

Town of Wheatland

PO Box 246, DeSoto, WI. 54632

Robert Streeter, Chairman
Tim Ballwahn, Supervisor
Esther Fox, Supervisor

Jerome Pedretti, Acting Deputy Clerk
Mary Louise Cutsforth, Treasurer

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2015

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Wheatland Town Board was called to order at 5:00 pm, by Supervisor Ballwahn, with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Meeting was properly posted at the Community Center, the Redmound Store, and the Recycling Center.

Present: Chairman Robert Streeter (by SKYPE), Supervisor Tim Ballwahn, Supervisor Esther Fox, Treasurer Mary Louise Cutsforth and acting Deputy Clerk Jerome Pedretti. Absent: None

Motion to, "approve the December 17th minutes as written", motion carried.

Public Comment: n/a

Kevin McCumber reported that all is going well. Plowed snow five times, and cutting trees on Holt, Brown, Battle Hollow and bottom of Chase. The 2554 needed a new tire. Set the brakes in all the trucks. Replaced starter cable and the wing cutting edge on the 4800. F350 got new batteries and the Hydro pump repaired. F350 has broken leaf spring on passenger side rear, new springs are \$800.00 plus installation. Ballwahn would like to remove the sander from the F350, and use the truck when cutting brush, and maybe some incidental snow plowing. Streeter and Fox agree.

Have a hold on a recent trade in at LaFarge Truck Center. Former Town of Union truck, with an 11' plow and pup wing. Dump box has some rust, which LaFarge will fix when it goes through the truck and repaints it. Brand new Int 530 engine, and is 4-wheel drive. Will probably be mid summer before the truck is available for inspection. Price should be in the \$35-40,000.00 range. Using the FL-80 for hauling brush and it has been running good.

Wage increase for Town employees was tabled at the December meeting for consideration in January. Streeter is pleased to find the Town's wage scale is in line with Vernon County Highway. Vernon County employees will receive a 2% increase Jan. 1, and a ½ % bonus now, and a ½ % bonus on July 1st.

	Current	Jan 1st	Jul 1st
Full Time Patrolman	18.81	19.28	19.38
Part Time Patrolman	14.75	15.12	15.20
Gargabe/Recycling	10.00	10.25	10.30
Kevin's Health Insurance/Month	377.55	395.10	same

Motion by Streeter/second by Ballwahn to, "approve the new pay schedule, effective January 1, 2015", motion carried.

Will Kratt was present, and handed out his proposal. Proposed fee would be \$4,600.00. Streeter inquired if Mr. Kratt could make a presentation to the Planning Commission. Mr. Kratt stated that he works directly with the Town Board, and there is not a lot of opinion that goes into this report. Information will be based on the science and the rating system used. Ballwahn feels this should be an Agenda item, and the Planning Commission members could be invited or notified of the meeting, Mr. Kratt can give his findings and everyone would be getting the same information. Mr. Kratt stated that this type of meeting presentation would normally take place after the draft report is finished, and then the final report would be printed after the meeting.

Motion by Streeter/second by Fox to, "approve the long term road maintenance proposal submitted by I & S Group", motion carried.

Ed Lamay is installing a second driveway, and Kevin McCumber will oversee the culvert installation.

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Treasurer Cutsforth presented the financial report. Copies of her report were given to the Board. All accounts are reconciled and balanced. December income is \$ 2,055.94 and Expenses are \$ 34,415.44. Total cash on hand, in all funds, is \$ 336,579.71. Motion by Fox/second by Streeter to, "approve transfer of \$5,000 from the Money Market Acc't to checking", motion carried.

Motion by Fox/second by Ballwahn to, "Publish a Town of Wheatland spring newsletter", motion carried.

Motion by Fox/second by Streeter to, "approve checks #21030 to #21118 (\$387,864.15) as presented", motion carried.

Town received a separation notice for Stephanie Larson. Stephanie was formerly with the Fire Department. Fire Chief Stokke provided the last run date that she was paid for, and Clerk Pedretti contacted the DWD and we are waiting to hear from them.

Received a letter from Davy Engineering regarding Comprehensive Planning updates, Chariman Streeter will forward to Will Kratt.

Notice to confirm that the Town of Wheatland will receive \$90,127.86 in transportation aides this year.

Clerk reported that there will be a Primary Election on Feb 17th. The Town needs a Primary for the Clerk position, and DeSoto School needs a Primary for the Village of DeSoto seat. The School Board has decided to close and combine some polling places. The Town of Sterling is closed and combined with Wheatland. For Town offices, Robert Streeter has filed for Chairman; Jayne Ballwahn, Donny Stokke and Bob Hartl have filed for Supervisor; Gloria Binger has filed for Treasurer; Judy Woods, Taylor Cardman and Joann Schultz have filed for Clerk.

Motion by Streeter/second by Ballwahn, "The Town of Wheatland Ordinance prohibiting Elected Officials from being Town employees is hereby amended, with the following addition: **However, this Ordinance does not apply to services performed as an EMT, First Responder or Volunteer Fireman.** , motion carried.

The Fire Department report shows 3 events with 24 stipends for December.

Chief Stokke found a supplier for replacing air tanks at \$500 each. Holding off purchase pending a grant application. Tried to repair the tanker dump valve, but had to replace it with a \$600.00 new one, also needed a backer plate (\$100.00). The department ordered a new 2,100 gallon dump tank for \$1,100.00 which the Department will pay for from it's fundraiser account. Purchasing some replacement gear as needed, but over all the gear is in good shape. Three new members have joined the Department. Jayme Hanson had been elected Secretary, but has decided to step down, so Tammy Cox has been appointed to take her place. Stokke would like to purchase one new hand-held radio and three pagers for a cost of \$2,200.00. Motion by Streeter/second by Fox to, "approve the purchase", motion carried. Discussed the need to replace the Brush-Truck. Looking in the area of \$15,000.00. This needs to be put on the Agenda for next month.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, February 16th at 5:00pm.

Motion by Fox/second by Streeter to, "adjourn", motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerome Pedretti, Acting Deputy Clerk