

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
Town of Buffalo
April 10, 2007

Chairman called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Gene Mucciolo, Jean Rataczak, Jan Banicki, Donna Seddon, Fred Wollenburg
Others: Phyllis Turner, Don Smith, Steve Raab, Mary-Anne Raab, David Rieckmann, Wesley Buss, Jack Frost, Mavis DeWitt, Helen Mucciolo, Kent Perkins, Millie Stanley, Doris Smith, Charles Church, David Seddon, Karen Wollenburg, Dorothy Schwochert, Darren Marceau, Gordon Bentley, Patti Meyers, Sadie O'Dell, Margarete Worthington, Joel Burbach, Maurice Kearns, Robert Weiss

Minutes of 2006 Annual Meeting:

David Rieckmann, seconded by Karen Wollenburg, made a motion to accept the minutes as read. All in favor, motion carried.

Guests:

- A. County Board Supervisors - Jan Banicki, County Board Supervisor District 17, spoke about the new county building and her responsibilities on the Zoning Committee.
- B. Sheriff's Department – Jack Frost, Deputy, addressed the following issues:
 1. ATVs in John Muir Park – The County ordinance prohibits the use of all motors except electric motors on Ennis Lake. The ordinance does not address the use of ATVs in the Park. Questions about ATV use on the lake in the winter should be addressed to the DNR.
 2. Banning shining – A ban on shining was voted down by the County Board.
 3. Garbage and refuse dumping on road sides – Violators can be reported to the Sheriff's Department. Please try to obtain the license plate number of the vehicle if possible.
 4. Sheriff's Department staffing and increase of calls – Discussion on the increase of 628 calls for last year and the severity of offenses. No additional staffing is funded in the summer. The two school officers transfer to regular duty during the summer vacation.
- C. US Fish & Wildlife Service – Updated on Wildlife Refuge – Patti Meyers reported that Conservation Plan is complete and will be mailed. No funds were appropriated for the Fox River Refuge this fiscal year, which ends on 9/30/07. Please write Senators Feingold and Kohl to ask for increased funding for the Refuge. Sadie O'Dell, US Fish & Wildlife biologist, spoke explaining her duties. The US Fish and Wildlife has acquired the Owens property and added it to the Fox River Refuge. Sadie will be working on new Refuge plans to open the corner of the Refuge at County Roads F & O to shore fishing and ice fishing in 2008. Sadie will also lead a hike on the Ice Age Trail June 2nd.
- D. Ice Age Trail – Karen Wollenburg addressed the audience on the June 2nd Ice Age Trail Hikes. There will be three hikes lead by different leaders. More information is available on the Town website link and there are several pamphlets at the back of the room.

Town's Reports:

- A. Summary of 2006 Finance Report - Jean Rataczak gave 2006 Cash Basis Report and Donna Seddon gave the 2006 Annual Report Statement and explanation. Steve Raab, seconded by Robert Weiss, made a motion to accept the Annual Report. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. Fire Budget and Billing Residents – Fire signs & posts & fire calls expense for 2006 are \$21,437.16. \$1,169.59 is unreimbursed fire calls. \$20, 267.57 has to be collected for the

- new flag fire signs. The individual cost per sign is \$50.00. Discussion followed. The new Board will have to decide how to collect the money.
- C. Recycling and Garbage – Our revenue was \$5,401.00 and the grant re-imbusement was \$4059.00 for a total of \$9460.96. Expenses were \$7, 291.00. We made \$2,169.96. We do not have to increase the \$1 per bag charge for garbage.
 - D. Code of Ordinances - Gene Mucciolo is working on the last one – Administrative Procedures. The new Board will have to review it.
 - E. Building Permits issued in 2006 - 30 were issued.
 - F. Replacement Fire Numbers – The 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes states, “Old posts will be reused if they are in good shape.” Discussion followed.
 - G. Planning Commission & Comprehensive Plan Status - Fred Wollenburg reported:
 - 1. That the County is updating the County Ordinances, which will be reviewed. The Town has submitted suggestions for changes.
 - 2. Plan Commission Citizen Appointments need to be updated.
 - 3. The Land Plan was just reviewed. This is a reoccurring process and will be reviewed again in 2008.

