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Dennis Cashman – Chairman
Julie Koenig - Clerk

2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at the Rockland Town Hall
Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned at 8:01

The Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Treasurer and all Board members were present, together with Bob Gerbers, Terry and Mary Vertz, Steve Gander, Joe Daul, Wayne Carter and Glen Schwalbach all of Rockland, and Jerry Renon 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.

4), 5) Prior Minute Approvals

Clerk Koenig provided copies of the minutes from the April 18, 2023 Annual Town Meeting. Chairman Cashman asked everyone to take a few minutes to read and review the minutes, and then asked for approval. There were no changes recommended. M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2023 Annual Meeting. Seconded by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W. Motion carried 11 – 0.

Clerk Koenig provided copies of the minutes from the November 6, 2023 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 6th 2023 Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Seconded by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road. Motion carried 11 – 0.

6) Set date for the 2025 Annual Town Meeting.

The state has set aside Tuesday, April 15th, 2025 for the Annual Town Meeting. This date was agreeable. M/M by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W to hold the 2025 Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025. 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 \$1,518,605.61. The value of all current liabilities is \$9,472.09, which is comprised of new home security deposits. Total disbursements made in 2023 were \$3,487,553.21. Three new homes were built in Rockland in 2023. There were many property improvements, however. Levy population figures are 1,779. Levy has been kept stable at 2.75/\$1000 valuation. M/M by Wayne Carter, 3413 CTH PP to approve the 2023 Rockland Annual Report as presented. Seconded by Joe Daul, 4120 CTH W. Motion carried 11-0.

8) Consider changing town board meeting times from 7:30 to 7:00.

The Clerk and town board members suggested changing the town board meeting times from 7:30 to 7:00 pm starting with the June 1st 2024 town board meeting. M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road to change the town board meeting time from 7:30 to 7:00 pm starting on June 1, 2024. Seconded by Glenn Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Dr. Motion carried 11-0.

9) Bridge Fund Contribution

Chairman Cashman indicated that all the Rockland bridges will be inspected in the fall of 2024. At the time of the last inspection in 2022 the Ryan Road bridge rating was at 60%. Federal money for bridge replacement is available but won't apply to anything over the 50% mark. There will be a large culvert on Solitude Road replaced this year, and a possible need for replacement of two culverts

on Old Martin Road by the old Vander Linden farm. Culverts that are 3 feet or larger are eligible for matching funds bridge funds. Deck sealing on Old Martin Road is in the works. Last year, the electors approved \$30,000 for the bridge fund. Chairman Cashman suggested that amount would be appreciated for 2024. 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 and recycling report

Mary reported that 139.76 tons of recycling material was collected in 2023 from the regular bi-weekly pickup schedule, not including any additional materials that residents brought in for recycling on their own. Electronic Recycling Day was this past Saturday and it was a good turnout with 219 vehicles. Booyah sold out in an hour and a half. In 2023, 16,400 lbs of material was collected. Rockland continues to hold Recycling Days to keep our town's ditches clean and free of garbage. Next year's event will be held on April 12, 2025. Mary reminded residents not to put shredded paper in their recycling bins and instead to bring it to Sonoco/US Paper Mill.

11) Chairman's Report

- The town board members and Scott Construction conducted their road tour last Friday and the roads all look to be in good condition. They attributed that to the lack of frost from this year's mild winter. Scott Construction will have cost of repairs to the town hopefully by the next meeting so the town board members can decide what to prioritize. Wedging and chip seal are each done every other year, on alternating years for best results.
- Chairman Cashman spoke with Wayne Carter about pricing for shoulders on Shirley Road, from CTH PP to CTH W.
- On April 5, 2024 Robert E. Lee submitted an application for the ARIP grant on behalf of the Town of Rockland to improve Shirley Road from CTH W to Morrison Road so that Zirbel Farms can increase hauling. The quote from Robert E. Lee for the project came in around \$600,000, of which the State would pay 90% and the Town would pay 10%. The Town will hear back sometime in May if the application was accepted. There are two rounds of applications, the first to be submitted in April, with \$50 million being allocated and the second later in the year and allocating \$150 million.
- There has been a lot of tree cutting happening in Rockland. There were two spots on Big Valley where trees were hanging over the roads, and another spot where dead ash trees were next to power lines. More trees will be removed this year.
- Bug Tussel will be running underground fiber to parts of Rockland. Bug Tussel has a contract with Brown County and this is part of their project to expand connection to rural areas in Brown County. The fiber will run to communication towers as part of the 911 system and the landfill. Homeowners can choose to connect, and Glenn Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Dr commented that any provider can hook up to the system. The fiber will run along CTH 57, CTH ZZ, River Oaks, Wrightstown Road, Moonriver, and PP to Old Martin Road. The fiber will run along 4.6 miles of town roads.
- Dennis ended his report by thanking all the folks who make the local government of Rockland work. He thanked Planning & Zoning, Board of Appeals, poll workers, Bob Gerbers for all the extra stuff he does for Rockland, the town board members, and the Clerk. He welcomed the Deputy Clerk to the team. Supervisor Meeuwesen 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.

