

2014 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at the Rockland Town Hall
Called to order at 7:30 p.m.
Adjourned at approximately 9:46 p.m.

The Clerk, Treasurer and all Board members were present together with 19 electors; Joe Daul & John Brittnacher from Greenleaf Fire Department; David Zeamer from Morrison Fire Department; David Krutz, Sr. and Dave Krutz, Jr., from Greanleaf Wayside Bank. Chairman Cashman verified with Clerk Charette that this meeting was properly noticed; the agenda was presented by Chairman Cashman after the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Prior Minute Approvals

Clerk Charette read the minutes from the April 16, 2013, Annual Town Meeting.

M/M by Dave Stubenvoll to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Terry Vertz. Motion carried by 23-0 hand vote.

Clerk Charette read the minutes of the November 18, 2013, Special Town Meeting.

M/M by Bob Gerbers to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Steve Gander. Motion carried by 23-0 by voice vote.

Set Date for 2015 Annual Meeting

M/M by Karen Cashman to hold the 2015 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.; seconded by Randy Hansen. Motion carried by 23-0 by voice vote.

Chairman Cashman asked permission to move the Fire Department Report and Rebuilt Town Website in front of the 2013 Annual Report.

Fire Departments Report

Chairman Cashman introduced Joe Daul and John Brittnacher from Greenleaf Fire Department to the residents. Greenleaf currently has about 40 volunteer firefighters serving its department. John Brittnacher provided a video presentation demonstrating how fighting fires is much different than it was years ago. Brittnacher stress the fact that residents have much less time to escape a fire due to the change in how furnishings and materials are now made. Brittnacher provided advice on how to survive a fire as follows:

Be Safe-

- Install Carbon Monoxide detectors & replace every 7 years
- Install enough smoke detectors & replace them every 10 years
- Properly maintain those detectors
- Have (2) two escape routes
- Practice your escape plan
- Leave immediately when the alarm sounds
- Have a meeting place outside of the home
- Call 911 from outside

Remain outside- Do Not Re-enter

Brittnacher also explained that if you are at a public event, you should locate an alternate escape route.

Randy Hansen mentioned that while conducting research for the FEMA fire sign grant, he discovered that there are now carbon monoxide detectors that last 10 year.

David Zeamer appeared on behalf of the Morrison Fire Department. They have 42 volunteer firefighters currently serving their department.

Chairman Cashman thanked both fire departments for the great job they do in protecting the Town of Rockland.

Rebuilt Town Website

Jeannine Walker, Visioncast Designs, and Clerk Charette walked the residents through the new website. They highlighted certain areas and asked for suggestions or questions.

Karen Cashman asked if the newsletter would be on the site. Charette stated that it was accidentally missed and will be put on. Randy Hansen suggested taking the De Pere Journal off the links page since they are part of the Press Gazette now. A link or listing of Wrightstown Area Spirit will be included. Norman Nance asked when the site would be up and live. Clerk Charette responded that it should be next week sometime.

Approval of 2013 Annual Report

Chairman Cashman asked any residents who have not gotten their dog a license to submit their application for a dog license. He explained that the tag allows the Town to find the owner if the dog gets lost.

Chairman Cashman then presented the Annual Report going over receipts and disbursements page by page.

Cashman broke down the general fund balance of each of the following accounts:

- 1) The 2013 Bridge Fund balance was \$123,831.15. Bonnie Lasee asked if this was the balance for 2012 or 2013. Chairman Cashman explained it was the balance at the end of 2013.
- 2) The Road Escrow balance for the cul-de-sac at Winding Wind if the road was ever extended was \$4,399.17 on December 31, 2013.
- 3) Chairman Cashman explained that the new home security deposit balance is for security deposits collected in case damage is done during the construction process. Its balance as of December 31, 2013, is \$17,299.07.

The total combined value of all liquid resources as of December 31, 2013, is \$354,409.80.

As of December 31, 2013, the outstanding liabilities is \$98,104.61 for the two outstanding road loans.

Chairman Cashman explained that both the Clerk and the Treasurer keep two separate set of books. In March, the Town Board reviews the Clerk and the Treasurer's set of books. If all is good, the Board signs off on the books.

