

REGULAR EUREKA TOWN BOARD MEETING, May 14, 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, May 14, 2015, at the Town Hall.

Proper notice was given as the agenda was posted in the four designated locations of the old Town Hall, new Town Hall, EdgeTown Tavern, and River Roads Wolf Creek Bar on March 30, 2015. A notice was posted in the Tri-County North Advertiser.

Present by roll call were Chairman Gene Krull, Supervisors Marvin Caspersen and Paul Schneider. Also present Clerk Deb Dibble and Treasurer David Anderson. Others present were Richard Nelson, Jason Odegaard, Carleen Matosky, Tim Knigge, Tryn McCurdy and Steven Jensen.

Chairman Krull stated that during Citizen Comment Time, all public comments need to be relative to the topic and limited to three minutes per person.

Schneider/Caspersen **moved** to approve the agenda; **motion carried.**

Caspersen/Schneider **moved** to approve the amended meeting minutes for April 9, 2015 (Regular Town Board Meeting); **motion carried.**

Schneider/Caspersen **moved** to approve payment of vouchers 15-147 through 15-201 amounting to \$56,018.83; **motion carried** on a unanimous roll call vote, 3-0.

The Clerk reported that she had delivered the application packets for Liquor License renewals to the four establishments. Form GAB 190 and GAB 191 were completed and filed with the state.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Receipts for the period ending April 30, 2015 amounted to \$69,047.06; cash balance on April 30, 2015 was \$257,807.60. The Building Account has been closed and the balance as of April 30, 2015 was \$00.00 and New Equipment Account as of April 30, 2015 was \$22,027.86.

Highway report: The highway crew was not present so Chairman Krull gave the report. On Monday Mike's truck was returned from the repair shop after having the hydraulic system rebuilt. On Wednesday it went back to the shop to repair the one side of the spring had one leaf and the other side had two leaves broken.

Mike has completed the shouldering on 255th; he will work on Otterslide Avenue next.

The numerous beaver dams have caused flooding in areas that may lead to road damage. The town took preventive action and paid trapper Cullen Hanson \$25 for each of the eight beavers he eliminated. Jessie Ashton, the local conservation officer, had given Cullen permission to extend the trapping season. Cullen dismantled one of five dams that had been built by 210th; this lowered the level of Big Lake. This expense will be charged against road maintenance.

Chairman Krull gave the Chairman's report:

Chairman Krull reported that prior to a motion hearing for the 190th Street tire issue, the owners plead guilty. If the property is not cleaned up as ordered, a special assessment can be added to their taxes.

Chairman Krull stated the Town Hall air conditioning will be installed after the final inspection. Spring hinges will be added to the exit doors. Stone facing will be put on the front. The parking lot asphalt will be discussed in the Business part of the meeting.

Chairman Krull reported that he has the Purchase Agreement for the sale of the old Town Hall. The closing date will be towards the end of this month, but no later than June 11th of this year.

Chairman Krull reported that the Board of Review is May 27, 2015.

Citizen Comment Time:

Jason Odegaard commented on the level of the asphalt and possible issues. Chairman Krull stated that fill will be added and 2” of asphalt.

Tryn McCurdy reported on his negative experience with the current town Building Inspector.

Steven Jensen reported that the New Home Cemetery Association meets here next Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 6:30. The public is welcome.

Business:

Chairman Krull read Wisconsin Statutes 60.31 stating every town clerk and treasurer shall execute and file an official bond provided by a surety company under s. 632.17 (2). Rural Mutual Insurance Co. has been contacted. There is a separate bond for the Treasurer during real estate tax collection in November; this has \$250,000.00 in coverage at a cost of \$165.00 per year. Schneider/Caspersen **moved** to provide an Official Bond for the town clerk and town treasurer in the amount to be determined after discussion; **motion carried. Schneider/Caspersen amended the motion** to enact a bond for the Treasurer and the Clerk in the amount of \$75,000 each for a two-year period at a cost of \$195.50 total; **passed by unanimous roll call.** Discussion continued.

