

**Town of Plover, Marathon County, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
180771 County Road Z, Birnamwood, WI 54414**

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order by Chairman, Tony Kautza

Kautza called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call – Town Supervisor, Pete Marien, and Town Supervisor, Scott McRae

Parker noted both Marien and McRae were present.

Also, in attendance: Clerk, Valerie Parker, Treasurer, Connie Sippl, Rick Larson, Doreen Erbrecht, and Dianne Doolittle.

3. Public Comments/Concerns (Limit 5 Minutes Per Person)

None.

4. Visitors

None.

5. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The Board acknowledged previously reviewing the minutes shared with them in March.

Motion by McRae, second by Marien to approve the March 9, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes.

6. Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Motion by McRae/Second by Marien to approve the expenditures.

7. 2021 Budget Review and Update

Parker noted that there were no special payments made in March, other than the annual Town's Association dues. She commented we received our quarterly Transportation Aid from the State along with Lottery Credit payment from the County. Parker commented that Sippl did close out the Tax savings account at Banner Banks.

8. Clerk's Report

Parker handed out a draft of her duties and responsibilities stating that this most likely will change throughout the year to reflect tasks that she is not aware of yet.

Parker stated today was the Open Book, and Assessor Todd Anderson informed her it was a quiet day, but that two gentlemen who purchased land on County Road Z did stop in to talk to him.

Parker stated she will be posting in the local shopper, and bulletin boards, a notice about the May 3rd Board of Review meeting, and confirmed that Marien and McRae will be there.

Parker commented that she will be putting notification in the shopper about the May 7th clean-up. Marien commented that Advanced Disposal usually puts some kind of ad in there too, Kautza stated it does not hurt to put something in there still. Parker stated she was just going to put a small ad in directing people to our website.

Parker stated that she has to complete yet the annual Recycling Report, which is due by April 30th. She still also has to submit the annual Municipal CT report, but needs some assistance completing that. She is hoping to get assistance from Kerber Rose. The deadline for this report is typically March 30th; however the State put an extension on the filing date of that report to May 15th, due to COVID.

Kautza commented that he received an e-mail from Kerber Rose with an invoice from the two meetings Parker held with them this past year. He will forward that to Parker for payment.

9. Road Report

Larson stated that he worked with Antigo Arborist this past month who did some tree cutting this spring over by Dorothy Mortenson's, the old Cheese Factory, and over on Eau Claire River Road.

He stated that he purchased a back-pack blower that he can use to clean the gravel from intersections, versus the Town paying Easton to use their street sweeper. He said the blower is working pretty good, and feels we have already gotten our monies-worth.

Larson stated that he installed the new address sign at that property on County Road Z. He commented that he used a post that we had in stock. He commented on how the County did not send us a post, and assumes they are aware of our stock and did not charge us for that. Parker stated that the Town did pay for the sign alone this past winter already.

Larson stated that he put down some rock on Sportsman Drive. He stated there are some areas along that road that we need to take a look at. He stated there are a lot of new holes showing up in roads, such as by Krimmer's, along South Pole Road, Crescent Drive, and over by Markgaf's. He stated that currently you can't get cold mix from the County yet, as they may be waiting for warmer weather. He is not sure about what to do with the condition of Crescent and Old Lake Road, where the seal coat is coming up.

Larson brought up the culvert at County Road Y and Pine View Road. He and Kautza discussed possibly just shaving off a layer of blacktop to see if that helps for now. Larson stated there is a culvert by Ann Thomas' that needs replacement as it is rotted.

Larson commented there are "alligator" spots along Sportsman and Hatchery. He stated there is an area of road that is heaving badly by Chuck Kautza's.

Larson stated that all roads have been graded. He continued working on ditching and checking culvert ends.

Kautza stated that there is another section of Red Granite Road that will need to be fixed, he commented on the east and west ends of Ron Krueger's driveway needs to be looked at. Kautza asked Larson to mark the soft spots on Red Granite Road.

