

Town of Forest

Minutes of September 9, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Forest Town Board was held on Monday, September 9, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Kraus at 8:00p.m. Members Present were Supervisors Tom Loehr and Pete Brenner, Treasurer Lori Kraus and Clerk Sarah Loehr.

Chairman Gary Kraus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Loehr moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024 meeting. Pete Brenner seconded the motion, motion carried.

Jason Sippel representing St. Cloud Fire and Rescue was present to present the updated fire contract for 2025-2027. He explained that now the Fire Department and the First Responders have combined to help with grant applications. Jason discussed the new fire contract and explained the reasoning for a 2% increase each year of the contract. Pete Brenner moved to approve the new contract. Tom Loehr seconded the motion, motion passed.

Tom Loehr moved to approve the Certified Survey Map for Leo Kramer. Pete Brenner seconded the motion, motion passed.

Brian Thome from Waste Management was present to discuss contract options for curbside pickup renewal. The new contract has a cost of \$25 per household per month. (\$17-refuse; \$8-recycling). This rate is locked in for 1 year, at the end of each contract year, price would increase 5%. There will be no diesel fuel surcharge added as in the past. No motion was made on curbside pickup, we will be gathering more bids to discuss at following meetings.

The Town has been approached to be a drop off site for electronics recycling. We would have a three-year contract with no charge. As a bin fills, it would be swapped out. Bins would be placed indoors and would not be unattended. Pete Brenner moved to enter a contract for the electronics recycling. Tom Loehr seconded the motion, motion passed. We will see if we can get two bins to have on hand for Bulky Waste on October 12.

Returning to discussion regarding the Log Tavern Road culvert: Jeff Mueller is out of the country for work, so we have been unable to contact him. This particular culvert has been failing for the last few years. Jeff Mueller did tile 15" tile, but the culvert has not been able to handle the additional water. The Town did receive a bid for \$13,000, which was much higher than anticipated. Jeff would pay \$2000 if we move forward.

Clerk Sarah Loehr has requested some funding for continuing education for her position and upcoming Elections. Cost would be approximately \$200 for 3 different days. Tom Loehr moved to approve the education costs. Pete Brenner seconded the motion, motion passed.

In Discussion from the floor: Tom Schmitz requested clarification on what happened with the trees on Hillview and Deervue: Gary and Town had permission to clear trees along the road. Most were dead, but cut a few live trees that were close to the road and in the right of way. Gary told the company that was hired to cut, but not remove the wood. We are not allowed to remove the wood. Noted that Alliant Energy took down some overhead power lines and Chickadee Drive and put divots in the new pavement. A phone call has been made. Nicole Sippel, representing Airy Point Farms, was present to request a temporary Class B Picnic license for events at her farm this fall. Pete Brenner moved to approve the temporary license. Tom Loehr seconded the motion, motion passed. Discussed possibilities for other options for garbage pickup.

Pete Brenner moved to pay the bills. Tom Loehr seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bills paid as follows on September 9, 2024:

DISBURSEMENTS

Web-Pro LP	Full Year contract Prepayment	\$3,628.04	10293
Alliant Energy	town hall electric	\$87.31	10294
The Highland Group	Poplar Road Acquisistion Fees	\$4,613.75	10295
Helmer Electric	town hall updates	\$1,888.00	10296
Nick Wagner	wages	\$225.65	10297
Pete Brenner	wash trucks	\$41.56	10298
Randy Loehr	wages	\$166.23	10299
Cathy Flood	Election worker	\$105.00	10300
Ingrid Braun	Election worker	\$112.50	10301
Ellen Loehr	Election worker	\$112.50	10302
Rosie Loehr	Election worker	\$225.00	10303
Kari Cox Gempeler	Election worker	\$127.50	10304
Lori Kraus	1/4 Annual Wages	\$1,962.44	10305
Sarah Loehr	1/4 Annual Wages	\$3,463.12	10306
Waste Management	curbside pickup	\$6,889.00	10307
Dempsey Law	FP Certification	\$234.00	10308
US Treasury	Employment Taxes	\$147.14	ACH
TOTAL		\$24,028.74	

RECEIPTS

Compass Surveying	Bouchard Rezoning Fee	\$300.00	15059
Airy Point Farms	Temporary Class B License	\$50.00	1006
Airy Point Farms	Operator's license	\$25.00	1007
Ideal Bathroom Solutions	Groves Building permit	\$75.00	8231
Assurance Title Services	Special Assessment Fee-Walters	\$20.00	721
Sargento-Baker Cheese	Home Demolition Permit (2)	\$100.00	1000843
Robert Breitzman	Electrical Permit-Generator	\$75.00	2656
Avenue Title Services	Special Assessment Fee-Blonien	\$20.00	1777
Excel Engineering	Sargento Rezoning and Variance Fees	\$1,200.00	95053
Excel Engineering	St. Pauls Variance Fee	\$300.00	95028

Fond du Lac County	garbage, POWTS from County	\$275.28	430163
Fond du Lac County	August Settlement	\$49,337.25	430367
Gowey Abstract and Title	title search	\$20.00	21316
Bill's Electrical Contracting	Electrical Permit-Olaughlin	\$75.00	8350
Posthuma Homes LLC	New Home Permit-Gabriel	\$1,405.00	2593
Shelly Goebel	Servers permit	\$25.00	461
Paul or Christina Lueck	building permit-kitchen	\$100.00	2258
BugTussel	tower lease	\$474.94	63348
Birschbach-Field LLC	fire number-7 Hills Road	\$75.00	2044
Guaranty Closing & Title	title search	\$20.00	76067
Guaranty Closing & Title	title search	\$60.00	676068
Chicago Title Co	title search	\$40.00	5258020791
Bank First	money market interest	\$676.84	ACH
TOTAL		\$54,749.31	

Cash on Balance	\$ 329,217.43
General Fund	\$ 182,224.48
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 146,992.95
Bank Accounts – Other	\$ -808.34
TOTAL	\$ 328,409.09

Previous Month Balance in Capital Projects	\$ 145,841.17
BugTussel – Lease	+ 474.94
Bank First – Interest	+ 676.84
Total for September 30, 2024	\$ 146,992.95
Included in Total Capital Projects Amount	
Capital Projects – Bridge Fund	\$ 10,000.00
ARPA Funds	\$ 32,487.85

Next meeting Monday, October 14, 2024 @ 8:00 p.m.

There was no further business; Tom Loehr moved to adjourn the meeting. Pete Brenner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Loehr
Town Clerk

Gary H. Kraus/Chairman

Thomas Loehr/ Supervisor

Peter Brenner/ Supervisor