Town of Lincoln – Eau Claire County

Annual Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2021 @ Town Hall – 7:30 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was posted according to the OML 19.84(3) and published in the Ad Delite, posted at the town hall, and listed on the town website for the convenience of the town residents.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were: Chairman: Robert Dewitz, Supervisors: Dean Klingbeil and Matt Krenz, Treasurer: Lori Bechard, Clerk: Kathy Dehnke and incoming clerk: Sherri McCormick. Also present: 24 town residents, and 1 representative from RWE (wind energy). Attendance sign-in sheet kept with town clerk records of meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

The minutes of the 2020 annual meeting were read. The minutes were approved on a motion made by Brian Westrate and seconded by Ken Kiesow. The motion was carried.

The chairman put to the electors whether the Financial Report be read aloud or self-read. The financial report was self-read. A motion was made by Brian Westrate to approve the Financial report and was seconded by Dean Zimmerman. The motion was carried.

It was agreed to have the liquor license application sent to Connells Club 12 and to have one liquor license on reserve. A motion to accept was made by Jerry Harwich and seconded by Ken Kiesow.

The Chairman asked for a motion to allow the Board to borrow money for cash flow problems, should the need arise. It was discussed that a need has not yet come up in years past according to the memory of those in attendance. The amount of $50,000 was agreed to be a reasonable amount for unforeseen needs. A motion was made by Brian Westrate to allow up to $50,000 to be borrowed by the Board if the need should arise. The motion was seconded by Dean Zimmerman. The motion was carried.

The Chairman asked the electors if they would like to continue to put money into the Machine Fund for 2021. The condition, use, and maintenance of the loader was discussed. A motion to add $50,000 to the Machine Fund was made by Brian Westrate and was seconded by Dean Zimmerman. The motion carried.

The old business of Oak Knoll and Deer road culverts were mentioned.

New Business:

Road Work: A date will be scheduled for a road tour and a notice will be posted and it will also be posted on the town website. It was mentioned that the COVID grant should allow for 1 mile of road.

Town Picnic: It was agreed to have a town picnic this year. A date will be set, likely in June. It was discussed to set up tables outside, weather permitting. A motion to approve was made by Dean Zimmerman and seconded by Jerry Harwich. The motion carried.

The next Annual Meeting date will be the 3rd Tuesday in April 2022 at the Town Hall – April 19th, 2022.

Consideration of placing a moratorium on wind turbines: It was discussed that a moratorium was not applicable since the town has a draft of an ordinance already being considered. (The proposed ordinance may be viewed on the town website.) Many questions and concerns were raised surrounding the wind turbines in the township. The possible need for a committee, a focused meeting, and informational mailers was discussed.

It was agreed to move to agenda item 9:F as John Johnson had not yet arrived to discuss highway projects.

Terry Miller requested to read a letter requesting to adopt an ordinance to restrict sawmills due to noise, sawdust, trucking, and concern over depreciation of property value. The letter also raised concerns about the use of outhouses. A discussion among residents regarding sawmills ensued and the concerns were countered with mention of sawmills being within zoning limits and right to free enterprise. It was decided that the outhouses are a zoning issue with the county.

John Johnson, County Highway Commissioner, arrived and it was agreed to hear him and then return to agenda item 9:F .

John Johnson gave an overview of the road and bridge work planned for this year and gave some information on the Highway Facility to be built on Hwy 53 across from Equity.

The chairman asked if anyone had anything further to discuss.

A motion to adjourn was made and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55p.m.

Sherri McCormick, Clerk