Kautza pointed out he delivered the vermeer knives.

Kautza asked if anyone knew when we would be getting new plat books from the County? Typically we get a new one every couple years, even though we have to pay for it.

10. Old Business

• LRIP Program Updates – Sportsman Road Project

Kautza stated he and Larson will have to look at and start measuring for the project. He stated that we will have to look at fixing another section on Red Granite Road, and some chip sealing projects. He commented on how we have to re-apply for this grant and how some engineering may be required for an approved project. Parker commented that she did not believe this can be used on a granite road, but she would have to look back at her notes.

There was discussion on possibly seal coating roads, as some of the roads that were seal coated in Harrison by Scott's is doing okay. Larson stated that he is against seal coating. He would prefer we just crack fill for now, as you have to crack fill prior to seal coating anyways. It was discussed that we need to review our roads and prioritize which ones to plan for crack filling.

There was discussion on the bridge decking on Pine View Road, with how bad the road was heaving and the cracks were forming. It seems to have settled now.

It was agreed we need to figure out what needs the most attention and look at getting bids. There was discussion on when the last time crack filling was done, which may be have back when Sportsman Road was done. An issue we have is not having any idea of what the costs are for crack filling, as far as coming up with a budget. Parker stated she can check with the Village of Weston's Public Works Director to see what kind of costs they saw.

There was some discussion on an area of Sportsman Drive, by the stop sign being "alligatored".

11. New Business

- **Discussion of American Rescue Plan Act – Possible use of Funds**

Parker stated from what she has heard, the funds can be used on water, sewer, and/or broadband projects, though a lot of this is still up in the air. She brought up the idea of having a cell tower placed on the town's property, which the Town could then rent out space to providers, and residents in this low area of the Town can finally have better access to internet.

McRae commented on hearing something about repairing roads that lead to businesses; which the Town does have a lot of business owners.

Parker commented that if the Town had eligible projects, we would only receive half the funds the 1st year, and the 2nd half the following year. We would be eligible to receive up to 75% of our previous annual budget.

Kautza brought up the tower being put up in Harrison. There was discussion of the new Star Link that is becoming more popular, and eventually will be more affordable.

Kautza and McRae discussed that our area of land may be too low for a tower to serve enough people. There was discussion about how Network Professionals would put an antenna on a silo or some other tall existing structure to serve more people in our Town.

- **Request to Work with Kerber Rose on Completing Annual Municipal CT Financial Report**

Kautza stated he sees no issues with Parker meeting with Kerber Rose for assistance in this report.

12. Remarks from Board

Marien commented that there has recently been a change by the State where we need Board of Review recertification every year.

McRae stated he has not heard anything from Marathon County Zoning on when they are taking away his duties. He stated that he has noted 6 different zoning issues that he has brought up to the County CPZ. He commented on the storage unit building going up that is near shoreland in Hogarty, between the river and the church.

Sippl asked Kautza if he talked to Mike Block yet on the "squatter" issue on her family's property, in the old white trailer house, which has no electricity or water. She stated that an eviction notice has been delivered by the Sheriff's Department. She commented on how this person has never paid rent to be there, and how people are pretty sure this person is dealing drugs there, but the Sheriff's will not remove him. Kautza feels her family should be able to just go in there and remove the home. Sippl stated there is a meeting coming up with the County on this.

Marien asked if a permit was filed for the work going on at Thomas', near the intersection of Old Lake Road and County Road D. McRae stated right now they are just moving dirt, and they will get a zoning permit before building.

13. Future Items

- **Next Meeting Date:**
 - **Annual Town Meeting of Electors - Tuesday, April 20, 2021, Immediately Following Board Meeting**
 - **Board of Review - Monday, May 3, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
 - **Regular Board Meeting - May 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**

14. Adjourn

Motion by Marien, second by McRae, to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

Valerie Parker
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