Board and Electors Topics – 2007 Expenditures

- A. Roads
 - i. Highway aid for 2007 - \$97,456.
 - ii. Road inspection with Highway Commissioner, Ron Sells. –The Chairman and one supervisor will spend a half of a day driving and reviewing the conditions of the Town’s roads.
 - iii. Quality of roads & Citizen input on roads
 - a. Steve Raab suggested that we blacktop Grouse Road to 13th Road by Champions’ to complete the area. The surrounding roads are complete. Discussion followed.
 - b. Gene Mucciolo suggested that the Town look into collecting for damage done to Town roads that are caused by logging, quarries, and other large equipment. Discussion followed.
 - iv. 2007 Highway (Local Road) Maintenance Budget/Expenditures – The Highway Commissioner is required to report all brushing to the Town Chairman before starting any brushing of roads. Discussion followed.
- B. Other 2007 Expenditure Items Requiring Citizen Action
 - i. Joint Fire District – New Fire Truck –A new truck purchase has been approved for \$165,000. The cost will be split five ways. The Town of Shields objected to the split. Discussion followed.
 - ii. 2007 Summer Ball Teams--\$1,150 was budgeted for 2007 but the City of Montello had asked for \$1,363.90 due to increase costs for 114 kids from Buffalo. Gene Mucciolo, seconded by Darren Marceau, made a motion to increase the budgeted amount for the Summer Ball Teams to \$1,500. All in favor, motion carried.
 - iii. Mowing of Town Property and Cemetery – The cemetery at O and 13th Roads has requested \$1,295 for mowing from the Town. The State of Wisconsin requires that abandoned or neglected cemeteries be cared for by the Town they are located in. The cemetery committee was notified that the Town will requests bids for the mowing of the cemetery. Discussion followed. It was suggested that the Town request separate bids for mowing the cemetery and the Town Hall/Recycle Center since their requirements are so different.
 - iv. Salaries of Elected Officials
 - a. Town Chairman and Supervisors – Current salary is \$2400/yr for Town Chairman and \$1300/yr Supervisors. Discussion and questions followed. David Rieckmann, seconded by Joel Burbach, made a motion to increase

the Town Chairman's salary to \$3200/yr and the Supervisor salary to \$1800/yr to take effect at the earliest legal opportunity. Discussion followed. The vote by a show of hands was Yes-19, Nay-3, abstained-2. The motion passes.

- b. Treasurer – Current salary is \$4000/yr. Discussion and questions followed. Gordon Bentley, seconded by Joel Burbach, made a motion to increase the Treasurer's salary to \$4800/yr to take effect at the earliest legal opportunity. Discussion followed. The vote by a show of hands was Yes-22, Nay-1, abstained-2. The motion passes.
- c. Clerk – Current salary is \$5800/yr. Discussion and questions followed. David Rieckmann, seconded by Joel Burbach, made a motion to increase the Clerk's salary to \$6200/yr to take effect at the earliest legal opportunity. Discussion followed. The vote by a show of hands was Yes-1, Nay-23, abstained –1. The motion fails. Gordon Bentley, seconded by Margarete Worthington, made a motion to increase the Clerk's salary to \$6500/yr to take effect at the earliest legal opportunity. Discussion followed. The vote by a show of hands was Yes-22, Nay-1, abstained –2. The motion passes.
- v. Wages of Election Workers -- Wesley Buss stated that the election workers are satisfied with the wage they receive.
- vi. Wages of Other Workers—Discussion followed. Karen Wollenburg will poll the Board for jobs that residents can sign up to do. David Rieckmann, seconded by Margarete Worthington, made a motion to set the mileage rate at what is allowed by the IRS as it adjusts. Discussion followed. The vote by a show of hands was Yes-2, Nay-21, abstained –2. The motion fails. Karen Wollenburg, seconded by Darren Marceau, made a motion that the mileage rate be adjusted to 48 cents per mile for the next 12 months or until the next annual meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Electors Comments and Concerns

- A. Wayside on Hwy. 22 Update – We are not getting a response from the DOT or anyone else. Discussion followed. David Rieckmann, seconded by Darren Marceau, made a motion to advise the Board to send a strong letter to the DOT in Madison and copy Doc Heinz, our representative. Discussion followed. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. County Zoning for animals -- Margarete Worthington explained to everyone how the County restricts the acreage allowed to keep animals and the questions that arise from the wording.

Set 2008 Annual Meeting Date: The 2008 Annual Meeting will be April 8th, 2008 at 7pm.

Business Concluded

David Rieckmann, seconded by Wesley Buss, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Donna Seddon, Town Clerk