

Minutes to be approved December 9, 2024.....
Town of Rockland November 11, 2024 Board Meeting
Rockland Town Hall @ 7:00 P.M.

Chairperson Rosalie Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Additional officials present were Mike Havlinek, Tim Thor, Daniel Benter, Paula Winkel, Laurie Miller, and Road Superintendent, Keith Brandes. There were three citizens present. Motion made by Mike Havlinek and seconded by Tim Thor to approve the secretary's report as posted and printed. Motion carried. Motion made by Mike Havlinek to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Second by Tim Thor. Motion carried. **The agenda was followed as printed and posted.**

Public Input: It was suggested that the Pledge of Allegiance be said in honor of Veteran's Day. The board agreed and decided to add the pledge to Board meeting agendas going forward.

Reports and Communications: Clerk shared various updates including that Verisk sent a letter indicating a low assessment rating of the Town adopted building codes and Town Assessors enforcement of the codes. There have been some recent requests made by contractors/homeowners to help in reaching the Assessor. A letter will be sent to the Assessor regarding these items. The poll workers did an excellent job with the general election. Tax collection bonds were purchased for Paula Winkel and Laurie Miller. All board member terms expire in April 2025 and filing paperwork will be out in early December for these positions. Neighborhood Watch would like Christmas lights to be hung in Collins and Lynn Vallesky, a representative of this group, reported they are willing to purchase decorations from a neighboring community and cover costs to make them work on Collins poles. Keith Brandes and Tim Thor agreed to hang them.

2025 Budget Collins Fire Department: Motion made by Tim Thor with a second by Mike Havlinek to rescind the previously approved budget and approve \$59,000 for 2025. Motion carried.

2025 Budget Hearing and Special Electors Meeting: The Public Hearing will be November 18 at 6:00 p.m. to review the proposed 2025 Town of Rockland budget. Immediately following that meeting, there will be a Special Electors meeting to approve the 2025 tax levy. The Board will meet after that to approve the final 2025 budget. Payment of property taxes via credit or debit card was discussed, but due to the cost to implement the necessary system changes, the Board did not want to pursue this option at this time.

Inputs for Annual Newsletter: Daniel Benter suggested adding a scaled late fee on dog licenses by adding a \$50 per dog fee if payments are not received by June 1st, Tim Thor made this motion and seconded by Mike Havlinek, motion carried. No changes were made to building permit costs, but benchmark with neighboring towns will be done next year.

Cemetery Ordinance: Mike Havlinek presented a completed Cemetery and Burial Site Ordinance (#11-11-2024) that would supersede any other existing Town ordinances on this topic. The Board also discussed the EUB Cemetery and whether or not spaces should continue to be sold given the high cost of platting and not having sold any spots in the last 10 years or so. Tim Thor made motion to adopt the Cemetery and Burial Site Ordinance as presented, and to no longer sell spaces in the EUB cemetery as of November 11, 2024, with a second by Mike Havlinek, and the motion carried (3 ayes, 0 nays). If anyone comes forward with a deed or ownership rights to a plot it will be honored. The ordinance will be posted as required by statute.

Manitowoc County Joint Powers Agreement for Emergency Services: Rosalie Geiger signed the annual agreement.

2024-2025 Screened Sand Contract with Jim's Excavating: Rosalie Geiger signed the contract.

Road Superintendent Report on Roads/Culverts/Signs: Keith Brandes reported Quality Roasting wishes to extend their driveway and he provided them a culvert permit and tires have been ordered for one of the snowplows.

2025 Cellphone Reimbursement for Road Supervisor: Motion was made by Tim Thor to provide a \$275 for cellphone reimbursement to the road supervisor, seconded by Mike Havlinek. Motion carried.

Constable Report: Daniel Benter reported he was called out for dogs that killed neighbor's ducks/chickens. He had to get sheriff's department involved due to uncooperative owner. The dogs were not licensed and follow-up is in progress. Another report of 2 beagles that were left to run because owner no longer wanted them, they were taken to Eastshore Humane Society. Also was called on a report of a loose horse and some longhorn cattle on the road.

Vouchers Approved: Motion made by Tim Thor and second by Mike Havlinek. Motion carried to approve payments of vouchers #22132 to 22162 and EFT's in the amount of \$16,622.47.

Topics for December 9, 2024 Board Meeting: No new topics at this time.

Meeting Adjourned: Mike Havlinek made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Tim Thor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Laurie Miller, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Rockland, Manitowoc County