Town of Cleveland

Marathon County, Wisconsin

**DRAFT**

Annual Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

7pm

1. Chairman Jochimsen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Roll Call:

**Present**

Chairman Kurt Jochimsen

Supervisor Paul Drexler

Supervisor Lori Hollatz

Clerk Alexandra Skaya

Treasurer Julaine Aschenbrenner

Roads Supervisor Luke Serwe

Sanitation Employee George Schneider

Fire Commissioner Gary Heil

1. **Approval of April 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes –** Clerk Alexandra Skaya read the2023 annual meeting minutes. Motion (Moeller/Austin) to approve 2023 annual meeting minutes. Motion carried.

1. **Set April 2025 Annual Meeting Date** – Motion (Johnson/Austin) to set annual meeting date for Wednesday April 16th, 2025. Motion carried.
2. **Set Salaries for Town Board Members (beginning April 2025)** – Motion (Mengel/Kramer) to keep current salaries the same. Motion carried.
3. **Special Guest Speakers:** 
   1. WI State Assembly Representative Donna Rozar
      1. Rep. Rozar explained the redistricting that occurred. The Town of Cleveland was previously in the 69th assembly district but will now be in the 86th assembly district. This occurred due to the most recent census. The primary to elect the representative for the 86th assembly district will be on August 13th, 2024. Rep. Rozar also discussed the current ARIP grant available, the change in shared revenues, status of the Milwaukee Brewers, a proposed reading program, and maintaining election integrity.
4. **REPORTS:** 
   1. **2023 Financial Report** – Clerk Alexandra Skaya provided the 2023 financial report.

* 1. **2023 Treasurer Report** – Treasurer Julaine Aschenbrenner provided the 2023 treasurer’s report including current loan standings, tax season updates, and a change that will occur to the dog license form.

* 1. **Fire Commissioner Report** – Gary Heil provided the fire commissioner report. The fire department received the new ambulance on January 4th. This ambulance has a new power cot which will help with back injuries that occur among EMTs. The fire department received some state grants and an ongoing DNR grant that helps with costs. The 2nd ambulance is currently on its 1-year trial. There has been a total of 61 calls to date, of which 2 occasions were when both ambulances were needed. There were also 4 times that the new ambulance wasn’t available due to maintenance issues where the old ambulance was used. There was a total of 248 EMS calls in 2023. The fire department received a new non-skid flooring, and a floor care machine was purchased by the firefighters. Currently there are 25 licensed EMTs on staff and 3 new recruits and 46 active firefighters and 2 new recruits. Current discussions include what needs to be done about the deteriorating parking lot and also the purchasing of a new tanker. The new tanker is set to be changed in 2026 but would need to be purchased soon as there is currently a 2 year wait in order to receive.
  2. **Garbage and Recycling Report –** Chairman Jochimsen discussed the 2023 garbage/recycling report and also to date numbers. The town board is looking into what the cost of having the brush pile ground up would be and if it would be feasible within the current budget. Clerk Skaya mentioned that residents will be seeing a new sign-in process at the Town Garbage/Recycling drop off site in order to be better able to track how many residents are utilizing the recycling. The town needs to file a DNR Recycling Report annually and having this record will help the town in reporting this data in order to continue to receive the recycling grant provided.

1. **Board of Review Dates:** 
   1. Our new town assessor Jeremy Kurtzweil will be completing a total reassessment of the Town of Cleveland properties this year. Therefore, our assessment roll will not be completed at the normal time of past years. Board of Review is currently scheduled for Tuesday, May 14th, 2024, at 7pm. At this time the town board will adjourn the BOR meeting to a later date when the tax roll will be complete. Mr. Kurtzweil estimated that this should be completed by August 2024.
2. **Town Garage Plans –** Chairman Jochimsen discussed the current details of the new Town Garage. Ratsch Engineering has been hired to oversee this project. Bids for the project were opened Tuesday April 16th, 2024, and a final decision will be made at the May 14th, 2024, regular town board meeting. The current start date is set for Monday, July 8th, 2024, with a completion date of Friday, November 22nd, 2024. The town garage plans were provided and reviewed.
3. **Highway Committee Report** – Chairman Jochimsen discussed the 2023 road projects. The 2024 road project of Balsam Road was discussed. The overall length will be 9,555ft with a paved asphalt roadway of 24ft wide. Bid opening will be on the May 14th, 2024, regular town board meeting. Work is expected to be completed by October 25th, 2024.
4. **Town Constituent Meeting** 
   1. Town hall rental fees were discussed, and no changes were made.
   2. Joe Kiwak requested that the Town board research the possibility of a solar ordinance for health and safety. This would be in regards to solar farms where industrial solar arrays are being used. He discussed the possible negative effects they could have in regards to ground water contamination. Motion (Kiwak/Mengel) to have the town board look into an ordinance for health and safety in regards to solar farms.

Vote in favor = 26 Opposed = 3

* 1. Several residents discussed the state of ditches after Badger underground services put in the lines for fiber throughout the township. Chairman Jochimsen has been in contact with the company, and they will be coming back to fix the problematic areas. Any resident that has lawn work that is not fixed should contact chairman Jochimsen so he can reach out to company.
  2. A request was made to lower the speed limit on ridgeway road where the new town bar is located. Legally the town cannot lower the speed limit by more than 10 miles per hour. The board will monitor and there may be a need to put limits in place.
  3. Discussion occurred regarding Hayes Road and if weight limit signs should be put up permanently.
  4. Joe Kiwak provided the board with information to show support to surrounding townships that are experiencing legal threats regarding the wind turbines. This would just be a letter of support not a financial liability. This will be added to the May meeting agenda so that the town can draft a letter of support.
  5. Dust control was discussed. There are several factors that play a role in when dust control can best be applied to the roads to obtain maximum potential. These include having a firm road, rainfall so that the dust control can bind to the road, and availability of the product. A representative from Fischer transport was present and stated that there can be a lack of product availability which occurred last year, so the town should put in their order with Kafka as soon as possible. Luke stated that he will get this done.

**Motion to adjourn (Moeller/Wiesman) at 8:33pm**

Submitted by: Alexandra Skaya, Clerk on May 8th, 2024

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