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Dennis Cashman – Chairman
Julie Koenig - Clerk

2023 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at the Rockland Town Hall
Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned at 8:21

The Clerk, Treasurer and all Board members were present, together with Bob Gerbers, Terry and Mary Vertz, Steve Gander, Mike Seiler, Wayne Carter and Glen Schwalbach all of Rockland, and John Brittnacher and Mark DeCleene of the Greenleaf Volunteer 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.

8) Fire Department Report

Out of courtesy to the Fire Department, Chairman Cashman recommended they be moved to the start of the agenda and allow them to leave early. Mark DeCleene spoke first and updated the audience on the Confined Spaces training that was accomplished for the BC Digester, among other places. Each firefighter was required to put in 40 hours of training. The fire department also acquired a trailer in which they can haul all the equipment needed for confined spaces and ice rescue events. The trailer was donated. The fire fighters will each also need to complete eight hours of training each year to maintain their confined spaces certification.

John Brittnacher, Business Manager of the Fire Department, made a presentation on Extrication Equipment. He showed the old equipment and the ability of the new equipment to outwork the old equipment, and on a battery pack. This allows for much quicker use of the tools and stronger tools to cut through the stronger metals being incorporated into vehicles built today. The whole package of tools costs about \$30,000 and runs on 18 V. rechargeable batteries.

4), 5) Prior Minute Approvals

Clerk Koenig provided copies of the minutes from the April 19, 2022 Annual Town Meeting. Chairman Cashman asked everyone to take a few minutes to read and review the minutes, and then asked for approval. It was noted that at the bottom of page 1, an address for Terry Vertz incorrectly referenced as CTH W, should be changed to CTH PP. M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road to approve the minutes with the accepted correction on page one. Seconded by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W. Motion carried 11 – 0.

Clerk Koenig provided copies of the minutes from the November 15, 2022 Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Chairman Cashman asked everyone to take a few minutes to read and review the minutes, and then asked for approval. M/M by Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP to approve the minutes from the November 15th 2022 Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Seconded by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road. Motion carried 11 – 0.

6) Set date for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

The state has set aside Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 for the Annual Town Meetings. This date was agreeable. M/M by Steve Gander to hold the 2024 Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 16th 2024. Seconded by Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP. Motion carried 11-0

7) Approval of the Annual Report

The Clerk put the annual report up on the TV screen and asked the members to follow along, as Chairman Cashman walked folks through the report. The value of all liquid assets is shown as \$1,398,136.05 and the value of all current liabilities total \$761,410.96. These liabilities include the money borrowed for Midway Road, the ARPA funds, new home security deposits and the last of the Hickory Ridge loan. Total disbursements made in 2022 were \$3,508,864.51. Four new homes were built in Rockland in 2022. There were many property improvements however. Levy population figures – now adjusted due to the recent US Census are 1,779. Levy

has been keep stable at 2.75/\$1000 valuation. M/M by Steve Gander to approve the Rockland Annual Report as presented. Seconded by Wayne Carter, 3413 CTH PP. Motion carried 11-0.

9) Bridge Fund Contribution

Chairman Cashman indicated that all the Rockland bridges were inspected in 2022 and will be reinspected in the fall of 2024. These are the most recent ratings: Midway 89.3, Old Martin 98.1, Ryan Road 62.3 and Wrightstown Road 91.8. It was recommended that the Ryan Road bridge girders be painted. The question is how much more life will be gained if that happens. Federal money for bridge replacement is available but won't apply to anything over the 50% mark. It could be very expensive to get the bridge prepared and painted and the question is whether it is worth it. Chairman Cashman will continue to investigate and ask questions. 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 20233. 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 11-0.

10) Garbage report

Mary said it was a good year; that residents are doing a good job putting the garbage out in time or just in time when there is bad weather. Wind can toss cans around or flip the lids, and it's important to keep them out of the way of snow plows after a snowfall. She reminded residents to not put plastic bags in the recycle or recycle items in plastic bags. She has applied for a recycling grant from the state and was awarded it once again, but the amount is currently unknown. Last year, Rockland residents recycled 129 ton of materials which equates to 145 pounds per person. Rockland Recycling Day was just this past Saturday and it was a very good turnout with excellent weather. Last year 7.5 ton was collected and it is estimated to be similar this year. Vehicle count was 208 and 213 pair of shoes were collected to be reconditioned and sent overseas. Norsecc was the recycler and made a donation to the 4-H for the extra help from the club.

11) Chairman's Report

- Dennis started by thanking all the folks who make the local government of Rockland work. He thanked Planning & Zoning, Board of Appeals, poll workers, Bob Taicher who will retire this year, and Bob Gerbers for all the extra stuff he does for Rockland. Supervisor Meeuwssen also thanked Chairman Cashman for the extra work he does. Chairman Cashman deferred and said the board is a very good board that works well together.
- He provided a recap of the Midway Road project: two miles of road was blacktopped and shoulders put in between CTH PP and State Hwy 57. A grant provided 70% of the funding and the remainder from the budget. A loan was secured to assist in the payment for timing purposes, and that has now been 100% paid off. Hickory Ridge also paid off in full.
- At the end of the month, the town's road tour will take place. The supervisors will inspect all the road surfaces, taking care to find areas that need to be improved immediately, vs those that might wait a little bit. They will look for potholes, wedging opportunities and culvert work. Street signs will also be looked over and upgraded where necessary.
- In late fall, a dry hydrant was installed on CTH W at the Jossart development pond. It was used already to fight a fire where they took 27 loads of water for the Zirbel barn fire. The Morrison Fire Department will maintain it. Wayne Carter, 3413 CTH PP, inquired whether the truck space around it would be paved since he is the one that needs to remove snow in the winter. Chairman Cashman responded that yes, that is the plan. The town will put \$2,000 toward getting that paved. Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP asked about whether it will have hashmarks across it and no parking signs and was told that it would.
- The roof at the town hall was not hail damaged but is 22 years old and due for replacement. Another bid will be obtained and a plan will be made to have it replaced. The town hall lights should also be upgraded as many are burned out and 22 years old.

12) Announcements

Rockland clean up day is this coming Saturday. If anyone comes across tires, please let Dennis know. Glen said he has 6. Rummage sale day is the 29th. Open Book is Wednesday, April 26th from 1-3 pm. Board of Review is Tuesday, May 9th from 6-8 pm. Bob asked if there could be an opportunity to move two small parcels from Ledgeview into Rockland since they are owned by Rockland residents and cannot receive services because of their locations. The conversation will start, but it could be difficult. Bob suggested that Rockland join with neighbors to start to work together on common concerns regarding development. Glen Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver, shared that he attended the Capital Days, sponsored by Wisconsin Towns Association and they are working to assist towns with the annexation, but didn't get everything they were working on. They will continue to fight for the towns.

13) Public Comment

Rockland will reach out to Ledgeview, Lawrence, Town of Green Bay and Town of Scott to find out what their agreements look like and will see whether we're being treated fairly.

Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W inquired about the dogs that were chasing chickens and wondered if that was resolved. Yes, the dogs and owners moved out of town.

Glen Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver stated that WPS has incentives that contain rebates for local government lighting upgrades. Chairman Cashman thanked Bob Fandry and Greenleaf Bank for the refreshments and snacks tonight.

14) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road at 8:21 pm. Seconded by Steve Gander 5584 CTH W. Motion carried 11-0.

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 16th, 2024.

Town Elector _____

Town Elector _____