

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

**Tuesday, July 09, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**

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**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order by Chairman, Tony Kautza**

Chairman 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 Marien and McRae were present.

Also, in attendance: Treasurer, Connie Sippl, and Clerk, Valerie Parker

Rick Larson, 185153 County Road Z  
Carlton Boettcher, 183216 County Road Z

**3. Visitors**

None.

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

None.

**5. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

- **June 11, 2024, Regular Board Meeting**

*Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2024, meeting.*

**6. Review and Signing of Monthly Expenditures**

The Board reviewed and signed the monthly expenditures.

Parker discussed the latest invoice we received from Birnamwood Area Fire Department for a traffic assist they did on May 30<sup>th</sup> for a motorcycle vs. deer accident that occurred on County Road N (on the Town's side – north side of the road). The person involved in the accident is Alan Stoltz, out of the Village of Birnamwood. Since she just received the invoice from the Fire Department, today she was able to mail out a Town invoice to Stoltz for reimbursement.

**7. Review and Action on 2024 Monthly Budget**

*Motion by Marien, second by McRae, to approve the monthly budget.*

**8. Clerk's Report**

Parker pointed out the agenda she received from the WI Town's Association Meeting for an Annual Meeting of Marathon County Unit – Combined Eastern & Western Unit Meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, at Memories Ballroom, Marathon, along with the agenda for the TAC Listening Session, in Stevens Point, set for July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Parker explained she reached out to Rural Mutual Insurance early this morning to try to get them the information on our new grader so that it could be covered. She expressed her frustration on the difficulties experienced in attempting to forward the information via email, and how ultimately she had to fax it.

Parker noted that all next week she will be attending her virtual 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Clerk's Institute classes. She will be taking part in this on the side, while at her regular job.

**9. Road Report**

Larson stated he just finished mowing the right-of-way ditches in the Town, and now he is going to do some repairs to the flails.

Larson stated he has taken the new grader out a handful of times now, putting about 12 hours on it. He stated he is very pleased and impressed with how smooth and easy it is to run, much easier than our old CAT grader.

Larson stated our Case tractor still has not been picked up for repairs yet, as the company is still working on fixing their trailer to haul it.

## 10. New Business

- **Discussion and Action on Resolution #07-24 Joe Frailing Conditional Use Permit Request for the Permanent Use of a Storage/Shipping Container as an Accessory Structure at 235555 North Pole Road**  
Parker stated that the Town's requested amendment to the County was approved. Following this, the County notified the two properties in the Town of Plover (Joe Frailing, 235555 North Pole Road and Jeffrey Gunderson, 179621 State Highway 52), who were in violation, about their new option of applying for a Conditional Use Permit to allow them to keep their containers on their properties.

Following this, Parker recently received the Conditional Use Permit request that was submitted by Joe Frailing to Marathon County, to request allowance to keep his shipping/storage container, and to be able to keep it in its current location (front yard). Parker read the new requirements of the Chapter 17.401.01 Ordinance, as it pertains to shipping containers.

After some discussion, the Board agreed the location Frailing's container is currently at, is the only practical location, due to the elevation and wetlands throughout Frailing's property. Also, it is fairly wooded, the yard is kept up well, and the container is one solid color, where the Board is in support of Frailing's request.

***Motion by McRae, second by Marien: To recommend the Marathon County Board of Adjustment to Approve the Application, as submitted, by Joe Frailing, and to allow him to keep the container in it's current location (front yard).***

- **Discussion on Draft Ordinance to Disallow "Heavy Truck Traffic" on Certain Town Roads**
- **Discussion on Drafting a Citation Ordinance**

Parker stated these two items can be discussed together as they go hand in hand. She explained how she receives some sample ordinances from WI Town's Association, and through her Municipal Clerk's network, related to "Heavy Truck Traffic", and drafted the one presented to the Board. She said this is pretty much ready to go but how she was not sure if they wanted any other Town roads added to the list, such as some of our roads with weight limits.