Chairman Cashman reported that ten new homes were built in 2013 and informed the residents that Bob Gerbers is the Zoning Administrator and Building Administrator.

The current population is 1744.

M/M by Randy Hansen to approve the Annual Report as presented; seconded by Dave Stubenvoll.
Motion carried by 23-0 voice vote.

FEMA Fire Sign grant update

Chairman Cashman explained that a Fire Sign Committee, which included Lee Anderson, Bob Coenen, Randy Hansen, Chairman Cashman and Clerk Charette, was created to review the need for fire address signs. He explained that the committee met about 6 times. He further explained that at one point, the Town had fire signs but then went away from them. Chairman Cashman explained that many surrounding municipalities have fire address signs. He showed the residents three different proposed fire address signs: 1) red/white; 2) yellow/black; 3) black/yellow.

He then reported that the Town recently submitted a grant application to FEMA for two separate projects: 1) is for the fire address signs and installation; 2) for smoke protectors and CO detectors. The total grant requested is for \$125,929 of which the Town would be required to match 5% of it. Chairman Cashman expressed that the Town received support from the surrounding fire departments, County Rescue, and the Brown County Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Cashman explained that FEMA could approve one, both or none of the projects. Norman Nance asked when the Town could expect approval. Randy Hansen explained that it could be anytime between May 15th and August 31st and that if awarded the Town has up to a year to use the funds. The Town hopes to hear soon so that the fire address signs could be installed while it is still warm out. As to the color of the signs, Hansen noted that both colors on the red/white sign are highly reflective making it difficult to see when the light is shone on it.

Tyler Stelzer asked about the Town's share of the project. Randy Hansen explained that the Town's share would be 5% of the total project approved. Chairman Cashman explained that the Town does have a capital improvement account that could fund the cost of the fire address signs if the grant is not approved.

Jamie Zeamer asked where the signs would need to be placed. Chairman Cashman explained that the signs will be placed uniformly in the public right of way. Cashman did note that this issue will be discussed at a later date and that exceptions may need to be made due to the location of the driveway on some properties.

Randy Hansen explained that this grant also requests funds for smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. If the grant is awarded to Rockland, one of each detector would be provided to each household. Hansen stated that the committee is looking at the newer models that last for 10 years.

Greg Binsfield asked whether these would be disbursed to households that only need them. Randy Hansen said that they would be provided for free to all households and installed for free as well.

Chairman Cashman thanked Randy Hansen and Clerk Charette for their effort in drafting and submitting the FEMA grant application.

Bridge Petition: Discussion regarding 2014 contribution

Chairman Cashman explained that as of December 31, 2013, there is \$123, 831.15 in the Bridge Fund account. The Town has 4 bridges located within it. The worst is Ryan Bridge which is at 75%. Chairman Cashman explained that when a bridge gets to 50% it needs to be replaced. Chairman Cashman explained that the Brown County Highway Department is changing its policy on contributing money to the Bridge Fund account. He expressed that they are now requiring the Town to make a list of its projects demonstrating how the funds will be used over the next five years. He informed the residents that the County does not want this account to be a savings account for the municipalities. Chairman Cashman explained that the Town does not currently know where it would use this balance.

Dave Stubenvoll asked what the Board's recommendation was. Chairman Cashman stated that the Board is recommending that the Town not contribute to the bridge fund next year.

Randy Hansen asked about the status of the county bridge on Highway ZZ. Supervisor Schwalbach explained that it is on the 2018 schedule for replacement. The federal government has approved \$50,000 for the design work and \$320,000 for the construction in response to the County's request.

M/M by Steve Gander to not put any money in the bridge fund for 2014; seconded by Dave Stubenvoll. Motion carried by 23-0 voice vote.

Discharge of Firearms Ordinance

Chairman Cashman explained that this issue came up last fall right before the deer season began. The DNR put out a press release stating that it was lifting the metro zone which previously allowed only shotguns for the deer hunting season in Rockland and Brown County. Chairman Cashman explained that he had received a number of calls from residents against adopting such an ordinance that would restrict the discharge of firearms in the Town.

