

Minutes to be approved October 9, 2023.....

Town of Rockland September 11, 2023 Board Meeting

Rockland Town Hall @ 7:00 P.M.

Chairperson, Rosalie Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Additional officials present were Linda Gilbertson, Mike Havlinek, Tim Thor, Paula Winkel, Laura Henze, and Dan Benter. There were five citizens and one visitor present. Motion made by Mike Havlinek and second by Tim Thor to approve the secretary's report as posted and printed. Motion carried. Motion made by Tim Thor to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Second by Mike Havlinek. Motion carried.

The agenda was followed as printed and posted.

Public Input: A resident advised the Board of an excess of pea gravel and areas in which shallow dips are swelling in the Beech and Blue Heron Road area. Another resident advised concerns for the rate of speed cars travel through Collins on County Hwy JJ. A letter from the Town to the County Sheriff's Department will be sent to alert them of this matter. Tim Thor shared concerns brought to his attention regarding the burning of building materials by the owner of a local business and asked that this be addressed via a letter from the Town. Tim also noted safety concerns regarding individuals driving motorized vehicles on township roads outside the parameters of the ATV/UTV ordinance. The constable will address these safety concerns.

Reports and Communications: Paula Winkel provided information to the board from Manitowoc County Park and Planning communications and provided grant awareness regarding the Wi Coastal Management Program and the Broadband Infrastructure Program.

Licenses & Permits: Multiple building/razing permits were identified as noted in the agenda.

Accept resignation of Linda Gilbertson as Clerk/Treasurer: Linda read a resignation letter to the Board and individually thanked past and present officials for their support during her employment. The Board thanked Linda for her decade plus years of service and strong dedication to the Town of Rockland. Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek to accept Linda's resignation. Motion passed.

Appoint Paula Winkel to Clerk/Treasurer: Motion made by Time Thor, second by Mike Havlinek to approve Paula Winkel as the new Clerk/Treasurer for the Town of Rockland. Motion Carried. Paula accepted the appointment, and has been training under Linda, to help prepare for this transition.

Phragmites Program Review (Glacierland Rep)/Funding Decision: Melissa Curran representing Santec (partner of Glacierland) provided a handout and shared the benefits of enrolling in the Phragmites Monitoring and Treatment Program. Recommended cost to the Town would be \$4060.00. This cost would cover private/public land in order to identify and eradicate invasive non-native phragmites. No decision was made. Further discussion on funding level will be held during budget planning.

Updates for Town Building Inspector Position 2024: Two building inspectors have expressed interest in working with the Town. A selection will be made after receiving fee schedules and related information.

Town Web Approval: Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek to purchase the \$799.00 upgrade to the Town Web program versus changing web providers. Motion passed.

Set Trick or Treating Date/time: Children may trick or treat in the Town of Rockland on October 28th between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00pm. Following this, there will be a Fall Festival at the Town Hall organized by the Neighborhood Watch Program and supported by contributions from local businesses.

Review State's Annual Assessment Ratio Report: A revaluation of property values is anticipated no later than in the year 2025. The State Department of Revenue Equalized Value and Assessment Ratio Reports were shared and showed that 2023 will be the third year the Town of Rockland is out of compliance with the state requirement that a municipality's total assessed value be within 10% of the full value. Next steps include cost estimates and timing for this re-valuation.

Review Budget Timeline & Set Planning Workshop Date: The 2024 budget workshop meeting will occur on Wednesday, October 18th from 6:00pm-8:30pm. A tentative date for the 2024 budget hearing meeting, followed by special elector meeting to set the tax levy, was set for Wednesday, November 15th.

Under/Over Payment Policy Proposal: Town of Rockland will move forward in drafting an under/over policy applicable to tax collection that will be reviewed/approved next month.

Communication with Road Superintendent; Road/Culvert Status: Paula reported in Keith's absence. Ditch cutting is about one third complete. Batteries replaced on a truck. Thirteen hours of grass cutting was provided to the Village of Reedsville. A bridge sign and post was stolen on Hilltop Road. Culvert replacements have started. The ARPA agreement with County was fully executed, an amendment covering slight culvert price increases is in process.

Constable Report: Responded to Long Lake for two complaints of non-compliance with lake rules. Dan Benter requested a copy of dog license report for referencing as needed throughout year.

Vouchers Approved: Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek. Motion carried to approve payments of vouchers #21635 to #21665 and EFT's in the amount of \$ 78,897.48

Additional Topics for September 11, 2023: Reedsville Fire Department Rep to attend to share 2024 budget proposal, review of building permit fee amounts, and 2024 wages for Town employees.

Adjournment: Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Henze

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Town of Rockland, Manitowoc County