

**UNAPPROVED - TOWN OF CENTER - UNAPPROVED**  
**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 9, 2024**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Timm, Gary Blank, Ron Klemp, David Vander Bloomen, Pete Hofacker

OTHERS PRESENT: Al Kramer, Bob Niec, Steve Schmeichel, Tom Schupp, Logan Farrell, Craig Smoll, Jerry Lingnofski, Joe Lowney

Chairman Timm called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Supervisor Hofacker said a prayer.

Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Vander Bloomen to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024, Regular Town Board Meeting. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

**Public Comment Period** – Al Kramer reported the NRCS Grant for the Bear Creek Watershed is continuing to move forward.

**Old Business**

Supervisor Vander Bloomen talked to the Administrator and Chairman for the Town of Lawrence about the process to set up an annexation border agreement. They would be willing to provide guidance if the town ever wants to pursue this in the future. It is a lengthy process that could take 1-2 years.

Chairman Timm reported the results of the traffic count done by the County Highway Department. On County Road O, east of Quarry Road the traffic count was 1,620 vehicles/day, west of Quarry Road the count was 672 vehicles/day. The county is not receptive to allowing ATV's east of County Road A, however, they would be open to the area west of County Road A to Mayflower Road. Supervisor Vander Bloomen would like assurances from the County Committee before applying. Steve Schmeichel questioned if a compromise could be made to open the small stretch of County Road O, east of County Road A, to Twelve Corners Road. There was discussion about needing to adopt the County ATV ordinance before the town can apply for a county road to be opened to ATV's. The board is not interested in adopting the county ATV ordinance at this time and will wait to see if any changes occur in the next few years.

Matthew Janzen of the WI Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) provided feedback on the town's proposed Holding Tank Ordinance. The Board was satisfied with the proposed changes so the Clerk will schedule a Public Hearing for next month.

**New Business**

Joe Lowney/Carlsville Storage, LLC, requested approval of a CSM to split parcel 040-064305 into 2 Lots, W4065 Wege Road. Joe Lowney explained he is not planning to put up storage units even though the name on the property appears that way. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Vander Bloomen to approve the CSM as requested. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

Nick Krueger approached various members of the board inquiring about an exception to the town's one-acre minimum lot size requirement, so he could split his father's 1.87-acre parcel into two lots. When some of their property was split and sold years ago, they thought they were left with a full 2 acres but recently noticed that was not the case. Supervisor Vander Bloomen contacted the County Zoning Department and neighboring townships for guidance. The county does not have an issue with this because their minimum lot requirement is less. The other townships have not had this same situation but expressed they consider variances only for a hardship that was not created by the owner. It was suggested they purchase .13 acres back from one of the neighbors. Chairman Timm will contact Nick Krueger.

The county has started charging municipalities a fee for tire recycling in 2024. At the annual meeting, the town's residents voted to have one last tire recycling event and have the board determine an amount that could be collected per tire. The board deliberated on the fee and settled on \$20/tire. Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Hofacker to hold the town's tire collection for one day, on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., \$20 fee per tire, no larger than 20" and to install a security camera. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

Chairman Timm explained there could be fees in the future for Gold Cross services. They will not be charging Center yet for 2025, but it is something they are considering for future years.

Tom Brown received multiple quotes for salters for the town tractors. Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Hofacker to accept Fox Valley Truck's quote of \$16,000 for two salters. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay, 1 abstain (Blank). Tom mentioned he will be getting cradles made for them. The smaller salter the town already owns will be sold.

