

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

The Annual Meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Walston at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Also present were Supervisors Jeff Oliphant, Bruce Joanis and Treasurer Diane Eid and Clerk Kimberly Campy, along with interested citizens.

Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Mike Ollanketo* to approve the agenda with an amendment to add individuals from Enbridge Energy and Memorial Medical Center who will be presenting donation checks to the Marengo Ambulance Department. Vote taken and motion carried.

PRESENTATION TO AMBULANCE SERVICE:

Aimee Granger on behalf of Memorial Medical Center, presented a donation of \$20,000 to the Marengo Ambulance Service. The Town Board and the Ambulance Service is grateful to MMC and thanked them for the generous donation.

Michelle, from Enbridge Energy, gave a brief presentation how they reviewed the application for the Marengo Ambulance Service. She stated that the application discussed the need for computers, AED's and other supplies. Michelle informed the Board that it was a very worthy grant application and that Kathy Schutte and Kurt Blakeman had worked extremely hard to complete it. Enbridge also presented a check for \$10,000 to the service.

Motion by *Shirley Long* and second by *Allan Leppala* to approve the 2020 annual minutes. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK AND TREASURER:

Motion by *Evie Luttinen* and seconded by *Mike Ollanketo* to appoint Kim Campy as Clerk and Diane Eid as Treasurer for a 3-year term. Vote taken and motion carried.

RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE REPORT: The reconciliation committee did not meet before the annual meeting. They will give their report at a regular town meeting in the future.

BOARD SALARIES: Motion by *Ken Reas* and seconded by *Nancy Swanson* to approve a \$50.00/month increase in salary to Supervisors beginning January 1, 2022. Vote taken and motion carried.

EMPLOYEE SALARIES: Motion by *Mike Ollanketo* and seconded by *Bill Gast* to approve a \$1.00 increase in salary to full-time employees (Ylitalo and Oliphant) and .50 cents to Margaret Oliphant and Steve Vavrus effective immediately. Vote taken and motion carried.

AMBULANCE SERVICE: Chairman Walston gave a brief overview of the Marengo Ambulance Service. Walston will be discussing the Ambulance Service more in depth at the next meeting which will follow immediately after the annual meeting.

ASHLAND COUNTY FAIR: The Board decided that rather than the regular \$100 donation to the Fair they would allow the fair board the use of the Town Hall during the winter months for their meetings at no charge.

TOWN SERVICES/SNOWPLOWING: Snowplowing was discussed, and Chairman Walston stated that he has been contacted by two (2) individuals in the area that are interested in starting their own business. Walston stated that the Town cannot compete with private businesses under the “Constitutional Public Purpose Doctrine” Also, a township cannot lose money on snow plowing nor can they make money. Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Mike Ollanketo* to gather dollar amounts on what it costs to plow a driveway each time by next meeting. Vote taken and motion carried. *Carl Sukanen* opposed.

MACHINE RENTAL: Discussion was held on replacement of several pieces of equipment.

TOWN BOARD SPENDING LIMIT: Motion by *Shirley Long* and second by *Allan Leppala* that Town Board spending limit be set at \$5,000. Vote taken and motion carried.

TOWN PUBLISHER: Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Bruce Joanis* that meeting agendas, legal notices and minutes are to be published in three (3) places: Recycling Center, Front of Town Hall, and Cemetery Board. Also, the paper that will be used when items need to be published will be the Ashland Press. Vote taken and motion carried.

TOWN BANK: Motion by *Gene Luoma* and second by *Ken Reas* to remain with Associated Bank in Ashland; however, to check with Northern State Bank for loan offers. Vote taken and motion carried.

TOWN HALL USE: The Town Hall can be rented, and contact should be made with Chairman Walston to setup this rental. Rental will \$25/day, hall must be cleaned after each use. If not cleaned, the deposit of \$25/day will be kept by the Town for cleanup. Motion by *Shirley Long* and second by *Michael Ollanketo* to change the policy to reflect the \$25/day cleanup fee. Vote taken and motion carried.

WEED COMMISSIONER: The Town will not be appointing a weed commissioner at this time. Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Bruce Joanis* to not appoint a weed commissioner. Vote taken and motion carried.

BOARD OF REVIEW: Open book will be scheduled from May 4th from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and then the Board of Review will meet on May 11th from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

LICENSE FEE: Motion by *Ken Reas* and second by *Shirley Long* to maintain the current license fees. Vote taken and motion carried.

WISCONSIN TOWNS ASSOCIATION: Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Ken Reas* to continue membership in the Wisconsin Towns Association. Vote taken and motion carried.

ELECTION BOARD: Motion by *Ken Reas* and second by *Michael Ollanketo* to have board wages remain the same. Vote taken and motion carried.

CEMETERY LOT AND CARE: Motion by *Todd Yitalo* and second by *Ken Reas* to continue the policies that the fee for a non-resident taxpayer is \$600.00 and a resident is \$60.00 per grave. Kathy Schutte resigned as the Sexton for the cemetery and as the Memorial Day Coordinator. Vote taken and motion carried.

Discussion was also held on ordering markers for the cemetery and corner posts. This will be discussed further at the regular meeting which will be held immediately following this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Brief discussion was held on the proposed septic increase of \$8.00 per household being proposed by Ashland County.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING: Next Annual Meeting date is set for Tuesday, April 19, 2022, starting at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by *Nancy Swanson* and second by *Ken Reas* to adjourn. Vote taken and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Please note these are draft minutes and will not be approved until next annual meeting on April 19, 2022.