

**DRAFT**

Town Board Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2018

Chairman Rolly Bogert called the Town Board Meeting to order on Tuesday February 13, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Town of Onalaska, Town Hall, N5589 Commerce Street. Present were Chairman Rolly Bogert, Supervisors, Jerry Monti, Stan Hauser, Sandy Thompson and Frank Fogel. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Supervisor Fogel; seconded by Supervisor Monti to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Fogel to approve the minutes of January 9, 2018 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Presentation by Ron Chamberlain, La Crosse County Highway Commissioner regarding bridge inspections as relating to the Town of Onalaska:** The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Department of Structures lowered the bridge rating on 9 bridges throughout La Crosse County. The Knudson Road bridge in the Town of Onalaska was one of those bridges. Upon receiving the notification from the DOT in December 2017 the signage was changed to reflect the lowered ratings. La Crosse County Highway Department has received quotes from Jewell Associates of Spring Green Wisconsin for evaluation by a structural engineer to see what needs to be done to have the bridge rating upgraded. The Town can either use Jewell or can use a structural engineer of the Town's choosing.

**Discussion and possible action regarding bridge inspections as relating to the Town of Onalaska:** Motion by Supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to go with the County and use Jewell Associates for the structural engineer evaluation for the Knudson Road bridge. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Hauser to approve the bills and finance book passed unanimously.

**Discussion on Refunds of Tax overpayments for 2017 taxes:** Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Fogel to approve the refund of overpayments greater than two dollars (\$2.00). Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Raymond Lee, N6964 Knudson Road spoke in regards to the down grading of the Knudson Road bridge rating. Lee offered history of the bridge and has concerns for farming equipment weight being heavier than the posted allowable amount.

Scott Erdman, N6962 Knudson Road spoke with concerns regarding the reduction of the bridge rating as it relates to a building project he has permitted and scheduled for 2018.

Al Niebuhr contractor for Scott Erdman has concern for the weight restriction as it relates to delivery of building materials. Niebuhr pointed out that certain materials can be off loaded before the bridge and moved in smaller quantities to the site of construction; however materials like concrete offloading would not be a viable option.

Josh Neumann W6441 Hossfeld Road had concerns for the bridge as he has future plans of building a new residence that would require materials to be delivered using the Knudson Road bridge.

Ton Lyons W6428 Hossfeld Road addresses the board with concerns of public safety with the weight restrictions of the Knudson Road. Lyons concern focused on fire truck access to the residences beyond the bridge.

**County Board Report:** None

**Shop Report:** Hank Fogel, shop employee reported the chipping of the brush pile is progressing. Maintenance of vehicles continues with focus on greasing of all equipment, repairs have been done as needed throughout the winter. Supervisor Thompson indicated she has had residents contact her in reference to when the roads on Brice Prairie are plowed. Fogel reported the hills and areas where school busses have difficulty are the first plowed. The shop crew has assumed hall cleaning as opposed to contracting a cleaning service. The clerk reported tenants of hall rental offices are pleased and have complimented job the cleaning people have been doing.

**Discussion on purchase of repair parts for trucks #10 and #22; including but not limited to fuel tank and accessories for truck #22, and conveyor chain and accessories for truck #10:** Motion by Supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to purchase the repair parts needed for the repairs on trucks 10 and 22. Motion passed 4-1 (Bogert). The price quotes for a new tank ranged from \$2,357.48 to \$3,316.29. Supervisor Hauser offered the possible option of purchasing a used aluminum tank for the truck at a cost expected to be \$500 to \$700, Hauser offered to travel to Thompson Motors in Wykoff, MN on February 14, 2018 to check see an aluminum tank is available, inspect the tank and bring it back to the shop if he finds an acceptable aluminum tank. Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Hauser to not complete the purchase until we have a price and of an acceptable tank from Thompson Motors in Wykoff, MN. Motion passed 3-2 (Bogert, Monti).