Tyler Stelzer asked whether the comments Chairman Cashman received were from residents who knew that rifles could be used in the Town year round since it appeared that much of the raucous was caused by a misunderstanding of the current policy.

Steve Gander stated that if there is not a problem then nothing should be adopted until the Town has a problem.

Norman Nance stated that he noticed many more people shooting rifles in the area around the trail. His concern is for the people utilizing the trail.

Supervisor Schwalbach explained that the DNR's thought process was that the southern part of the state had lifted the metro ban and that the DNR mentioned studies that demonstrated that a shotgun could go further than a rifle in certain circumstances. So they concluded that rifles were not more dangerous than shotguns.

No formal action taken.

Garbage / Recycling report

Treasure Van Dyck reported that the Town will receive a recycling grant from the state in the amount of \$2868.00 for 2014. She stated that last year, the Town residents recycled about 187 pounds of recyclables per household. The state expects each household to recycle 82.4 pounds. The residents did a great job in recycling!

Steve Francis asked whether it was ok to place a bungee cord on the lid of the bin especially on windy days. The Town had not received any complaints from Harter's regarding this practice.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Cashman explained that there was a record snow fall again this winter. The Board has put more money in the budget for snowplowing for 2014 since in 2013 snowplowing expenses exceeded the budget. As of today, there is about \$5-8000 left in the 2014 budget for such services.

Chairman Cashman reported that Big Valley and Eiler roads have cracks in the roadway because of the frost under the roads. This has been a severely cold winter and the Board will be conducting its annual road tour on April 25th to determine which roads require repair.

The Town applied for the TRIP grant. Chairman Cashman explained that normally the Town would not get funding since it had just received this type of funding in 2011. The Town did receive a grant this year for repairing Tetzlaff Road because other municipalities did not apply. The Town should receive about \$13,000 toward the repair of this road and hopes to make this repair in 2014.

Chairman Cashman reported that he received about 90 new traffic signs in December. He hopes to have them installed in the next 6 weeks or so. There also a few new street signs to be installed.

Cashman reported that there is a new Implements of Husbandry before the legislature. Cashman explained that farming equipment has gotten bigger and so the state has been looking at a new program which classifies the farm equipment under five separate categories. The bill has passed the Senate but not the Assembly. Chairman Cashman explained that the intent is not to shut down the farm. Farm equipment is getting larger and the proposed bill allows towns to issue permits for the equipment. Chairman Cashman explained that each year he has new manure haulers which work out a logistic plan on which roads to use for transporting it to and from the fields. This assists in the wear and tear on the Town roads.

Jamie Zeamer asked when the weight limits will be lifted. Chairman Cashman explained that it depends on the weather.

Bob Gerbers reported that the sign on Ledge Crest and Glenrock is laying in the ditch.

Terry Vertz asked whether builders use different routes for transporting construction materials. Chairman Cashman stated that many of the builders are good about working with him on the roads to use for this purpose.

Announcements

Clean-up day is this Saturday, April 19, 2014. Please clean up ditches along your property. Any garbage picked up should be put in regular Monday garbage.

The annual rummage sale is on April 26, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Currently, there are 14 homes signed up. Anyone interested in still signing up can contact Dorothy Cashman by Friday.

Chairman Cashman thanked the Planning Commission and Board of Appeals for their service and work.

He also thanked Dave Krutz and Greenleaf State Bank for providing the refreshments for this evening's meeting.

Other public comment

Greg Binsfield stated that in his subdivision there are properties that have grass three feet high during the summer. He wondered whether the Town could do anything about that. Chairman Cashman recommended that he give the Board a call in the summer if this is still occurring since there is a Nuisance Ordinance prohibiting this issue.


Adjournment

M/M by Bob Gerbers to adjourn; seconded by Terry Vertz. Motion carried by 21-0 voice vote.

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

Jann Charette
Town Clerk

Minutes approved as written / ~~with corrections~~ **(strike one)** by the Town Electors on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.


Town Elector Dave Stubenvoll