

May 15, 2024 Town of Dewey Board Meeting

Note: These are the proposed Minutes that will be approved at the next Board meeting.

Minutes

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

430 Dewey Drive-Stevens Point WI 54482

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman King at 6:30 pm, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Verify Open Meeting Notice & Roll Call: Open meeting notice was verified. Chairman Maurice King, Supervisor Dennis Hintz, Supervisor LeRoy Pukrop, Clerk Angela Lochinger, and Treasurer Josie Napiwocki were present. 2 town residents and/or visitors were present.

Approval of Minutes from the meetings of April 17, 2024, May 6, 2024 and May 8, 2024: Supervisor Pukrop motioned to approve the April 17, 2024 Minutes as presented. Supervisor Hintz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Supervisor Hintz motioned to approve the May 6, 2024 Minutes as presented. Supervisor Pukrop seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Supervisor Pukrop motioned to approve the May 8, 2024 Minutes as presented. Supervisor Hintz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Citizens wishing to address the Town Board: None.

Supervisor Comments/Concerns: Supervisor Hintz expressed concerns about how the town will cover numerous upcoming expenses. He asked if the board will address these concerns by adding them as agenda items for discussion. He mentioned expenses such as the upcoming Dewey Drive road project, which will be partially funded by a grant; the delivery of a new truck scheduled for this summer; the Haymeadow Drive Bridge, which will eventually need repair or replacement; and the town's aging Peterbilt truck.

Representative(s) of the Portage County Emergency Management Department will be present to introduce and explain the general expectations the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan: Bob Weinert, the Portage County Emergency Management Coordinator, attended the meeting to discuss the purpose of this plan. He explained that the town went through the process in 2019 and emphasized that the plan aims to identify potential hazards and risks within the town. Mr. Weinert provided the board with a packet, including a commitment letter where the town can opt in to the plan. He suggested that if the town is interested in participating, it should review all projects to identify any issues and focus on preventive measures to mitigate potential disasters or emergencies. The County would like to collect all plans by the end of the year.

Review of the Town of Dewey Emergency Response Plan: Chairman King and Chief Lepper will review both the town and county emergency response plans, update contact information, and review the list of contractors for any updates.

The sale of obsolete scrap items: Chairman King explained that the town has a collection of obsolete scrap items which town employee Steward Plaski has offered to purchase and remove for \$60.

Supervisor Pukrop motioned to sell the town's obsolete scrap items to Steward Plaski for \$60. Supervisor Hintz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Coverage of private vehicles when in use for town business: Chief Lepper recently discovered that the town's insurance for personal vehicles used during emergency calls isn't as extensive as previously thought. It only covers up to \$2,500 of the deductible and offers no additional coverage. Following discussion, Dewey FD/EMS passed a motion for Chief Lepper to approach the town board about finding insurance that would prevent personal vehicle insurance from being impacted during incidents while "on the clock."

Chief Lepper emphasized the importance of providing this coverage without relying on personal insurance, noting it's a disservice to the already tight FD/EMS rosters. He added that if this type of coverage isn't offered by insurance companies, it poses a broader issue for volunteer emergency services. Chairman King suggested starting with the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) to see if they know of any available coverage for this purpose and to get their recommendations on resolving these concerns.

Resolution No.2-2024, a resolution to obligate the Town of Dewey's ARPA Funds: Following discussion, Supervisor Pukrop motioned to postpone action on Resolution No.2-2024, a resolution to obligate the Town of Dewey's ARPA Funds, until the board finds out more information. Supervisor Hintz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Filing the BCPL Loan Application Request Form for the truck and equipment: Chairman King stated that the truck could be ready for delivery as soon as late June or early July. He explained that we will need to apply for a \$247,250 loan for the truck and equipment purchase, noting the current interest rate is 6% with BCPL. The board discussed taking the loan out for a total of 7 years. Supervisor Hintz expressed concerns about how the town will manage this loan given the many other expenses mentioned earlier during "Supervisor Comments/Concerns."

Supervisor Pukrop motioned to proceed with filing the BCPL Loan Application Request Form for the truck and equipment. Chairman King seconded. Supervisor Hintz opposed. Motion passed 2-1.

Road projects for 2024: Following road inspections conducted by the board in May, Chairman King compiled a list of necessary road projects. Upon review, the board prioritized the projects, agreeing to address repair and maintenance tasks as well as culver replacements first. They will then revisit the list afterward to determine the most urgent projects.

Supervisor Hintz motioned to move ahead with repair and maintenance work as well as culvert replacements as presented on the Road Projects list, with a plan to reassess thereafter. Supervisor Pukrop seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The use of Kafka Granite to back haul granite for the town for road projects: Chairman King stated Kafka Granite inquired if we would like them to stock pile granite at the pit on Sunset Drive to haul. The granite cost would be \$7 a yard (\$4.50 for the granite and \$2.50 to haul).

Supervisor Hintz motioned to approve the use of Kafka Granite to back haul granite for the town for road projects. Supervisor Pukrop seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Renewal of Quickbooks: Clerk Lochinger informed the board that the town's annual Quickbooks subscription is set to auto-renew at the end of May, with an estimated cost of \$1,922.00. She explained that last year, we had to upgrade to a newer version because the desktop version we were using was being discontinued. Clerk Lochinger noted that the cost has been steadily increasing, with payments of \$817 in 2022 and \$1,436 in 2023.

Chairman King suggested sticking with the current version of Quickbooks for this year and exploring other options next year.

Clerk/Treasurer Reports for April: The board reviewed the April Clerk and Treasurer reports, and April's reports balanced.

Supervisor Pukrop motioned to accept the Clerk and Treasurer reports as presented. Supervisor Hintz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Chairperson's Report on town work and activities: Town employees rented a retriever machine to break up the sod and level the shoulders on Sunset Drive. Additionally, they have been shouldering, grading, conducting roadside cleanup, and performing minor sweeping.

Correspondence: The board reviewed correspondence.

Set Meeting Dates & Agendas: Town Board Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2024 and Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Dewey Town Hall.

Approve and Pay Bills: Supervisor Hintz motioned to approve and pay the bills. Supervisor Pukrop seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Adjournment: Chairman King adjourned the meeting at 8:33 pm.