

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 5, 2020

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Tony Compo, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett

Absent: Jason Paulson (excused)

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting with one change. Second by Janke. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 45,983.16 (Check #'s 45017-45065) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 9,237.72. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Craig Johnson from Four Star Construction was present to introduce himself to the Board. He is considering buying property on W. Harney Road to continue work that is similar to the fabricating business that is currently at that location.

Bridgett Peterson and Susan Hoffman were present to request the Board's support for their desire to have flashing lights and stop arms at the railroad crossing on E. Stark Road. Since the most recent accident at that location, they've heard numerous stories about near misses with trains at that crossing. Ms. Peterson spoke to a railroad representative and was told that the Town needs to make the request to Carlton County who then contacts the State Department of Transportation for action. Compo offered a resolution with a second by Janke supporting their efforts for the needed improvements at that railroad crossing. Resolution approved with four yeas (Paulson absent). This will be passed on to the Road Foreman to follow up with Carlton County.

Peleski provided the proposed 2021 levy which was developed at the recent budget meeting. It will be presented for approval at the Annual Town Meeting on March 10. The Board is requesting an increase of 2.5% over the 2020 levy. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to present the levy as reviewed. Motion carried.

Gerard updated the Board on Wood City Riders efforts to get a snowmobile trail through Thomson Township. They are currently trying to work with property owners to get their support. Most have been supportive although they might have to look at rerouting the trail.

A thank you was received from the 2020 All-Night Grad Party for the Town's donation to that event.

Fire Chief Kyle Gustafson reported that two firefighters have completed cold weather response training. He continues to meet with investigators regarding a recent structure fire.

Deputy Rob Lucas reported that he recently participated in the Esko School's Imagine It Days.

Gerard will not be planting trees in the spring this year. He'll possibly do the planting in the fall after area construction projects are finished.

Peleski reported on the March 3 Presidential Nomination Primary. She is also preparing for the Annual Meeting and the upcoming annual financial audit.

At 7:00 p.m. a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Janke to recess the regular meeting and convene the Board of Audit. Motion carried.

Peleski presented the 2019 Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenses for the Board to review. All financial records were made available for inspection.

A motion was made by Compo with a second by Janke to approve the 2019 Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenses as presented. Motion carried. The financial report will also be reviewed once the annual outside financial audit is completed.

At 7:06 p.m. a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Compo to adjourn the Board of Audit and reopen the regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:06 p.m. by Compo with a second by Janke. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer

Terry Hill, Chairperson