

MINUTES OF APRIL 15, 2025 ANNUAL MEETING TOWN OF PELLA

Chairman Gary Thomack called the annual meeting to order at 7:00PM. There were 15 residents, 5 Board members and one non-resident in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Habeck read the minutes from the April 16, 2024, Annual Meeting. Motion was made by Cindy Graper/Vern Kratzke to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor, zero against.

The **Town of Pella 2024 Financial Report** was presented and reviewed. Motion was made by Dohn Laude/Lynn Tober-Steinke to approve the report. **Motion carried** by voice vote with all in favor, zero against.

Brian Westfahl presented the EMS report. Motion was made by Cindy Graper/Vern Kratzke to approve the report. **Motion carried** by voice vote with all in favor, zero against.

Greg Reeck presented the Fire and Rescue report. Motion was made by Vern Kratzke/Cindy Graper to approve the report. **Motion carried** by voice vote with all in favor, zero against. He once again reminded residents that **the fire department does not issue burning permits. If you are going to have a control burn on your property, call the non-emergency number 715-526-3111 and report it to the Sheriff's Department. If the fire gets out of control and you have not called prior to, you will be responsible for all expenses incurred.**

Dan Lohrentz presented the Pella Park Financial report. Motion was made by Jan Tober/Cindy Graper to approve the report. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor, zero against. **The 2025 Pella Daze is scheduled for Saturday May 17th. The parade will be at 11AM, note the time change from years past. Cleanup in the Park will be Monday April 28th at 6PM.**

Motion was made by Bill Korth/Greg Reeck to approve the Riverbank Road Cemetery Report. **Motion carried** by voice vote with all in favor, zero against. Over the winter several trees were cut down on the cemetery, the stumps will be ground to complete the project.

Motion was made by Arlyn Tober/Brian Westfahl to grant the Town permission to borrow up to \$80,000 on a short-term loan, if needed to pay bills. **Motion carried** by voice vote with all in favor, zero against.

The Clerk gave a presentation about the ICE voting machine; the Town currently uses the ICX machine also known as a touch screen machine. Voters would make their selections on a paper ballot and when finished, slide their ballot into the tabulator of the ICE. At the end of the election day, a paper record inside the machine prints the totals for all selections made on the ballots. These numbers are then called into the County Clerk. The election

workers do not hand count any of the ballots; hence shortening the number of hours the workers would have to stay to hand count as we have been doing here in the township. Residents were asked to give the Clerk their opinion one way or the other if they would feel comfortable voting in this way. The Town has an opportunity to purchase an ICE machine at half the original cost with the trade in of our present ICX machine. This discussion will be placed on the agenda of an upcoming Board meeting for further review.

Supervisor Dohn Laude is retiring from the Board. He was given a thank you gift from the Town for his dedicated service to the town residents. Dennis Zahn was not in attendance at the meeting, he will be presented with a plaque and flag and sincere thanks for 56 years of service on the Board, eight years as supervisor and forty-eight years as treasurer. He will continue in the capacity of Town Zoning Administrator.

With no further business, motion was made by Bill Korth/Cindy Graper to adjourn the meeting. **The next Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2026.** Lunch and refreshments were served. **The Oak Grove Cheese Factory kindly donated the cheese for the lunch.**