Chairman Krull stated that the Annual Road Inspection is due. Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 8:00 am will be the Special Town Board Meeting for the board to inspect the roads listed on the highway employees report.

Chairman Krull stated the two-year contract for the town building inspector expires June 13, 2015. Caspersen/Schneider **moved** to terminate the contract; **motion carried.** Discussion followed.

Caspersen/Schneider **moved** to advertise the open building inspector position for two weeks in the Leader, Ledger and the Advertiser, the ad will be worded as determined by the town Chairman; **motion carried.** Discussion continued.

Chairman Krull stated, At the April meeting a split vote motion was carried to increase our crewmen’s wages by 10%, giving them 5% immediately and the other 5% in the first paycheck of January 2016. Our Attorney stated the board has the right to revise or rescind the increase. Krull/Caspersen **moved** to rescind the 10% wage increase that was awarded at the April 9, 2015 town board meeting and reconsider any merit-based wage increases at their July job reviews.

Under Wisconsin Act 10 (effective June 29, 2011) mandates that employers may not pay, on behalf of a participating employee, the employee-required portion of their respective WRS contribution rate.

Chairman Krull presented the following supporting documentation as rebuttal to the claim that the highway workers have not had a wage increase in four years. Special Town Board Meeting on October 11, 2012 a motion was carried to give the crewman a \$1.00 pay raise starting January 1, 2013. Regular Town Board Meeting on October 10, 2013 a motion was carried to approve an additional \$1,400 be added to each of the crewman’s health plan reimbursement benefits package for the year 2013 only; motion carried on a roll-call vote, 2-0 with Mr. Johnson abstaining. Special Town Board Meeting held November 7, 2013 motion to raise the annual health insurance stipend from \$7,000 to \$8,000; motion carried on a roll-call vote, 2-1 and Mr. Johnson voted against it.

The October 2013 Wages Plus Benefits survey of twelve local Towns shows the Town of Eureka ranks second highest in total compensation paid to crewman. Six towns do not provide any health insurance or compensation. Polk County and Balsam Lake did not give their employees a raise when WI Act 10 was passed. The annual raises for the twelve towns range between 0 - 3%.

Chairman Krull asked for discussion. Paul Schneider commented that Mr. Johnson abstained from the October 2013 motion to give them \$1,400. Chairman Krull replied it was due to Jim’s interpretation that he should not vote because it

included raising the health insurance stipend for his father-in-law. Mr. Johnson voted in opposition to the November 2013 motion giving them an additional \$1,000 towards their health insurance. Discussion continued. **Motion carried on a roll call vote, 2-0 with Supervisor Schneider abstaining.**

Chairman Krull discussed the revisions that need to be made to the town's liability insurance policy that expires on June 15, 2015. When the policy is revised, we can view the new premium and make a decision to continue with Rural Mutual Insurance Co. or defer this and handle it at the June 11th Town Board meeting. Discussion continued.

Schneider/Caspersen **moved** to table the town liability insurance issue until the June 11, 2015 meeting; **motion carried.**

Chairman Krull stated the benefits of having a credit card for the town. He presented an application for the US Bank Community Card, which is specifically for municipalities and/or non-profit organizations. Discussion continued.

Caspersen/Schneider **moved** that the town have a credit card for the Chairman, Clerk and Treasurer through US Bank Community Credit Card with a \$2,500 credit limit; **motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Chairman Krull presented four bids for the paving of the town hall parking lot. Discussion continued. Caspersen/Krull **moved** to accept the bid from Monarch Paving, with the credit for cold patch, at \$7,686.50; **motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.** Discussion continued.

Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting – **June 11, 2015**

Discussion/Approval – Liability insurance policy for the town.

Discussion/Approval – Add Supervisor comments to the meeting.

Discussion/Approval – Present an inventory list of the rolling equipment and a list of properties owned by the town.

There being no further business, Schneider/Caspersen **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Minutes prepared by Deb Dibble, Town Clerk.