

**TOWN OF OSCEOLA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Tuesday October 7, 2014**

MINUTES

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Osceola met for a regular monthly meeting Tuesday October 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Osceola Town Hall, Dresser, Wisconsin.

CHAIRMAN SCHMIDT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Schmidt verified that the meeting agenda had been posted Thursday September 25th at the Town Hall, the Dresser Post Office, Frandsen Bank & Trust and the Town of Osceola Website. A complimentary meeting notice was also sent to The Sun for publication.

Chairman Schmidt led the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Doug Schmidt, Mike Wallis and Dan Burch

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Lorraine Rugroden – Clerk-Treasurer, Julia & Jordan Mederich, Jolene Funk, Robert Funk, Ron Anderson, Steve Stroshane, Angela Popenhagen, Steve Mueller, David Lindahl, Warren Johnson, John Adam, Edwin & Jeanette Eaton, Shirley Cross, Cheryl Johnson, Nelisena Landahl, Richard Hoverman, Brad Landgren and Vicky Rousselow.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS: Check numbers 14133 through 14150 have been approved for payment by all board of supervisors, totaling \$221,307.82.

AGENDA:

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BURCH/WALLIS TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 7, 2014 TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Shirley Cross thanked the Town Board for their hard work on the Summit Road project.

Warren Johnson is thankful for all the good roads in the Town. He said that winter Town roads are good, but county roads are not. He does not think that Polk County is doing their job compared to other counties as far as keeping the roads clean and that the Town Board should write a letter to the Polk County Highway Department asking them to do a better job keeping the roads clean.

He also said that as far a zoning, the town has done a lot of work to write a zoning ordinance and thinks it's a real mistake if the Town relies on the County. He said more local is better.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BURCH/WALLIS TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED BY THE CLERK-TREASURER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

113th Avenue TRID Town Road Improvement Project Update

J & S General Contracting have completed the 113th project through gravel base. Paving and gravel shouldering is left to be done and we are now waiting for Monarch to pave the road. It was reported that people have been moving the Road Closed signs and driving on the road. Angela Popenhagen Stevens Engineer, asked that people do not move the signs and wait until the road has been paved before using it in order to prevent ruts from forming. The Town will be billed for 2,000 cubic yards of rock that was blasted and removed from the hill totaling \$80,000. J & S has moved the rock to their property and will try to sell it in order to recover some of their cost. The project has a 1 year warranty. The Board agreed to pay the second pay request of \$103,779.04.

Resolution 14-08 Summit St. Intergovernmental Maintenance Agreement

The Village of Dresser, at their monthly meeting on October 6, 2014 did approve a maintenance agreement with the Town of Osceola that is effective for the next ten years. The Town of Osceola agrees to maintain the Village of Dresser's portion of Summit Road, known to Polk County Zoning as Summit Street and the Village of Dresser has agreed to pay the Town of Osceola the amount of state aid they receive for their portion of Summit Road.

The Town of Osceola felt it was in the best interest of the residents to keep the road open and worked to that affect. Major replacement of road was removed from the ten year maintenance agreement while agreeing to other maintenance options. The Town of St Croix Falls has previously maintained Dresser's portion of Summit Road for the last ten years. The Town of Osceola still has a maintenance agreement with the Town of St Croix Falls to maintain the Town's portion of Summit Road and will be in contact with the Town of St Croix Falls regarding that agreement.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY WALLIS/BURCH TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 14-08 SUMMIT ROAD INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF DRESSER. ROLL CALL VOTE, BURCH AYE, WALLIS AYE, SCHMIDT AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Members of the audience thanked the Board for keeping the road open.

248th Street Railroad Crossing

The Board heard comments and historical information regarding the railroad crossing at 248th Street. Jolene Funk stated that her son Robb Funk was a passenger in a car that was hit by a train 10 years ago at the 248th street railroad crossing. At that time they tried to get warning lights installed because "it is such a difficult crossing", but nothing

came of it. Since then there have been no recorded accidents but she says that will come to an end and she hopes it's not her family or someone else's. She asked if some of the brush could be cut down.

Steve Stroshane, past Town Chairman said that after the accident ten years ago, they corresponded with state representatives and the railroad to get warning lights installed but it was determined that there was not enough train traffic to justify the warning lights at the railroad crossing. He said that warning signals were installed at the 240th Street railroad crossing because of the bypass that was going to be routed on 240th Street but never happened.