12) Announcements

- Rockland clean-up day is this coming Saturday, April 20. If anyone comes across tires, please let Dennis know. Bob already has cleaned up two trailer loads of garbage from town ditches, and Clerk Julie Koenig collected two garbage bags from the ditches along CTH 57. There is a dumpster available next door to the Town Hall at Fox Shore Disposal.
- Rummage sale day is the 27th. There are ten residences signed up.
- Board of Review is Monday, May 20th.
- Clerk Julie Koenig shared that the Town of Rockland won the Project Vote award for being the best municipality voter turnout in Brown County. 47.7% of Rockland residents voted in the April 2024 election. This award is presented only for the main elections, so the trophy will be kept until November 2024. Clerk Koenig thanked Randy Hanson – Deputy Clerk of Elections for his work to make election day run smoothly and efficiently.
- The Greenleaf Fire Department reported that there has been an engine ordered to be ready in September 2025. This engine will be replacing a 26 year old engine that is in rough shape. They thanked Rockland for doing a good job at letting them know when brush burning will be taking place. ISO Rating stayed the same. The Fire Department will review the ISO report with the town board members and explain how it works as it can be confusing and hard to understand without a thorough explanation. Glenn Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Dr asked if Greenleaf becoming a village would change anything for the fire department, and the answer was no.

13) Public Comment

Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road stated that there should be a shed put up at the Town Hall, as well as the consideration that the town should have a stand-by generator. Being a control center, if there is an emergency such as a tornado that would cause a widespread power outage, a generator would be required to operate the Town Hall command center. If the town were to purchase a generator, a shed for storage would also be needed. A shed would be a beneficial storage space for other items such as signs, posts, pounders, tires, etc. Chairman Cashman indicated there is \$11,400 in the budget for a shed on the Town Hall premises. Bob suggested a 24x36, with a 10 ft. side wall.

Joe Daul, 4120 CTH W asked if Rockland has barricades that the Greenleaf Fire Department would be able to use on occasion. He stated that during the recent power outage, they could not find enough barricades to block dangerous wires laying across town roads and had to use personal vehicles to block the roads. He asked permission to borrow barricades from Rockland for such future events.

Glenn Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Dr, asked about the road tour and the road edges that are broken up and crumbling into ditches. Chairman Cashman indicated the town would do wedging to fix them and that quotes are expected soon.

Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP, stated there are cottonwoods at the end of Lasee Road that are covering ditches and need to be cut. Thank you to Greenleaf Bank, Bob Fandry and Mike Krutz for the refreshments provided at the end of the meeting.

Clerk Koenig reminded residents to fill out the Comprehensive Survey.

M/M by Bob Gerbers, 2625 Bildings Road to grant authority to the Town Board to proceed with a 24'x36' 10ft side wall shed next to the Rockland Town Hall. Seconded by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W. Motion carried 11-0.

M/M by Glenn Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Dr to grant authority to the Town Board to explore options to purchase a generator with the capacity to power Rockland Town Hall. Seconded by Steve Gander, 5584 CTH W. Motion carried 11-0.

14) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Van Dyck, 2185 Deer Point Lane at 8:01 pm. Seconded by Terry Vertz, 4312 CTH PP. Motion carried 11-0.

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

Rachel Graner
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved as written / with corrections (strike one) by the Town Electors on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025.

Town Elector _____

Town Elector _____