**Discussion on increasing spending authority for vehicle maintenance:** Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Hauser to grant \$1,000 per month to the Vice Chair to be used in conjunction to the \$1,000 authority of the Chairman for Vehicle Maintenance in an emergency. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on appointment of Hank Fogel as Shop Lead employee and pay rate adjustment of \$1.00 per hour compensation for additional duty:** Motion by Supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Monti to appoint Hank Fogel as shop lead with a pay rate adjustment of \$1.00 per hour. Motion passed 4-0 (Fogel abstained).

**Discussion on reimbursement of shop employee(s) to carry town cell phone:** Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Monti to open the floor. Hank Fogel of the town crew advised it is impossible to have a night/day away when only one person has the on call phone. Motion to close the floor by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Monti, passed unanimously. Motion to reimburse both Hank Fogel and Ed Haines \$50 per month each for carrying of town phones after hours at total cost of \$100 per month made by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Hauser. Motion passed 4-0 (Fogel abstained).

**Holmen Area Fire Board Report:** Supervisor Hauser reported the call distribution split remains consistent between the three municipalities with the Village of Holmen having the highest percentage of

calls. Chairman Bogert reported long time Fire Fighter and Assistant Fire Chief Bill Bulawa will be retiring in the spring of 2018. Supervisor Fogel informed that either a temporary electrical line can be ran to the irrigation well on Brice Prairie, or wait for the frost to clear in spring and the permanent electric line to be ran. Fogel will check on the cost of a temporary line.

**Discussion on approval of developer's agreement between the Town and Jon Zabel:** Motion by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Fogel to approve the agreement as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on Schaller Lake Park road installation proposal:** Motion by supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to accept the park road installation proposal for \$4,114.50 from Class A Trades, LLC pending signing of the developers agreement with Jon Zabel. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on realtor listing engagement in regards to leasing of Town owned properties:** Motion to approve by Supervisor Mont; seconded by Supervisor Hauser passed 4-1 (Thompson).

Discussion on recommendation to La Crosse County regarding La Crosse County ordinance changes relating to chickens: Clerk will remind La Crosse County of the resolution previously passed in support of allowing backyard chickens in plotted subdivisions. No action.

**Discussion to Amend Chapter 10 Buildings and Building Regulations, Article II. Building Codes And Regulations, Section 10-55 Entitled Zoning Restrictions of the Code of the Town of Onalaska to clarify the types of accesses required for a lot to be eligible for a building permit:** Motion to approve by Supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on new operator license application(s):** Motion by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to approve as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on appointment to Bike/ Pedestrian Safety Committee for Brice Prairie:** Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Fogel to approve nomination of Brian Tippetts, Jim Nissen, David DeBoer, Scott Cooper, Jolene Huiss, and Vicki Burke and Jerry Monti to the committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on design and development of town website: Motion to approve the govoffice proposal for website design, creation, development and support and enter into the three year agreement made by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Monti. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on office carpet replacement:** Motion by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to approve carpet replacement at cost of \$665.00. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Items from the Park Committee**

**Discussion on shelter rates for 2018:** Motion by Supervisor Hauser; seconded by Supervisor Thompson to accept committee recommendation of \$50 resident fee and \$100 nonresident fee for enclosed shelters (Swarthout and Marvin Gardens); and to allow open shelter to be reserved at a fee of \$25 for residents and \$50 for nonresidents. Motion passed unanimously.

**Items from the Storm Water Utility**

**Discussion on Storm Water Budget amendment 2018-01-06SW:** Motion to approve as per committee recommendation by Supervisor Monti; seconded by Supervisor Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on culvert At W4958 Sweden Coulee Road:** No action.

**Discussion on proposal for culvert locating and grading throughout the entire Town:** No action.

**Discussion on clearing of filled-in ditches throughout the entire Town:** Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Monti to begin clearing known problem ditches and culverts throughout the town as recommended by the Storm Water Utility. Motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence:** Town of Holland notification of Public Hearing to change the Town of Holland Comprehensive Plan Amendment.

Motion by Supervisor Thompson; seconded by Supervisor Monti to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Rinehart, Town Clerk.