

REGULAR EUREKA TOWN BOARD MEETING, March 12, 2015

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Eureka was called to order by Chairman Gene Krull at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at the Town Hall.

Proper notice was given as the agenda was posted in the four designated locations of the Town Hall, Town Garage/Clerks Office, EdgeTown Tavern, and River Roads Wolf Creek Bar on March 10, 2015. A notice was posted in the Tri-County North Advertiser.

Present by roll call were Chairman Gene Krull, Supervisors James Johnson and Gary Gudmunsen. Also present Clerk Melody Jacobs/Appointed Clerk Deb Dibble and Treasurer David Anderson. Others present were Richard Nelson, Nicolle Moline, Bill Kurtz, Charlotte Schwarztrauber, Shaila Johnson, Ron Edlund, Phil Staley, Steve Jacobs, Carleen Matosky, Tim Knigge, Paul Schneider, Marvin Caspersen, Jason Odegaard, Karyn Findlay, Jonathon Findlay, Randy Clark, and Public Works Employees Michael Woltz and Jim Hallgren.

Gudmunsen /Johnson **moved** to adopt the agenda; **motion carried**.

Gudmunsen/Johnson **moved** to approve the meeting minutes for February 12, 2015 (Regular Town Board Meeting), February 12, 2015 (Special Town Board Meeting/Old Town Hall Bids), February 17, 2015 (Special Town Board Meeting/Pension Plans/Benefits) February 23, 2015 (Special Town Board Meeting/Interview and Hire New Town Clerk) February 23, 2015 (Special Town Board Meeting/Closed Session-Interview and Hire New Town Clerk); **motion carried**.

Johnson/Gudmunsen **moved** to approve payment of vouchers 15-059 through 15-105 amounting to \$813,825.97; **motion carried** on a unanimous roll call vote, 3-0.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Receipts for the period ending February 28, 2015 amounted to \$1,011,557.56; cash balance on February 28, 2015 was \$284,259.91. Building Account balance as of February 28, 2015 was \$57,897.13 and New Equipment Account as of February 28, 2015 was \$11,016.78.

Highway report: Chairman Krull asked Public Works Employees, Mike Woltz and Jim Hallgren, if they had anything to report. Mike responded "Not a thing".

Chairman Krull then reported that on February 26th Mike Woltz, Jim Hallgren, Jim Johnson and he attended the Annual Mine Safety Training Session put on by MSHA.

On March 9th, Mike Woltz, Jim Hallgren and Gene attended an Asphalt Road Maintenance seminar in Hayward, Wisconsin.

The county has informed me that as of 12:01 am tomorrow morning, the Road Restrictions go on all roads within the Town and will continue until they see fit to take them down. Chairm Krull asked the Public Works employees to post the road restriction signs tomorrow morning so it will be effective by 1:00 pm tomorrow afternoon.

Supervisor Gudmunsen asked if Lakes Gas could run fifty percent of their normal size gas loads on the roads. He stated if so, he would notify his office of this decision. Chairman Krull replied with a yes.

A resident reported that at the bottom of Town's corner of Horseshoe Lake Road, the culvert is clogged and water is coming all the way up to the road. Chairman Krull asked Jim Hallgren to investigate it.

Mr. Krull gave the chairman's report: Chairman Krull Town of Eureka has a new appointed Town Clerk, her name is Debra Dibble.

Chairman Krull gave an update on the 190th Street tire issue. He spoke to Jeff Fugge, who is Corporate Counsel for Polk County. Jeff said a pre-trial conference was requested by the County and it was ignored by the Lysdahl, so a motion for Judgement and Cease and Desist Order are being drafted by Polk County. In consultation with the Zoning Department the anticipation is that this will be scheduled for early spring and

judgement will be found in favor of the County so the County can move forward with remediation and clean-up of the property.

Chairman Krull gave an update on the New Town Hall construction progress. Three weeks were lost due to the builder submitting the heating plan late, it has now been approved. The duct work and furnace have been installed and the heat has been turned on. The air exchanger is being installed and the ceiling insulation has been blown in. All of the drywall has been hung and the finishing was started today, next week it will be painted. The painter has the trim and he is applying the finish. Cascade Flooring has taken the final measurements. Craig Carlson, from Carlson Construction, has assured me that it will be completed for the April 7th election. The front step, walk and landscaping will not be completed.

Chairman Krull reported on the sale of the Old Town Hall. The Town needs an Offer to Purchase, which has been prepared by Terry Dunst and \$200 in earnest money to move forward with the sale. The purchasers are having it examined by their attorney. The closing date has been set for no later than May 15, 2015 or when the Town is permanently moved into the New Town Hall.

Citizen Comment Time: A citizen thanked the clerk for sending out the notification emails.

