

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Chairman Gary Thomack called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Board members: Chairman Gary Thomack, Supervisor Ken Genskow, Supervisor Dohn Laude, Treasurer Dennis Zahn and Clerk Karen Habeck.

Public included: Brian Westfahl, Amy Olson, Bill Korth, Leon Mills, Richard Briske, Dorothy Nolan, Arlyn Tober, Scott Frank, Leora Eisch, Tom Teske and Jim Schoenike.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Clerk read the agenda that had posted in three public places, put on the website and published in the Marion Advertiser. The minutes were read from the January 9, 2023, monthly Board meeting. Motion was made by Genskow/Laude to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

Public Input: County Supervisor Arlyn Tober reported that the State had sent a letter confirming that the two bridge projects that were in the January report as denied have now been reinstated to be included in the State Infrastructure Grant program and will proceed to be repaired/reconstructed. He also had updates about improvements being done to buildings on the fairgrounds. As the Expo Center remains virtually empty outside of the hockey season, the building expenses are not sustainable the rest of the year. Research is being done to find events that generate income, outside of the hockey season and the County Fair.

The Treasurer reported that a new pole was purchased from Alliant Energy to be used to put up the newly refurbished fire siren. Alliant helped to put the pole up with the siren on it, several members of the fire department were on hand to help with the installation.

The Board reviewed the current contract wording with the building inspector, **one addition will be made to the contract as printed, that the building inspector is to meet here with any residents that request a building permit for a new home and not for them to go to him for one. Motion was made by Laude/Genskow to approve the wording with the addition. Motion carried** by voice vote with three in favor, zero against. A copy will be sent to the inspector for his approval and signature.

The Pella Park Committee will be meeting on February 27th, further information about renovations to the large shelter will be discussed. Zahn will contact the building inspector for a possible walk-through of the shelter to view what could or may not be done inside.

Motion was made by Laude/Genskow to approve the firefighter application for Ashley Sakis to join the Pella Fire Dept. Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

The Board reviewed the information letter that was drafted by the Clerk to be sent to town residents. This includes reminders about noise complaints in neighborhoods, State law concerning the use of snowmobiles, where and how to ride, reminders of garbage/recycling dos and don'ts, getting timber cutting permits, what to do before doing a control burn on one's property, etc. **Motion was made by Genskow/Thomack to approve doing the town residents mailing. Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.**

The Board reviewed the Rules and Regulations for *burial sites on the Riverbank Road Cemetery*. **Motion was made by Genskow/Thomack to not make any changes and to leave the cost of a cemetery lot at the current \$250 per lot. Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.**

****Spring Primary Election Tues. Feb. 21st, Pella Town Hall, voting hours: 7AM-8PM.**

****Town of Pella hosts the Wis. Town Association Unit Meeting Thurs. Feb. 23rd, 7:30PM.**

Zoning: A land use permit was approved for a new house on River Pine Drive, building is already in progress.

Roads: Nothing to report.

The Treasurer reported that the January bills totaled \$570,212.84, leaving a balance of \$2,295.53 in the checking account and \$740,412.84 in the Premier Savings Account. Motion was made by Thomack/Laude to approve the January report and pay the February bills. Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

As the Fire Department has a considerable amount of money in their checking account, **motion was made by Thomack/Laude to transfer \$20,000 of the balance to a one-year CD, interest rate would be 4.7%. Motion carried with three in favor, zero against.** Treasurer Zahn will take care of details at Premier Bank.

FYI to Board: 1) The DNR is finally in the process of reviewing the paperwork that was mailed to them applying for the final payment of grant money for the dam restoration...2) The Board was reminded by the Clerk to request Certificates of Liability from persons/companies being paid to do work for the Town, these are required to be on file in the Clerk's office by the town's insurance carrier....3) WTA has scholarship forms available for high school seniors to write a short essay, scholarship awards are for \$1000 each.

With no further business, motion was made by Genskow/Laude to adjourn the meeting. **The next meeting will be held Monday, March 13th, 2023 7:00PM in the Pella Town Hall.**