

April 16, 2024 Town of Dewey Annual Meeting

Note: These are the proposed Minutes that will be approved at the next Annual Town Meeting.

Minutes

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 6:30pm

430 Dewey Drive-Stevens Point WI 54482

Roll Call: Chairman Maurice King, Supervisor Dennis Hintz, Supervisor LeRoy Pukrop, Clerk Angela Lochinger, and Treasurer Josie Napiwocki were present. 6 Town Residents\1 Visitor.

Minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting: Dennis Meis motioned to approve the April 18, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes as read by clerk Lochinger. Sandy Meis seconded. Motion passed 11-0.

Minutes from January 17, 2024 Special Town Meeting of the Electors: Supervisor Dennis Hintz motioned to approve the January 17, 2024 Special Town Meeting of the Electors Minutes as read by clerk Lochinger. Supervisor LeRoy Pukrop seconded. Motion passed 11-0.

Review of 2023 Financial Report: Copies of the 2023 Annual Financial Report were available and Treasurer Napiwocki provided a brief overview.

Chairman King highlighted some key points: we received more income in 2023 than we expected, and spent less, so we ended up with more cash on hand, allowing us to set aside \$45,000 for future road work projects, and all town loans are paid off, and we have over \$100,000 in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), a law passed in 2021 to aid with COVID-19 by providing various forms of relief and assistance. This money must be spent by 2026. We plan to use it for town employee wages and redirect the funds typically allocated for wages towards road work instead.

2023 Fire, Rescue, EMS Annual Report: Chief Lepper reported the fire department ended 2023 with 19 firefighters on the roster and 4 auxiliary members, responding to 31 fire runs. Two significant purchases were made: a 1994 used fire engine to replace the old 1984 one, and a used compressor for breathing air. Additionally, a Smokey the Bear wildfire sign was installed at the Sunset and County X corner. Fundraising and donations grossed over \$34,000.

He also reported that Dewey EMS concluded 2023 with 11 members, five of whom live in the town, and responded to 35 calls. The average response time was 9.9 minutes, an increase from 8.3 minutes in 2022.

125/50 Celebration: This year the Town will mark its 125th anniversary, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the fire department. A committee has been established to coordinate a celebration. The event will take place at Rivers Edge Campground on Sunday, July 21st, 2024.

Report on town buildings: Chairman King stated that the town buildings are generally in good condition, with some minor issues such as rust beginning to show on certain garage doors, as well as on posts near the gas tanks.

Report on town equipment: Chairman King mentioned that expenses were extremely high for equipment repairs in 2023 which included the tires were replaced on several vehicles this year. Additionally, he noted that we should receive the new snow plow truck this fall, which will replace the Sterling dump truck.

Report on 2023 & 2024 road work projects: Chairman King reported that in 2023, sections of Birch Drive, Maple Drive, Dewey Drive, and Deer Lane were chip-sealed, while Lilac Drive was double chip-sealed. New culverts were installed in several locations. Also, larger road and driveway culverts were installed and ditching work was done on Birch Drive. A new base of granite was added to Deer Lane.

In 2024, the primary project will be the reconstruction of Torun Road, covering 1.34 miles. Additionally, there is consideration to add granite on shorter roads like Hollow Lane, Oriole Lane, Goldenrod Lane, Robin Lane, as well as on Birch Drive, off Haymeadow Drive, where culverts were installed last year.

Additionally, the town applied for two grants through the Town Road Improvement Discretionary Program (TRID): one for the Dewey Drive road project and another for the Haymeadow Drive bridge replacement project.

Town officials' compensation: Chief Lepper proposed raises for the three salaried town officials: the town chairperson, town clerk, and town treasurer. Several residents expressed the desire to first assess how the current wages compare to those in other towns.

Following discussion, Chief Brian Lepper motioned to increase the pay for the three salaried town officers by 5% to take effect after the next April's election. Dennis Meis seconded. Motion passed 11-0.

Any other business as allowed by Law: None

Adjournment: Chairman King adjourned the meeting at 7:39 pm.