It was explained that all of our Town roads currently have weight limits posted. Kautza stated the Town has an ordinance filed somewhere allowing all of our roads to be posted for weight limits, but that this ordinance will allow us to post the "No Thru Truck Traffic".

Parker then explained that last month, she contacted the Marathon County Sheriff's Office (Chief Deputy William Millhausen) to find out if there is some sort of County-wide noise ordinance (due to some issues she is having in her own neighborhood). She was told that the Sheriff's Office will respond to noise complaints in jurisdictions that do not have their own law enforcement. He further explained to her, however, if a specific Town has an ordinance they wish to have enforced, that ordinance can only be enforced by their constable or town official.

After Parker shared this newfound information with the Board and Larson last month, the question came up 9by Larson) how this would affect the Town if we passed our own ordinance for the "No Thru Truck Traffic". Parker then reached out to Chief Deputy Millhausen again, and it was explained to her that if the Town creates an ordinance, the Town is responsible for enforcing it, as the County would not have the authority to enforce municipal ordinances.

This led to Parker reaching out to WTA again. After some research it was found that the Town would need to adopt its own citation ordinance, to allow the Town to be able to cite someone who is violating an ordinance. Also, Parker needs to verify, but she is thinking we could contract with the County Sheriff's Office to cover our roads.

Kautza feels this is not accurate information, that the Sheriff's Office would still enforce, as they enforce our weight limit restrictions. He feels for now we should pass the ordinance to allow us to legally put up the "No Thru Truck Traffic" signs, as this alone will reduce a majority of heavy trucks using our local roads as a short cut. It was discussed that these trucks all have County road options to travel on. He suggested we table the citation ordinance until the next meeting.

Parker will put the Class B Road Ordinance in final form for formal action at the August meeting, and we will continue discussing the citation ordinance in August. She asked if in the meantime, the Board look over the draft citation ordinance.

#### 11. Old Business

- **Status of Filed Petition to Marathon County to Allow for Storage Pods on Residential Property**

This topic was discussed above under New Business and can now be removed from future agendas.

- **Continued Discussion on Possibly Ending County Zoning (Per WI Act 264 – Process Can't Start Until 2027)**

Kautza stated he has not had a chance to look further into this.

- **Continued Discussion of 2024 Roadway Projects**

Kautza stated that he reached out to Farhner again, but they apparently have been busy and forgot to look into his request, regarding seal coating. He stated how American Asphalt bought out the paving part of Fahrner's business, and how he can reach out to them to see what they would charge to take care of the road sections we would like covered. Larson stated he can contact Northeast to see what their costs would be.

Kautza stated that we will look at crackfilling on Pine View. He also commented on road repair work need on Hatchery Road, from County Road Z to Sportsman Drive, and also how the other end of Hatchery from this new patch out to Highway 52 needs to be addressed.

#### 12. Remarks from Board

Kautza stated we need to talk to County Zoning about Ira Huber's property on Hatchery Road, as he is pretty sure they are using it as a dwelling when they are not supposed to as it is zoned for business use, and he is pretty sure there is not septic on that property. McRae will reach out to CPZ to have them check into this.

Marien stated the next Fire/EMS Meeting will be held the last Wednesday of this month (July 31<sup>st</sup>). He stated he is unable to attend this meeting, and how they will be talking about financial issues and what they are billing the municipalities. Kautza stated he will attend this meeting in Marien's place, and asked Marien to forward him the meeting information.

McRae brought up that we need to discuss the plans for Larson's replacement when retires at the end of this year.

Kautza discussed that we potentially have a new interested candidate, who would be well qualified and a good fit. Kautza has given this individual until August 1<sup>st</sup> to make a decision, after that date, the Town will have no choice but to post the position.

Parker suggested it may be beneficial, once we find a candidate to allow that person to work side by side with Larson the last two months so that person gets a good feel for the different tasks that go on, she feels our budget is strong enough to support that.

#### 13. Future Items

- Partisan Primary Election – Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m. **[Revised Date due to Election]**
- Regular Town Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
- Board of Review Meeting – Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

#### 14. Adjourn

***Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.***

Respectfully,

Valerie Parker  
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