns (Limit 5 Minutes Per Person)

Micke commented how some of the cracks in Eau Claire River Road are getting bad and he hopes the Town will work to keep that road in good condition.

4. Visitors

None.

5. Minutes from Previous Meeting

- **February 15, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting**

Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to approve the February 15, 2022, minutes.

6. Review and Signing of Monthly Expenditures

The Board went through the expenditures.

7. Review and Action on 2022 Monthly Budget

Parker pointed out a new budget summary page that she has put together, along with all the detail pages. This new summary page puts a summary of the revenues and expenditures all on one page now. Kautza stated that this document is really all they need to see, unless Parker was to notice something that needs specific review. Parker stated that from now on, she will just supply that page, but if the members want to see anything different to let her know.

Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to approve the monthly budget.

8. Clerk's Report

Parker pointed out the template letter of support she shared with the Board last week (that she received from Kurt Gibbs, Marathon County Board Chair) which she would like the Board to sign, indicating that we support a grant from the PSC to the Marathon County/Frontier Broadband project, to help bring aid for the expansion of broadband internet to our area. Parker explained that the original template had language in the 2nd to last paragraph about the Town offering a financial match to awarded grant funds, but that since there was such a quick deadline turnaround, where the Town did not have enough time to get information on the agenda to even discuss a potential financial match, Parker revised that language to stated "...if grant funding for this project is awarded, we will be open to discussing a financial contribution from the Town, towards this project". Parker stated this way it leaves it open-ended and does not lock the Town into anything. She stated that if this does come up, perhaps we could look at some of our ARPA funds for this. The full Board reviewed and signed the letter. Parker will get this back to the County tomorrow.

Parker stated the April 5th Spring Election is coming up. She stated that tomorrow (03/09/22), there is some election equipment training being held at the County, and Karen Lehmann is attending that. She stated that then on the 22nd of this month, there is a second training and how she and Theresa Jensen will be attending that. She stated the other election inspectors are not available to attend these trainings. Parker stated that she will be picking up ballots from the County on Monday (14th) and will start sending out absentee ballots by March 15th. Parker stated there is an election public test coming up on the 28th of this month, followed by the Spring election on April 5th.

Parker stated how McRae is attending the WTA Board of Review workshop (virtually) on March 28th, and then Marien is attending a WTA Board of Review workshop in person on April 29th. She stated how technically only one Board member needs to be certified, but it certainly does not hurt to have two.

Parker stated prior to the end of this month, she will be submitting the Town's annual recycling grant report along with submitting the Town's annual CT report.

9. Road Report

Kautza reported (as Larson was excused from the meeting) that Larson had been working on pushing snowbanks back. He stated Larson picked up a load of sand/salt from Langlade County and also picked up some extra plow blades. He stated the plow truck is currently in town getting some cameras installed (a camera to allow Larson to see how much salt is in the back of the truck, and a camera to allow him to see any vehicles behind him). Kautza stated that Larson also has the intersections all winged out.

Kautza stated that Art Hoppe, of 167603 Owl Ridge Road (Town of Easton), who is a retired Easton employee, has accepted an offer to back up Larson with road work, anytime Larson will be off on vacation. Hoppe will work for us for \$25.00 per hour. Parker stated she will need to know whenever Hoppe does do work (as far as hours) and that she will need to collect some personal information from him for Worker's Comp reporting.

Kautza stated that some of our road signs have shifted out of position and will need straightening this spring. There was discussion that Larson worked on removing the Trump stickers that people have been sticking over our stop signs. Marien stated he thinks Larson had to go as far as using gasoline to remove those stickers.

10. Old Business

• **Status of LRIP Program: Sportsman Road Project and Other Possible 2022 Projects**

Kautza stated he is working on this but needs to find an engineer that can work with us.

• **Status of American Rescue Plan Act – Possible use of Funds**

Parker asked if we could leave the funds in the separate account that they are in until after the annual reporting deadline of April 30th. Then if the Board wants it moved into our checking account, she and Sippl can work on that.

• **Status on Comprehensive Plan Update**

Parker stated she did get through this document the other month but needs to reach out to the County about either getting updated maps or we leave the outdated maps in the plan and simply make reference to the dates.

• **Status on County Zoning Violation/Complaint & Shipping/Storage Container Code Revision Update**

McRae stated this has been postponed until later this month. Parker stated if Ritter is elected, this may be something to bring to his attention.

• **Status of February 23, 2022, Provider Board for the Birnamwood Area Emergency Services Meeting, Regarding Planning the Funding Needs from Owning Members and Contracted Municipalities for Paying 2 On-Duty People to Staff the Ambulance 24/7.**

Marien stated this was postponed until March 30th.

Kautza brought up an invoice (for the Town) he received from Birnamwood Fire Department for an accident that occurred back in January, at the corner of County Road Z and Melotik Lane. He stated it was in the amount of about \$1,100. He stated there was a name and address of the individual involved, but that he felt the work and amount charged was a bit much for the fire department, and about how disturbing it is to get the bill so late after-the-fact. He pointed out if these bills could go along with the ambulance bills, then perhaps they could be paid for from the involved parties' insurances. Kautza stated he will leave a copy of this invoice at the Hall for Parker to process, and how he plans to call or attend the next Fire Board meeting to discuss this.

- **Continued Discussion on Potential Tractor Purchase.**

Kautza stated a person he talked to about the old tractor seems more interested in purchasing it, thinking that \$40,000 is not out of price. He stated, however, until later this year, when we have the plow truck and grader paid off, we will just keep this item on the agenda.

11. New Business

Discussion of Potential 2022 Road Maintenance Projects

Kautza stated he recently talked to Fahrner Asphalt and how they are not able to give any quotes at this time with the unsteady oil prices right now.

Parker handed out, for the Board's reference, a copy of the road listing that Larson put together last year, which listed the roads that need maintenance. She also gave a copy of a list of contractors out there that the Town could check into for estimates for maintenance work.

12. Remarks from Board

13. The situation of how the billings between the ambulance service and fire service were explained to the attendees of the meeting for their understanding.

14. Future Items

- **Spring Election – April 5, 2022, 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
- **Open Book – April 19, 2022, 3:00p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
- **Regular Board Meeting – April 19, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Annual Meeting of the Electors – April 19, 2022, Immediately following the regular Board Meeting.**
- **Board of Review – May 2, 2022, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
- **Regular Board Meeting – May 10, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Regular Board Meeting – June 14, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

15. Adjourn

Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to adjourn at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully,

Valerie Parker
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