

February 14, 2022

Town of Tomah Town Board Meeting

Those present: Vaughn Kuehl, Todd Zaremba, Shannon Sparks, Todd Sparks, Dick Baumgarten, Erika Nelson, Brian Hubert, Al Bartels, Randie Johns, Howard Hanson, Teresa Hubert, and Breanne Zaremba.

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Hanson.
- The clerk's report was read. Randie Johns made a motion to accept the clerk's report. Al Bartels seconded the motion. Motion Carried
- The treasurer's report was read. Al Bartels made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Randie Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Public Comment Period
 - Howard Hanson has been researching the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Bill (BIL). Funding is for 2022 for preservation of roads and bridges in the state. Applications are due by April 1, 2022. Because of the tight deadlines, the money will only be available to those with shovel ready projects, meaning that all engineering and designing must be done. Howard did talk to Greg Jewel to see if the Highland Avenue Bridge would be eligible for this funding.
- Lynx Broadband Expansion
 - Erika Nelson from Lynxx was present to discuss broadband expansion. They are applying for grant funding from the Public Service Commission. The proposed project would involve the town of Tomah, Byron, Adrian, and Greenfield. They have applied for funding from Monroe County, and they are asking the towns for assistance, in the form of monies from ARPA funds. They would like to run lines along Hiawatha Ave, County Hwy CA, Hickory Rd, and Highland Avenue, which would bring broadband to approximately 100 homes. Further expansions would be able to branch off of this area. Along with funding, Lynxx asks for a Public Private Partnership Agreement and a letter of Support from the Town, which will help support their application to the Public Service Commission. Howard Hanson made a motion to write a letter of support for the project, create a resolution for a Public Private Partnership with Lynxx, and contribute \$75,000 of ARPA funds to Lynxx that will not be payable if the Grant with the Public Service Commission falls through. Randie Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Amendments to Ch. 47 of the Monroe County Zoning Code
 - The changes will add a definition of agribusiness, along with adding agribusiness as a conditional use to general ag, business, or forestry zones. The definition basically says you can not sell products not produced on the farm, from the farm. Backyard chickens and limitations have been proposed for changes. Discussion occurred on the topic, Howard Hanson will attend the meeting next Monday night, February 21, at 6pm, stating that the Town of Tomah is not in favor of the changes as presented.
- Wisconsin Towns Association Meeting
 - Howard, Randie, and Al will all be attending the Meeting on February 17, 2022
- Monthly bills were reviewed and approved.
- Motion was made by Al Bartels to adjourn the meeting. Randie Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Breanne Zaremba, Clerk