Tom Brown asked the Board how they wanted to sell the old snowplow truck – either pieced out or as is. Logan Farrell has received some offers to sell as is. Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Hofacker to allow Tom and his team to make the best deal possible to dispose of the plow truck. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

## Reports

**Roads Report** – Tom Brown reported they are replacing culverts on Rock Road and Hample Road. Diane Wessel from MSA is getting valuable feedback on the ARIP grant questionnaires and is working hard to re-submit our grant applications for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. Tom would like to consider another section of Center Valley Road between Meade Street and County Road EE for the ARIP program – the culvert is collapsing and will cost more than \$26,000 to replace. Tom receives many calls from people questioning and doubting why certain decisions are being made, he will suggest they come to the board meetings to express their concerns. Tom pointed out that the Twelve Corners Road area is taking on a lot of water. Tom would like to have Cedar Corporation shoot some grades and determine where ditches can be opened. There may be some grant opportunities for this area. Tom reached out to Joe Hofacker and Lori Pynenberg to put together a CIP for the budget meeting. The board would like someone from the Fire Department and First Responders to attend the budget meeting. There was utility boxes hit on Quarry Road and Pleasant Road. The board suggested asking the utility companies to mark their equipment better. Some of the Autumn Hills residents are initiating the first steps to improve the water flow in their sub-division.

**Park & Maintenance** – Chairman Timm reported that New Ag donated fertilizer for the lawn in the park valued at \$1,328.

**Ball Diamond** – Steve Schmeichel reported the ball diamond is done for the year. He painted and fixed the equipment, so it is ready for next year.

Steve also mentioned on September 19<sup>th</sup> there is an Emergency Management meeting from 9-11 at the Kaukauna Fire Department and from 6-8 at our Town Hall. Board members can go to either meeting.

**Citizen's Concerns** – There was a complaint about dump trucks leaving the quarry late at night, a complaint about residents on Rip Van Winkle shooting excessively and running ATV's all day with no mufflers and a complaint about the ditches being cut too much. Jerry Lingnofski found there are shallow bridges in the Mackville Creek that are blocking water flow, it has been reported to the DNR. There was a discussion about properties renovated into multi-family rental homes. There were questions about how that affects septic systems and if it violates any of our ordinances. The Clerk will verify if the county has any regulations against this. A citizen expressed concern about accidents at the intersection of Wege Road and County Road EE. There was discussion about spinners that can be placed on the top of stop signs and how they have not been proven to be very effective. The ATV sign was stolen on Wege Road by County Road EE. There was a garage addition on Glenn Street that a building permit was never issued for. Chairman Timm will stop by with another board member to inform them they need a permit.

**Clerk's Report/Correspondence Received** – Vinton Construction will be blasting at the quarry this week. A request was received for the town to provide a dumping area for brush, especially after a storm. The Accountant's Audit report for 2023 was completed and a copy was given to each Board Member. Supervisor Hofacker questioned the process for submitting election results to the county. The Town of Buchanan is looking to purchase a liquor license if there is a town willing to sell an extra if they have one. On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Senator Rachel Cabral-Guevara will hold a Broadband announcement at our town hall at 11:00 a.m. Also, at our town hall on September 25<sup>th</sup>, the Outagamie County Drainage Board will hold their annual meetings – Center Valley Drainage District at 7:00 p.m. and Duck Creek Drainage District at 8:00 p.m.

**County Report** – Ron Klemp recommended going to the Outagamie County Drainage Board annual meetings.

**Bartender License Approval/Denials** – Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Vander Bloomen to approve the bartender license applications for Mercedes Webb. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

**Building Permits** – Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the building permit report submitted by Paul Hermes. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

**Financial Reports** – Expenses for August 13, 2024 – September 9, 2024 were \$46,185, Revenue was \$156,643. The current checking account balance is \$407,848. Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to accept the financial report as submitted. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

**Payment of Invoices** – Supervisor Vander Bloomen moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve payment of invoices, checks #17690 through #17737, plus ACH Payments. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

Tom Brown mentioned Craig Smoll needs a culvert permit for his property in Autumn Hills. Kurt Services is the contractor, and the board agreed the engineering fee would not be required for this culvert. The Town of Freedom approached Tom to prepare a price estimate to assist with snowplowing on the west side of Freedom.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried – 5 aye, 0 nay.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Olson, Clerk-Treasurer