

Minutes to be approved September 9, 2024.....

**Town of Rockland August 12, 2024 Board Meeting
Rockland Town Hall @ 7:00 P.M.**

Chairperson Rosalie Geiger called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. Additional officials present were Mike Havlinek, Tim Thor, Paula Winkel, and Dan Benter. Also present were Keith Brandes, Road Superintendent, and Laura Henze, recording clerk. There were thirteen citizens present and two visitors. Motion made by Mike Havlinek to approve the secretary's report as posted and printed, second by Tim Thor. Motion carried. Motion made by Tim Thor to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mike Havlinek second, motion carried. **The agenda was followed as printed and posted.**

Public Input: Resident reported that the east end of Boxwood Road is rough and in need of gravel. The Neighborhood Watch Program announced a Fall Fest to take place at the Town of Rockland Hall immediately after annual Collins trick or treating (12-2 p.m.) on October 26th. Responsibility for payment for recent Collins sign work was discussed and will be a topic at the next Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Reports and Communications: In follow up from the last meeting, Paula Winkel reported that a reminder on the golf cart ordinance was placed in local newspapers. A courtesy letter will also be sent to Camp 10 and the Village of Reedsville to share and ask for assistance communicating. A GFL dumpster has been installed at the Recycling Center for cardboard with a 12 month contract. Tim Thor agreed to complete a survey regarding Land and Water Management from the County. No eligible expenses were made in order to apply for the County Bridge Aid this year. Paula will go forward with the DNR Recycling Consolidation Agreement with County. The DNR will begin construction of a new building in the Collins Marsh Wildlife Area on Hwy W. Construction will begin in October and should be complete during summer of 2025. The Board was reminded of the September 26 annual meeting invite from Valders Ambulance. Tim Thor reported back on his evaluation of the prone to flooding area of Moschel and Einberger roads and confirmed some cleaning of the ditch is needed. Keith Brandes will coordinate this with the County.

Licenses and Permits: Building and razing permits as listed on agenda.

Rezone Request: Caitlyn Link presented for her mother, Miriam Christel, a request to split a 24.3 acre parcel on Manitowoc Road into two parcels (11.3 and 12.0 acres) and to rezone from exclusive ag to general ag. Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek to recommend this zoning change. Motion Carried. Next step will be for this matter to be reviewed by Manitowoc County Park and Planning.

Rockland Sanitary District BLOCK Grant & Funding Update: Lynn McIntrye from Cedar Corporation presented information regarding why the Sanitary District was not awarded the Community Development Block Grant for Public Facilities (CDBG-PF) by going through how the application was scored. The Sanitary District is seeking grant assistance for a DNR required upgrade regarding storage/treatment of chemicals/phosphorus which will cost approximately \$630,000. Lynn shared another funding option tied to the DNR's Clean Water Act which has a principal forgiveness portion and a low interest rate loan option. The Sanitary District will make a decision on whether to pursue this by month's end. Based on the District's Intent To File Scoring Summary, Cedar Corp. believes it is very likely to receive the low interest rate loan.

August 13, 2024: Primary Election: Reminder of Primary Election at the Town Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wisconsin Election Commission has shared that based upon new litigation, the use of drop boxes is a valid option going forward for return of absentee ballots.

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Role Update: Laurie Miller has accepted the position offered to her by the Town of Rockland board. She was introduced and welcomed at the meeting. Laurie has lived in the Town of Rockland for 34 years and has worked at her current employer, USDA-FSA, for 42 years. She'll start end of August with limited hours until January 2025.

Cemetery Findings: Ron and Olga Kleist provided history of the Frieden's Cemetery Northwest of Collins to the Board. They have maintained the Friedens Cemetery since 1985 and anticipate their family to continue. The Kleists will provide the Town of Rockland with paperwork they have regarding the deed, Cemetery Association applications, as well as burial plot names. Mike Havlinek shared learning from the Register of Deeds regarding the EUB cemetery. In 1964, 0.6 acres was deeded to the Town for the cemetery. Another 0.6 acres adjacent to the cemetery is owned by the Church and is being farmed. A discussion on whether the EUB cemetery should accept any new applicants at this time was had, but no decision made. Rosie Geiger will contact residents who may have additional information regarding EUB plots. This topic will be added to the September agenda.

Road Superintendent Report on Roads/Culverts/Signs: Keith Brandes reports being satisfied with the new ditch cutter. Ditches have been cut in Town and additional ditches were cut for the Village of Reedsville and an invoice sent.

Constable Report: Dan Benter reports assisting with several calls regarding loose dogs and unlicensed dogs, having to trap woodchucks, and getting an injured pelican to the wildlife rescue facility. He also responded to Long Lake as jet skiers were not adhering to the no-wake rule during high water levels.

Vouchers Approved: Motion made by Mike Havlinek and second by Tim Thor. Motion carried to approve payments of vouchers #22207 to #22058 and ETFs in the amount of \$166,763.00

Topics for September 9, 2024 Board Meeting: Continue cemetery discussion. Local leads for Fire Departments and EMT services will be invited to share any updates they have on 2025 budget needs.

Meeting Adjourned: Tim Thor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mike Havlinek. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Henze, Recording Clerk, Town of Rockland, Manitowoc Count