Jordan Mederich stated that this is a significantly overdue project and is pushing for the Board to install warning lights at the 248th Street railroad crossing after having had a close call with an oncoming train. He said that former Assemblyman Mark Pettis agrees that it should be done. After some research Jordan found that the Town would need to pass a resolution and write a letter to state representatives in order to begin the process of requesting warning lights to be installed. Jordan stated that no one argues that we need it and that it should take less than four months. He also said that he is willing to help.

Nelisena Landahl reiterated that she came before the Town Board a little over a year ago asking for the Town to put up a stop sign in order to make the 248th Street crossing a little safer. She thought it would be the cheapest option for the Town. The Board did not act on the request due to the low number of accidents.

The Board agreed to write a resolution and bring back to the next Town Board meeting.

Resolution 14-09 Way-Finding Markings on Road Connecting Stower to Gandy Dancer Trail

Plan Commission member Amy Middleton will be continue dialogue with the Village of Dresser in an effort to gain approval for way-finding bicycle markings to be stenciled on roadways leading to the Gandy Dancer and Stower Trails. The Board will act on this agenda item once the Village of Dresser has approved the signage request.

Public Nuisance Properties

The Board discussed public nuisance properties within the Town that have been an ongoing issue over the years. In the past Chairman Schmidt has spoke to a number of residents about cleaning up their yards. Some have made an effort and others haven't. Chairman Schmidt has recently visited a number of owners of properties that the Board considers to be a public nuisance and again the same results.

The Board discussed sending certified letters to those land owners, establishing a timeline for cleaning up. The Board reviewed the process to follow that is outlined in the Town's Public Nuisance Ordinance and will bring a letter back for the Board's approval at the next Town Board meeting.

Resolution 14-10 Call a Special Town Meeting of the Electors to Increase the Levy Limit

The Board discussed whether to approve a resolution that would ask the Town Electors for a levy increase above the levy limit to help pay for additional expense that was incurred when rock was encountered and needed to be excavated in order to complete the 113th Avenue TRID project. Final cost of this project is not yet known but the Board needs to decide if they will ask for an increase in the levy so that proper notice can be given prior to the November 11, 2014 Special Town Meeting.

The Board agreed to ask the Town Electors to raise the 2014 levy.

MOVED, SECONDED BY BUCH/WALLIS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 14-10 TO CALL A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORATE TO INCREASE THE LEVY LIMIT. ROLL CALL VOTE, BURCH AYE, WALLIS AYE, SCHMIDT AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2014 Road Work

Fahrner and Scott Construction have completed seal coat projects for 2014. The Town is still waiting for centerline striping to be completed.

PLAN COMMISSION REPORT:

- There was no October Plan Commission meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

- The Mower is fixed. Aggressive cutting has been done in the road right of ways.
- Tires on the mowing tractor need to be replaced.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Waiting to hear if an Animal Control Officer has been hired by neighboring municipalities.
- The date and time of the Budget Public Hearing and Special Town Meeting of the Electors will be November 11, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Mike Wallis

Supervisor Dan Burch

- Ambulance Board meeting was September 18, 2014.
- Long time Board member Parnell Tracy passed away.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Lorraine Rugroden reported that as of September 30, 2014 bank account balances were \$6,285.36 in the Town's checking account and \$395,225.24 in the Regular

Money Market Account and C/D's and \$160,660.92 in the tax deposit account, amounting to total Cash-on-hand of \$562,171.52.

The November 4, 2014 Town Board meeting will be rescheduled due to the General Election being the same day.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Special Town Board Meeting, Wednesday, October 8, 2014 4:30 p.m. Budget Workshop

Budget Public Hearing, Tuesday, November 11, 2014 6:30 p.m.

Special Town Meeting, Tuesday, November 11, 2014 following Budget Public Hearing

Town Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 11, 2014 7:00 p.m. or following Special Town Meeting

DOG Fire Association Quarterly Meeting, Thursday, October 16, 2014 7:00 p.m. at Wanderoos

Town Board Meeting Agenda:

- 113th Street Road Construction
- 2014 Road Work
- Public Nuisance Houses
- Resolution for 248th Street Railroad Crossing

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED, SECONDED BY BURCH/WALLIS TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 7, 2014 TOWN BOARD MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

APPROVED: 11/11/2014

Lorraine Rugroden, Clerk/Treasurer