

2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at the Rockland Town Hall
Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

The Clerk, Treasurer and all Board members were present together with Bob Gerbers, 7 additional electors, Steve Pischke of Morrison Fire Department. Chairman Cashman verified with Clerk Koenig that the meeting was properly noticed; the agenda was presented by Chairman Cashman after the pledge of allegiance was recited.

4), 5) Prior Minute Approvals

Clerk Koenig provided copies of the minutes from the April 20, 2021, Annual Town Meeting. M/M by Supervisor Lasee, 2259 Lasee Road to dispense with the reading of the minutes, seconded by Steve Gander 5584 CTH W. Motion carried and the Electors reviewed the printed copies of the minutes. M/M by Steve Gander 5584 CTH W to approve the minutes as written, 2nd by Glen Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver. Motion carried by voice vote, no nays.

Clerk Koenig provided a copy of the minutes from the November 15, 2021, Special Elector Meeting.

M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road, to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Terry Vertz 4312 CTH PP. Motion carried by voice vote, 0 nay.

6) Set Date for 2023 Annual Meeting

A recommendation was made to hold the annual meeting at the same time next year, that being Tuesday, April 18th, 2023. M/M by Terry Vertz, 4312 County Highway PP, to hold the 2023 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.; seconded by Glen Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver. Motion carried by voice vote, 0 nay.

7) Approval of 2021 Annual Report

Chairman Cashman presented last year's report, going over the report page by page. Copies were also made available to the electors for their review, and the Clerk scrolled on the TV for the audience to see. The value of all liquid assets is shown as \$433,364.34 and the value of current liabilities totals \$199,806.47, reflecting the balance due from the work on Hickory Ridge, the unspent ARPA funds, and the home security deposits being held. The General Fund beginning balance on January 1, 2021, was \$99,010.16. The General Fund ending balance as of 12/31/2021 was \$210,206.45. The Income & Disbursement Summary shows \$2,977,248.44 in total income, much of which is in and out (taxes collected for educational and county taxes.) Chairman Cashman went through the report page by page for questions. He reviewed the highlights of the 2021 expenditures including the income disbursements. In addition, the Statements of Taxes and the check register were reviewed.

\$2,866,052.15 of disbursements were made in 2021. Five new homes were issued building permits in 2021, which is below average, however there were many property improvement permits issued for remodel, sheds, or other enhancements. Levy population figures: 1,860 residents. M/M by Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH W, to accept the 2021 Annual Report as written and presented, 2nd by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W. Motion carried by voice vote, 0 nay.

8) Bridge Fund Contribution

Chairman Cashman indicated that all the Rockland bridges were inspected in 2020 and will need to be reinspected this fall. This past year the wing walls were replaced on the Ryan Road bridge. In the next calendar year, the Midway Road bridge deck will be sealed and the guardrail posts will be replaced since they are rotting. A question was asked regarding what it would cost if a bridge failed and needed to be rebuilt. The question wasn't immediately answered, but the current ratings were shared noting that replacement doesn't usually happen until about the 50% mark. These are the most recent ratings: Midway 89.3, Old Martin 98.1, Ryan Road 72.3 and Wrightstown Road 91.8. There will be 2-3 culverts replaced this year, and Brown County matches dollar for dollar. Last year, the electors approved \$30,000 for the bridge fund. Chairman Cashman suggested that amount would be appreciated for 2022.

M/M by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W to put \$30,000 into the bridge fund for future projects. Second by Glen Schwalbach 1090 Moonriver. Motion carried by hand vote 13 aye, 0 nay.

9) Broadband

Clerk Koenig reviewed the history of the town's efforts from the survey, actions on behalf of Brown County, to recent grant support letters. Whenever larger groups work together, the project looks more favorable. Brown County plans to run fiberoptics down the Fox River trail to reach the 911 towers and to provide access to the BC Landfill in Holland. There will be hubs that could be used to connect residential service to that fiberoptic broadband line. The Town of Morrison, along with Brown County, has submitted a grant request from the Public Service Commission to install \$100,000,000 worth of 5G towers across southern Brown County. Rockland has drafted a letter of support to that and has pledged some ARPA funds to that effort. The grants haven't really been granted in this part of the state in the last 2 years, so it's possible we could see something positive happen soon. US Cellular would be the 5G partner. The recipients will be announced the end of June.

10) Garbage / Recycling report

Treasurer Van Dyck presented a summary of the garbage and recycling activity. The Town had 159.72 tons of recyclables in 2021, which comes to 82.4 lbs per person. A grant was received again for 2022, but the amount has not yet been released. This was used to offset recycling collection expenses. The Rockland Recycle Day took place last weekend; the results are still forthcoming. It was well attended. Thank you to all who brought items and to all who helped at the event. Mary said the 4-H is still collecting shoes until April 25th. The shoes will be reconditioned and sold for money in poor countries.

Rockland Clean up day is this coming Saturday. Please take time to clean up around your residence and down local roads near your homes. On a related note, please watch the weather when you put your cans out as high winds can topple them and cause a mess. Also snow plows have to work around your cans. Please put them out as close to pick up time as possible. Also no building material, no oil and no tvs in the garbage bins. No bags in the recycle bins.

