

Town of Almena

Minutes – Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting **September 13, 2021**

1-The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Ken Scheps at 7:01 pm. Board members in attendance were Chair Ken Scheps, Supervisors Harland Becker & Ed Miller, Treasurer Hoyt Rose, Shop Employee Gary Krecker, & Clerk Lois Hoff. Also present Kent Kindschy, Dan Stoffel, Kristen Moen, and Tom and Victoria West.

2-The Clerk states when and where the Notice and Agenda for the meeting was posted.

3-The clerk read the monthly meeting minutes for July 13, and August 16, 2021. Supervisor Ed Miller made a motion to approve the minutes as read and Supervisor Harland Becker 2nd the motion. All in favor. Motion carried

4-The Treasurer report for August was given by Treasurer Hoyt Rose. Treasurer corrects amount of Total Township Funds to \$353,413.57 and Available Unallocated Township Funds to \$303,413.57. Per the Treasurer the special savings account for the covid funds has been set up but the Treasurer and Chair need to sign at the Bank yet. Clerk has signed. Per Treasurer the loan has been paid off. Chair Ken Scheps made motion to approve report as corrected. Supervisor Harland Becker 2^{nds} the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Board goes over and discusses the Expense Budget and Working Capital.

5-Public Input: Clerk gives Board a copy of an email - Office of the Special Counsel received this afternoon signed by Michael J. Gableman regarding investigation of November 3, 2020 election. Also the DOR handout on Equalized Values. Chair received a letter from Barron County regarding renting space form Towns for the winter paying \$1500. Town of Almena has no extra storage space to rent out.

6-Turtle Lake High District Administrator Kent Kindschy gives the Board an informational handout and goes over it.

7-Tom West goes over Rezoning request of Pensco Trust Co to rezone from Ag-2 to R-1, wants to rezone the house and 1 acre but not sure if needs one or two acres but will do what ever is needed. Will have it surveyed if rezoning granted, They own the property north of this property. The Board discusses. Per Chair has no problem with it. Chair made motion to approve the request of Pensco Trust to rezone house and acreage at 1531 1 1/2-2nd Street, Property Tax ID # 002-1700-25-000 from Ag-2 to R-1. Supervisor Harland Becker 2^{nds} the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Chair signs form and marks box not opposed. Clerk makes copy and gives original to Tom West.
Kent Kindschy and Tom and Victoria West leave meeting.

8-Board goes over Letter from Cumberland Healthcare for consideration of contribution. Board in agreement not to contribute.

9-Board goes over and discusses gmail from Permitting Team request for WI Residential Solar Permitting Requirements. Board instructs Clerk to refer them to the county.

10-Board reviews email from Wis DOT for LIRP 2022-23 Outreach meeting invitation.

11-Board discusses Polk County Town's Association Unit invite on October 13, 2021. One item of topic on the agenda is what the covid funds can be spent on. Treasure Hoyt Rose volunteers to go to the meeting.

12-Board goes over gmail from Steve Fowler regarding Call for Submissions: Hindsight. No member has anything to contribute.

13-Board goes over and discusses List of Eligible Uses for Covid Funds (ARPA-Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) - discussion if can or benefits of using toward Broadband.

14-Board goes over the Barron County Highway bill for culvert replacement for \$4570.93. Per Chair – clerk to pay. Board goes over Scott Construction bill for chip sealing 3 roads in the amount of \$57,227.00. Clerk to pay.

15-Road maintenance and Equipment Update: Per Chair no price yet on shouldering for 3rd Street. Gary to call and check. Per Chair – on 5th Street at a field entrance Dairyland Power damaged the culvert and they are replacing it – having them put in 44' but need to know the diameter, thinks it is 15. Gary to measure tomorrow and let Chair know. Per Gary at 2 1/2 fixed culvert today – put a band on it, wire still underneath.

16-Board sets September Regular Board Meeting for October 11, 2021 at 7 pm. Sets Budget Planning Meeting for October 25, 2021 at 7 pm.

17-Clerk request to amend vouchers to 9274 not 9275. Board goes over and audits vouchers. Chair made motion to approve vouchers 9260 through 9274. Supervisor Harland Becker 2nds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

18-Board completes Financial Audit for 2020 – from June – vouchers # 8995, 8997 & 8991, from September – vouchers # 9037, 9043 & 9051, and from November – vouchers # 9068, 9077 & 9095. Audit passed.

19-Board does not accept Clerk's resignation at this time due to the upcoming budget process and all it entails. Board asks clerk to stay thru December and to work with Kristen Moen to allow her to learn job duties. Clerk agrees to stay on thru December. Kristen will be considered a part time employee and will be paid the part time wage of \$20.00 per hour. Kristen agrees to this. Kristen to keep track of her training hours and turn slip in for payment.

20-Chair Ken Scheps made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Harland Becker 2nds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Lois Hoff, Clerk