

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
Town of Buffalo
April 11, 2006

Present: Jean Rataczak, Jan Banicki, Donna Seddon, Fred Wollenburg

Others: Dorothy Schwochert, Margarete Worthington, Charlie Church,

Fire Chief Glen Bubolz, Robert Ruck, David Rieckmann, John Simonsen, County Supervisor Bob Miller, Carolyn Bush, Dennis Bush, Donna Anderson, Wesley Buss, Maurice Kearns, Bill Bordihn, Leta Meitner, Bunny Paul, Mary J. Champion, Rep. J. A. Hines, Joel Burbach, Jack Whirry, John Goetz, John Bowers, Don Smith, Senator Luther Olsen, and one other.

Late: Gene Mucciolo

Jan Banicki called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

- a) Senator Luther Olsen – Discussed bills that will be voted on in the near future and reported on Wisconsin's taxes & income status national ranking. He stated his position and how he planned to vote.
- b) Representative J. A. "Doc" Hines – He stated his position on the above issues discussed by Senator Olsen and talked about Badger Care use by businesses like Wal-Mart and other small businesses.
- c) County Board Supervisor Bob Miller – He discussed the 2% property tax raise restriction for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Property owners complained to him of overzealous cutting of trees along Town roads.
- d) Fire Chief Glen Bubolz – The 2006 budget will be higher than 2005. Fire calls are down 20%. The fund raiser will be on June 17th. Trucks are usually replaced when they are 20 years old. They are looking at replacing a tanker in the price range of \$110,000-\$230,000. A second truck will have to be replaced in 2-3 years that will cost around \$300,000.
- e) Highway Commissioner Ron Sells – He was unable to attend the meeting.

Minutes

April 12, 2005 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed. There were 82 voters at the April, 2006 election. Motion by Donna Anderson to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by David Rieckmann. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Jean Rataczak gave the 2005 Annual Finance Report. Motion by Margarete Worthington to accept the report as presented. Seconded by Bob Miller. All in favor, motion carried.

Town Reports

- a) *2006 Budget* – Gene Mucciolo explained the error that was made in the budget and that it will be corrected this year.
- b) *Fire Budget and Billing Residents* – Donna Seddon reported that we were billed for \$2,787.00 in fire and EMT calls in 2005. We have only been able to collect for \$845.70. The insurance companies are refusing to pay on most accidents and property owners are ignoring repeated requests for payment. The Clerk was instructed to send one more

notice and then proceed with sending outstanding bills to small claims court. The Town of Packwaukee has a form that they send out for turning the claim into the insurance company. Glen Bubolz offered to help collect outstanding bills.

- c) *Recycling and Garbage* – Donna Seddon reported that because of the County recycling grant, we made \$2003.83. We will not need to increase the \$1 per bag garbage fee.
- d) *Ordinances Adopted* – Gene Mucciolo read the titles and explained the new ordinances adopted since the last Annual Meeting.
- e) *2006 Assessment* – Gene Mucciolo explained the reassessment process, Open Book and Board of Review. Forms for Board of Review will be available at Open Book.
- f) *Shared Revenue* – It will be \$15,023 compared to \$18,738 in 2005.
- g) *2006 Tax Levied* – It will be \$96,645.00.
- h) *Other --*
 - 1) Fire Signs -- Contact Jerry Smart to change or delete fire signs or numbers. Old posts will be reused if they are in good shape.
 - 2) Building Removal -- There is no charge for a Demolition Permit to removal a building or structure. Demolition Permits will be used to notify the assessor of the removal so the taxes can be adjusted.

Bunny Paul made a motion to amend the agenda and move to Citizen and Board Concerns Item D – Excess Funds Discussion. Seconded by David Rieckmann. Motion carried with one opposed.

Citizen and Board Concerns

- a) *Excess Funds Discussion* -- Charlie Church motioned that the \$25,226.31 in excess funds for 2005 be put in a separate interest bearing fund or CD of the Treasurer's choice and used as a second fire truck fund. (\$50,000 is already earmarked for the fire truck that will be purchased in 2006-2007.) Question called for a vote by Bunny Paul. Yes – 10; No – 4. Motion carried.

Roads

- a) *2006 Highways Budget* – \$101,094.00
- b) *Inspection & Quality of Roads*– The following roads will be reviewed: Barry Road, 14th Road to the County line, Gillette Road, and the gravel edging on 15th Road from Barry Road on.
- c) *Highway Aid for 2006* – \$95,557

Citizen and Board Concerns Continued

- a) *2004 Summer Ball Teams* – Margarete Worthington motioned that we continue to reimburse the City of Montello for the Summer Ball Program up to \$1,000.00 or \$75.00 per child, who can prove residency through a parent or guardian excluding grandparents. Seconded by David Rieckmann. All in favor, motion carried.
- b) *Salaries/Per Diem of Elected Officials* – Margarete Worthington motioned to increase mileage re-imbursement to \$.41 per mile. Seconded by Charlie Church. Clarification of motion requested. Motion amended to increase the mileage re-imbursement to what the IRS currently allows for any elected or appointed person for the next 12 months beginning May 1st, 2006. Amended motion seconded by David Rieckmann. All in favor, motion carried.

- c) *Hourly Pay of Election and other Town Workers* – Charlie Church motioned to increase pay of poll workers from \$8.00/hour to \$10.00/hour and to continue to pay for training and mileage of chief inspectors. Seconded by Bunny Paul. Yes -- 9 No -- 5, motion carries.
- d) *Other Citizen Concerns*
1. Highway Concerns -- David Rieckmann expressed concern for the amount of salt that is used on the roads, how it degrades the roads, and impacts the environment.
 2. Road Repair -- Margarete Worthington suggested that we formalize an agreement or document with the County as to what roads are designated for repair.
 3. Budget -- Bunny Paul suggested that the Budget for 2007 be presented at Annual Meetings. It was explained that this could not be done in April since we do not have all the information from the State as to our shared revenue. The Budget is proposed in October and finalized in November of each year.

Motion from Charlie Church to adjourn. Seconded by Bunny Paul. Yes – 3 No – 7, motion fails.

4. Brushing and Tree Cutting – Joel Burbach suggested that we have the County provide us with a list of the most likely projects. If we are not notified of the project, we will not pay for it.
5. County Parks and Observatory Hill – These parks are in Buffalo Township but are under the County Parks Committee which is under Planning and Zoning. Joel Burbach motioned that we request the County to establish a citizen’s advisory board from the Town. Seconded by Margarete Worthington. All in favor, motion carried. Gene Mucciolo to contact County Supervisor Board.
6. New Fire Signs – Request for volunteers to identify parcel numbers for fire sign numbers. Bunny Paul volunteered. This project to be headed by Jean Rataczak and Donna Seddon.

Business concluded. Motion to adjourn by Bunny Paul. Seconded by Charlie Church. All in favor, motion carried.

Meetings

Next Annual Meeting is April 10, 2007

Submitted by Donna Seddon, Town Clerk