

**UNAPPROVED - TOWN OF CENTER - UNAPPROVED  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2024**

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

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: David Vander Bloomen

OTHERS PRESENT: Logan Farrell, Tom Brown, Kellie Bohn, Al Tiedt, Lora Zimmer, Jerry Lingnofski, Frank Wright, Brad Geise, Kim Rathsack, Paul Rathsack, George Lutzewitz, Mike Manteufel, Gus Weber, Al Kramer, Rick Schabo, Tom Schupp, Norb Dargelies, John Baum

Chairman Timm called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Supervisor Hofacker said a prayer.

Chairman Timm asked if anyone wanted to speak on the proposed new Chapter 27 Ordinance – Prohibiting the Use of Holding Tanks for New Construction. John Baum stated he was against the ordinance because for some properties a holding tank is the only option. Supervisor Hofacker indicated the purpose is to prevent houses from being built in unsuitable wet areas. Chairman Timm explained there is an option for individuals to request a variance.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to close the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Chairman Timm called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024, Regular Town Board Meeting. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2024, Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2024, Special 2025 Budget Meeting. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

**Public Comment Period –**

Kellie Bohn, Administrator for the Seymour Community School District, was appreciative of the referendum passing for their school. Their mill rate has dropped from 8.16 to 8.13. They are pleased that their enrollment has evened out after years of decreasing enrollment. They will have a newsletter going out soon with student achievement data. In addition to the fitness and aquatics center, the high school is open for walking Mon-Thurs before and after school.

Lora Zimmer lives on Del Rose Lane and is concerned about the frequent ditch cutting. They have been maintaining cattails and native plants in their ditch to prevent erosion and improve drainage; and use the plants to create a natural habitat. With the more frequent and deeper cutting they have noticed more invasive plants and ruts in their ditch. Ms. Zimmer requested to be on a future agenda to see if a compromise can be made or allow them the option to opt out of their ditch getting cut. Tom Brown and Supervisor Hofacker explained how cattails create drainage issues and slow the water down, dropping sediment and filling in ditches over time. Chairman Timm stated that a policy decision was made to cut all ditches and keep it consistent for everyone.

Al Kramer reported the NRCS Grant for the Bear Creek Watershed is continuing to move forward – the next stage is a 24-month process and will have more involvement at the county level.

**New Business**

Korey Krueger, Michael Locke, Kim Rathsack, Richard Schabo & Jatame Schabo requested approval of a CSM to adjust the lot line between parcel 040-077600, N3095 County Road A, and 040-077701, W5329 County Road O. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve the CSM as requested. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Frank Wright requested approval of a CSM to split parcel 040-066000 into 2 Lots, W4271 Wege Road. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the CSM as requested. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Tom Brown is working on quotes to renovate the pavilion. He is looking to remove the half walls, pull curtains to the ground, cover the electrical panel in the southeast corner and add a stainless-steel serving counter.

Chairman Timm attended the WI Town's Association Annual Convention and shared information he received on Town Zoning, Act 264 if Town's want to opt out of County Zoning.

Tina Valencia is a fundraising coordinator who requested to hold an electronic recycling fundraising event on behalf of Saving Paws to collect electronics and appliances. The event would be on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. They would like to primarily use the parking lot but also request access to the Town Hall for the staff. The Board discussed whether to charge the regular \$75 fee or waive the fee. Jerry Lingnofski offered to cover the hall cleaning expenses after the event to allow the fee to be waived for Saving Paws. Supervisor Blank moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to allow the use of the town's facilities and waive the fee for a business in the town on April 26, 2025. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

The Fox Valley Humane Association Agreement is due for renewal for the 2025 calendar year. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to renew the Fox Valley Humane Association agreement. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Van Handel Heating & Cooling's Annual Maintenance Agreement is due for renewal. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve Van Handel Heating & Cooling's maintenance agreement. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

At the 2025 Budget Meeting, the Board discussed increasing the Town's Annual Service Award Contribution for all Fire Department and First Responder Members. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to increase the Town's Annual Service Award Contribution from \$200 to \$250. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

At the 2025 Budget Meeting, the Board discussed increasing the Salary/Wages of the Town Clerk, Public Works Employees, Animal Control Officer and Custodian. Supervisor Blank moved, seconded by Supervisor Hofacker to increase the salary and wages as discussed at the Budget Meeting (Town Clerk - \$44,000 annual salary plus \$25/hr. for extra time, Public Works Employees \$30/hr., Animal Control Officer \$50 monthly salary plus \$25/hr. for extra time, Custodian \$25/hr.). Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Due to a surplus of funds from prior budget years, there is a fund balance of \$240,577 designated as Unassigned Funds in the Town's general checking account. The Clerk prepared Resolution 3-2024 to transfer \$200,000 of the Unassigned Funds to split between the Buildings & Equipment Money Market Account, the Roads Money Market Account and the Parks Money Market Account to plan for future needs. Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve Resolution 3-2024 to transfer Unassigned Funds. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

## Reports

**Roads Report** – Tom Brown reminded the Board there will be a reimbursement coming for Wege Road for the LRIP program. Bill Rathsack called Tom to ask if the Board would reconsider the re-zone of his property on Devine Lane.

The new tractor and salters arrived. Matt's Welding made carriages and Brad Nettekoven sandblasted and painted them. They are using the milling and patching method on the roads instead of smear patching to prepare

for chip sealing next year. A patch was put over the culvert on Center Valley Road that needs replacing next year. Tom received a complaint from the school bus company indicating there are low branches on Rip Van Winkle and Highview Drive that are causing problems for the buses. They found many other areas in the town where trees are overhanging into the Town Road Right-of-Way (ROW). Al Kramer asked if the town had an ordinance addressing trees in the Town Road ROW. Chairman Timm stated there are restrictions on where you can plant new trees. Tom will be at Freedom's Town meeting this month to determine if there are services that can be exchanged. Tom talked to Spectrum about marking their pedestals in the town's ditches. Tom offered to mark the pedestals if Spectrum provides the stakes, but Spectrum was not interested. Al Kramer suggested informing residents in the town newsletter that there may be maintenance work of cutting trees and brush in the Town Road ROW.

**Clerk's Report/Correspondence Received** – There will be office hours scheduled for In-person Absentee Voting before the November 5<sup>th</sup> election – Wednesdays, October 23<sup>rd</sup> and October 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-5:00 and Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-12:00. The Town's Association quarterly meeting will be at the Cicero Town Hall on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Liquor License and Bartender License Approval/Denials** –

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve the new application for a Class "B" Beer/Liquor License for Y Go By Bar & Grill LLC – Agent Natasha Jazinski, valid from October 31, 2024 – June 30, 2025. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Supervisor Klemp moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the bartender license application for Walter Melchior. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

**Building Permits** – Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to approve the building permit report submitted by Paul Hermes. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

**Financial Reports** – Expenses for September 10, 2024 – October 14, 2024 were \$80,286, Revenue was \$54,406. The current checking account balance is \$382,804. Supervisor Klemp moved, seconded by Supervisor Blank to accept the financial report as submitted. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

**Payment of Invoices** – Supervisor Blank moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to approve payment of invoices, checks #17738 through #17792, plus ACH Payments. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

**Future Agenda Items** – Assessor Contract, Ditch Cutting/Maintenance of cattails – Lora Zimmer, Bill Rathsack's request for reconsideration of re-zone on Devine Lane.

Supervisor Hofacker moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried – 4 aye, 0 nay.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Olson, Clerk-Treasurer