

**TOWN OF OSCEOLA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

MINUTES

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Osceola met for a Special Town Board Meeting Wednesday, November 20, 2019, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Osceola Town Hall, Dresser, Wisconsin.

Town Board Chair Doug Schmidt **CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER** at 6:50 p.m.

Notice of the Special Meeting was posted Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at the Town Hall, the Dresser Post Office, First National Community Bank and the website.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Doug Schmidt and Mike Wallis. Brandon Whittaker attended by telephone.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public who did not sign in.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Warren Johnson expressed concern that the Board is allowing outside influences to speak and take up public comment to intimidate and infuriate our Township residents just isn't right. He went on to say that "we need to protect our own". The recent budget issues are a direct result of what has been going on recently. He believes the Town has a leadership problem, yet we need to move forward. We are all neighbors at the end of the day. Our opinions do matter.

Tom Magnafici explained his issues with the Town: the condition of the properties in the Nye area, the CAFO letters to the editor that included his wife, the comments made when he volunteered to help with the Clerk's work, and the comment made when he wanted to add to the agenda at the Town Meeting. He urged the Board to get along; he only wants what is fair and what is best for the Town.

Jim Berg is upset with how the board handled the trail system issue. 50% of people attending the Planning Commission meetings supported the motorized trail, but feels that they were ignored. This is a County problem now, and the Town should remain neutral now.

Mark Sjorven encouraged the Board to take public comment regarding how the Board can reduce the proposed 2020 budget by 7.5%.

Jon Cronick stated he senses the division going on in the Town, and encouraged everyone to work through it. He is a lifelong resident of the Town who farms. The 7.5% reduction is harsh, and is no doubt a result of the split in the community. He encouraged the Board to ask for help or ask questions.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 19-14, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2020 BUDGET

With the 7.5% decrease in the proposed 2019 levy approved at the Special Town Meeting, the Board met once again to consider the adoption of the proposed 2020 budget. The Board looked at reducing the \$558,174.00 2018 levy to \$516,310.95. *[the Board was incorrect in that the levy of \$558,174.00 must be reduced, the actual number to be reduced is the proposed 2019 levy of \$634,211.00. The final levy remains to be \$516,310.95; however, the actual budget amount to be reduced is \$117,900.05, not \$41,863.05.]*

Agreed by the Board was to reduce the wages for the Clerk and Treasurer positions to \$35,000.00, with additional reduction in the payroll overhead costs. Also agreed was to add the \$21,238.00 in the TRIP grant the Town will receive to the proposed revenues.

There was discussion regarding the cost of living increase for the Public Works employee, whether there should be a wage freeze at this time. Board members agreed that raises are not guaranteed, with the Chair disagreeing because he is deserving of a raise due to his loyalty and hard work. Whittaker suggested there are ways of giving raises without including money. Wallis agreed to explore options between the two. The Town budget requires serious consideration of both options.

Whittaker suggested that perhaps the Board needs to consider donating a portion of their annual pay to meet the budget for the pay raise for the Public Works employee. Wallis agreed, that the Board could consider donating from their salaries a total of \$3,000.00 (\$1,000.00 each) to be used for the budget for employee wages in 2020.

The Interim Clerk/Treasurer will update the spreadsheet and the Board will review the final numbers at the December 3, 2019 Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY WALLIS/WHITTAKER TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD THIS 20TH OF NOVEMBER, 2019. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Jo Everson, Interim Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED: 12/03/2019