11) Chairman's Report

Town roads will be inspected at the end of the month. Chip seal and gravels bids were received and accepted earlier this month. Gravel stayed at same rate, while the chip seal prices increased by \$4375/mile and wedging increased by \$16/ton. There are approximately 45 miles in the town, and \$171,000 in the budget. There never seems to be enough money, but we do the best we can with what we have. Two culverts on Midway Road were replaced last year. The town is working with TetraTech to do the engineering for the Midway Road reconstruction from State Hwy 57 to CTH PP. A grant was received 3 years ago; the state will pay 70% and the town is responsible for 30%. The project will go out for bid in May. The road will be ground up, and 4 inches of asphalt put down, 22 feet wide, with 2' or 18" shoulders as permitted. Hopefully work can start in beginning of August. This summer we also hope

to seal the deck on the Midway Road bridge as well as to replace the guardrail posts as they are rotting out.

CTH ZZ finishes this year and will be fully completed this fall. The county is also working on repaving CTH W from CTH PP to OO. They are reworking an intersection at CTH W and Ledge Crest to make it safer and to help water flow. CTH W will be the first blacktop of the season.

Wisconsin Local Roads Improvement Program has also provided a grant to Rockland to work on Ryan Road from Old Martin to Midway Road with new chip seal, which will happen in 2023.

There has been a large die off of ash trees in the community and it seems that there will be a large amount to be removed. It will be expensive, so it will happen over an extended period of time. The road tour will take place a week from Friday. No major spring breakups were reported. Weight limits came off on Monday this week.

Last Friday, Dennis, Bob, Jessie Jossart and Jeff Pischke met at the Jossarts development to discuss the dry hydrant. The hydrant will go in the pond closest to the road. A large parking pad will be installed to accommodate an engine and two tender trucks for loading. The pad will be approximately 50 feet long and 35 feet wide. Trucks will pull into the driveway to fill. Jossarts will do the earthwork, provide the hydrant and fill, the town will provide up to \$2,000 for gravel and Morrison Fire Department will care for it.

Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W, asked about the cost differential between chip seal and blacktop. He indicated that the Fox River Trail is likely to be repaved to 10' wide by the City of Green Bay, at a rate of \$175,000 a mile. Our rate for a chip sealed mile is \$27,360.

12) Announcements

The Morrison Fire Department didn't have a formal presentation, but Steve and Alex Pischke, Captains of the fire department were present. A new process has been put in place this year related to brush pile burning. Often times the piles include things that cannot or should not be burned. The Morrison FD is asking folks to give them a courtesy call a week ahead of time so they can preview the pile and pull off items not permitted. The Morrison Fire Department is first responder to all properties east of CTH PP, Greenleaf Fire Department takes all properties west of CTH PP; but work cooperatively on everything. Morrison FD has 29 active members but are always looking for recruits. This season, they are upgrading their tankers to dump water significantly faster. Morrison FD will be using a house on CTH W for practice this summer. The house will eventually be burned down – again for the practice. The Morrison FD fundraiser will be at Van Abels on the 30th of April. There are a few tickets left. More information can be found on their Facebook page. Greenleaf FD is celebrating their 100 year anniversary on a Saturday this year. It will start at 11:00 am and run through the day and into the evening, featuring two different bands and culminating in fireworks.

The Rockland Rummage sale and Rockland Clean Up Day will be held next weekend.

Chairman Cashman expressed gratitude to the Planning Commission, the Board of Appeals, and the Election Inspectors. He thanked Bob Gerbers as Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector. Bob is the guy who is often called in to offer advice or to enforce the code book. He is always helping out in some

capacity. Chairman Cashman also thanked the Town Board, the Clerk and the Treasurer. He thanked both fire departments for covering the town.

Supervisor Lasee visited the open house at the Brown County South Landfill. He indicated that it is an impressive facility that is expected to last 35 years. With the increase in recycling, the amount going to the landfill has been diminishing. The complex covers 1200 acres. It is a 35' hole in the ground, the bottom is covered in plastic. The leachate is drawn out every day and taken to GB Met to clean before it is released into the Fox River. The top surface is made of the foam and material from cars that cannot be recycled; it is ground up and used to cover the landfill. They want to hire a mechanic to work onsite at this facility. Tipping fees are \$52/ton.

Supervisor Meeuwsen thanked Chairman Cashman for the amount of work he puts in. If people really knew how much time he devotes to town business, they'd be impressed. Thank you to the folks at Greenleaf Bank for the beverages and snacks.

13) Other public comment

Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road has an idea regarding the East River Watershed. Land downstream has been filled and developed creating a bottleneck which has been causing flooding upstream in Rockland and other areas. Bob shared that Hobart wanted to fill wetlands adjacent to a development, and the DNR agreed with the caveat that Hobart purchase some land in Vilas County and give it to the DNR. Bob thinks that all the Town boards should write letters to the DNR and ask them to enforce the communities that insist on developing flood lands to adopt one mile of the East River upstream. It shouldn't be the case that if you pay enough, you can fill in anything you like. Also worth noting, the Town of Ledgeview has a \$45 storm water fee on every parcel. Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W, stated that in his 24 years of being on top of the ledge, he has more water than he's ever had before. Glen Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Drive suggested that the Planning & Zoning Committee look into it more and create action steps.

Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP, asked about the dead trees along Lasee Road, just east of Hwy 57. The trees appear to be cottonwood and will have to come down eventually as well.

Adjournment

M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road to adjourn; Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W 2nd. Motion carried by voice vote. Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

All minutes have been taken truthfully and honestly and to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Julie Koenig
Town Clerk

Minutes approved as written / with corrections (**strike one**) by the Town Electors on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Town Elector _____

Town Elector _____

DRAFT