Bill Kurtz stated that he read the February 17th meeting minutes where someone said the employees were the heart and soul. They are obviously not old enough to remember Fred Peterson, Wally Thompson, and my brother Lester who graded the gravel roads, cut brush by hand, repaired machinery, cut wood for the shop and hall. Supervisor Johnson stated that he wasn't taking away from any of those people, he was talking about the current Public Works Employees. Discussion continued.

Randy Clark commented that the Board needs to respect the Board. In that respect, we need to have a Code of Conduct. The last meeting got carried away and the Code of Conduct wasn't followed. If it should happen again and one of the Board Members gets out of line, I hope they would be man enough to dismiss himself.

Steve Jacobs inquired about the follow-up on 239th Avenue by County Road Z. He asked if there had been any progress in filing it with the State. Chairman Krull said there is no follow-up necessary in so far as there is nothing that can be done about it. It is a Town road and we are just continuing to maintain it as it is. Steve replied "So we will not receive any funds?" Chairman Krull, "Not unless we make application in which case we are going to have to build it to specifications that will be acceptable by the State".

A gentleman inquired about the signs at the entrance to the Town of Eureka that were taken down a couple years ago. Chairman Krull responded that the signs were taken down when the road was repaved. The state said that unless a town is on the official state map, they were not qualified to have a sign. He had contacted Adam Jarchow and the State Highway Commission and they have said that they will put it on the map for next year. He is trying to get them to put up the signs back up this year, because the Town qualifies to be on the state map.

A citizen inquired about what the purchaser is going to do with the Old Eureka Hall. Chairman Krull responded that it has been purchased by Kevin and Juka Austad and Les Anderson. Kevin has commented that it is one of two original buildings remaining in Eureka and he wants to keep it as it is. The question was asked if when the sale was completed, would it go back on the tax base. Chairman Krull responded, yes.

Chairman Krull announced that the Annual Town Meeting will be April 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the New Town Hall location.

Chairman Krull announced that the Spring Elections are on April 7, 2015 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at the New Town Hall.

Discussion was had about advertising meeting notices in the Indianhead and Tri-County North Advertisers. Apparently the current Tri-County North Advertiser doesn't get delivered to all of the Eureka residences. It was suggested that the New Board consider this at budget time.

Chairman Krull indicated the primary reason is to discuss Employee Compensation for the new Town Clerk. She gets two weeks' vacation, but she is not compensated for insurance or retirement. She does not qualify for the Wisconsin Retirement system because she does not work at least 32 hours a week. I would like to recommend a compensation for this as well. We currently give each of the highway employees \$8,000 a year for health benefits compensation, so I would like to suggest half at \$4,000. Supervisor Gudmunsen suggested waiting after the 90 days from the date of hire or when she receives her six month review. Gudmunsen /Johnson **moved** to table this until after her 90 days; **motion carried**.

Supervisor Johnson inquired about what Terry Dunst, legal counsel, informed the Town about the pension system for the Public Works employees. Chairman Krull gave the report to Supervisor Johnson to review. Supervisor Johnson stated we pretty much have to stay with the WRS retirement system according to this report. Supervisor Johnson/Gudmunsen **moved** to give the two full-time employees a 10% raise, 5% starting now and the other 5% starting in January 1, 2016. Randy Clark stated from the audience, isn't this a direct conflict of interest going on right now? Chairman Krull stated he has a point and I think he is correct where it includes Mike Woltz's income. So you have to either withdraw your Motion. We can't proceed until we have a Motion and a second on that particular issue. Supervisor Johnson stated "**I will take back my Motion**", seconded by Supervisor Gudmunsen. Chairman Krull requested is there another motion? **No response**.

Chairman Krull proceeded to discuss the Sodium Chloride issue for 2015/2016, but was interrupted by Supervisor Johnson requesting to discuss conflict of interest subject. Much discussion was had amongst the Board Members and some of the audience.

Johnson/Gudmunsen **moved** to discuss crew wages and benefits at a closed session meeting on April 9th after the Regular Town Board Meeting in closed session; **motion carried**.

Johnson/Gudmunsen **moved** to approve Chairman Krull to purchase Sodium Chloride for 2015/2016; **motion carried** on a unanimous roll call vote, 3-0.

Chairman Krull presented the current policy for use of Town Property that was established August 12, 2010. He stated that we have had a request from an individual to use the New Town Hall for one day in July for about four hours. Several individuals from the audience asked several questions and some made comments and suggested use of the building. There was a lot of discussion between the people and Board as to why or why not the public should be able to use the building for certain events. Johnson **moved** if someone wants to bring a request to the Town Clerk to use the Town Hall, the clerk then would present to the Chairman to consider to be put on the Agenda with consideration of the policy on file for use of Town Property. Chairman Krull requested a second on the motion. **No response, motion defeated**.

Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting – **April 9, 2015**

Discussion/Approval – Hire Out for Salt/Sand

There being no further business, Gudmunsen/Johnson **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm

Minutes prepared by Melody Jacobs, Town Clerk