

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN BOARD  
March 11, 2024

Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Also, present were Supervisor Drewa, Supervisor Saak, Treasurer Demko, Deputy Clerk Pam Batte and Clerk De Clark.

Constituents present were Pat Wloszczynski, Rich and Janet Wenzelow and Paul Batte.

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the town minutes from November 13, 2023.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Monthly Report

Treasurer Demko presented the monthly Treasurer's Report which included account balances and interest rates.

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the treasurer's report.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Monthly Bills

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the monthly bills.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Correspondence

There is no correspondence to review.

Aspen Lane

Chairman Erwin stated that he was trying to get to Rhinelander but was unable to as of yet. He stated that he has an appointment this coming Wednesday at 1:00. He stated that the town is currently not receiving funding from the DOT because of potentially giving it to the Bechtahl family. He stated that the focus of the meeting on Wednesday will be to take the road back so the town can receive the necessary funding from the DOT.

Supervisor Drewa stated that the Bechtahls are unclear as to the ownership of the road and who will maintain the road. Chairman Erwin stated that this will all be straightened out by summer.

Chairman Erwin stated that he will be addressing Madeliene Lane during his meeting on Wednesday as well.

#### Cameras at the town dump

Chairman Erwin inquired if the town wants to put up real cameras at the town dump or just dummy ones. Constituent Pat stated that he would put up a dummy camera for now.

Supervisor Drewa stated that he had seen a couple of tires that had been dumped on the side of the road. He stated that he would pick them up for disposal.

#### Patton Lake

Chairman Erwin inquired whether the road should be chip sealed or black topped. He stated that he was leaning towards black topping the road over chip sealing it.

Supervisor Saak stated that there is about 100 feet of the road that needs immediate attention. He stated that it needs a good patch job in the center of the road. Constituent Pat stated that chip sealing would not help with the issue. Chairman Erwin stated that in 2027 the town will be receiving funding to address the road correctly.

Supervisor Drewa asked how Turtle Creek Road was. Supervisor Saak and Constituent Pat stated that it was fine. Constituent Pat stated that Thompson Road was the worst road.

#### Annual Budget

Chairman Erwin stated that \$16,118.98 from the annual budget need to be reallocated from the purchase of the voting machine to highway funds.

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve moving the funds.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

#### Board Member Comments

Supervisor Saak inquired if the town could get fire danger signs put up around the town because of the extreme drought the area is in. He stated that he would pursue this further.

Supervisor Drewa asked that the spring highway clean-up after Mother's Day be added to the agenda. It will be added.

Supervisor Drewa asked if anyone needs to do training for the Board of Review. Deputy Clerk Batte stated that she would check into this.

Supervisor Drewa asked if he could get a key for the town hall because he gave his to Deputy Clerk Batte. Chairman Erwin stated that he would get him a key.

Deputy Clerk Batte stated that she heard back from Nsight and will continue to follow up with them regarding getting internet set up at the town hall.

Supervisor Drewa asked if there was any word from the utility company on the trees that need cutting. Chairman Erwin stated that no, not yet.

#### Constituents Concerns

Constituent Pat stated that the town needs to consider a drain on the new side of the garage. He also stated that he will pull the old tank this summer and install a new tank. He inquired if the town was going to put the new drain installation out for bids. Chairman Erwin stated that he will check on a contractor for the project.

Constituent Pat stated that since CLS was already doing the remodeling job on the garage, he asked them for a bid. They gave him a bid of \$15,000. It was stated that putting the project out for bids was not necessary if the project was under \$20,000.

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the bid for the new drain from CLS for \$15,000.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Constituent Pat stated that the turn-around on Madeleine Lane looks good. He stated that he called Florence Utilities regarding moving the utilities box. He was told that Miss Dig must contact them before they can move it.

#### Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion seconded Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti De Clark, Town Clerk