

TOWN OF ROSE – TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 8, 2024

Meeting was brought to order by Chair VandeCastle at 7:01pm.

Members Present: Chair VandeCastle, Supervisors Perez and Cutts, Clerk VandeCastle, and Treasurer Gotthart.

Others Present: Mark and Dawn Kalata

Motion was made by Supv. Cutts, seconded by Supv. Perez, to approve the agenda with one addition: add Town Ordinance 1-2024 discussion to Old Business (A). Motion carried.

Minutes of the 12/11/23 meetings were read by all. Motion was made by Supv. Perez, seconded by Supv. Cutts, to accept the minutes of the 12/11/23 meetings as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer Report was read and discussed by all. The clerk's printer has been acting up lately and requests purchasing a new printer. Mark at Waushara PC suggested a Brother printer which is currently \$650. Supv. Perez made the motion, seconded by Supv. Cutts, to approve the purchase of a printer for the Clerk not to exceed \$700 including shipping. Motion carried. Treasurer Gotthart updated the Board on 2023 tax collection. \$534,612.81 was collected in December. The January Settlement is complete with checks going out to schools this week. Checks for overpayments will be approved at the next meeting. Motion was made by Supv. Cutts, seconded by Supv. Perez, to accept the Treasurer Report and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

OLD BUSINESS: Clerk VandeCastle typed up the ATV/UTV Ordinance as directed by the Board in December. The ordinance was based on ordinances from surrounding townships and the County with the addition of the area that will be closed to ATV/UTV traffic. The ordinance was approved at the December 2023 meeting.

A resident on Twin Lakes called the County numerous times wanting to have her road plowed after the 1-inch snowfall last weekend. The County did not plow any town roads to save the town's tax dollars. The Board agreed with the County for not plowing for 1-inch of snow.

Nothing new with the utility policy. Supv. Cutts will be the contact for utility permits. The Board will discuss the permitting process at the February meeting.

Dawn Kalata sent out emails to our area legislators Krug and Testin regarding the wind towers.

Representative Krug responded. He will designate some of his people to go over the paperwork before making his decision. Besides the farm land, there are several small tracks property owners east of 13th that have received packets from Alliant. Supv. Cutts commented on the number of health issues that come with wind towers: high decibel noise will drive away wildlife, cows will stop milking, not to mention the human health risks. The Town needs to make the involved landowners aware of all the health risks and what happens when the towers are done and need to be taken down. The very high costs of removing the windmills goes to the landowner. Supv. Perez will contact Jesse Urban, our County Board rep. to discuss this issue with him to determine where the County stands. Supv. Cutts will put together and information packet to go to the landowners.

NEW BUSINESS: Chair VandeCastle suggested electing two Supervisors and the Clerk one year and the Chairman and Treasurer the next year. Clerk VandeCastle will contact the WTA to see if it is possible and how it would be accomplished.

The owner of the Wild Rose Saw Mill petitioned for a variance to break off the homestead from the business. The homestead portion would be 2 acres which is less than our 5-acre minimum rule. The variance is based on safety and liability concerns. Supv. Cutts made the motion, seconded by Supv. Perez, to approve the variance splitting off the homestead 2 acres from the business under safety and liability concerns for the Wild Rose Saw Mill. Motion carried.

Chair VandeCastle reported on the recent bank scam the town became a victim to. Immediately following setting up the new Treasurer's email, Treasurer Gotthart received an email impersonating Clerk VandeCastle asking her to do a wire transfer immediately for the town's website totaling around \$40,000. The transfer was completed without any question from the bank. After this was found out, the Sheriff's department was contacted, the Bank was interviewed, and the insurance company was contacted. The Sheriff's department interviewed Treasurer Gotthart, Chairman VandeCastle and Clerk VandeCastle and is still working on the case. Chair VandeCastle and Supv. Cutts have spoken with the bank numerous times. Some money has been returned to the Town. The insurance company told the Town that our insurance does not cover this type of situation. The Town will be receiving an extra \$40,000 in shared revenue in 2024.

Chair VandeCastle reported on the following:

- WTA meeting at Silvercryst on Monday, January 22nd. Clerk VandeCastle will RSVP for Supv. Cutts, Chair VandeCastle and Clerk VandeCastle.
- Building Permit: Charles Swingle – Section 32 – Pole Barn
- Kim & Mary Benson: Zoning Letter – Accessory structure conversion reported without permits – after the fact fees will be due.

Clerk VandeCastle reported on the following:

- Thank you letter from the Wild Rose Library for the donation in December.
- Tourism Commission report 2023

Supv. Perez will attend a Fire District meeting on 1/10/24. The WTA District meeting will be 2/17/24 in Stevens Point. Clerk VandeCastle will mail in the registrations.

The Board discussed the Town Forest Ordinance.

The agenda for February was discussed. The next meeting will Monday, February 12, 2024.

Supv. Cutts made the motion, seconded by Supv. Perez, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm. Motion carried.

The foregoing is an unapproved draft version of these minutes. Therefore, they are subject to amendment or change at subsequent meetings of this Board. Any such changes will be detailed in the minutes of the meeting at which the amendments are proposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy VandeCastle
Town of Rose Clerk