

Town of Almena

Minutes – Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting April 8th, 2024

1-The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Ken Scheps at 6:00pm. Board members in attendance were Chair Ken Scheps, Supervisors Harland Becker and Ed Miller, Treasurer Hoyt Rose, and Clerk Kristen Moen. Also in attendance was Bruce Sellent and

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

3-The Clerk presented via email and meeting the monthly meeting minutes for February 12th, 2024. Supervisor Harland Becker made motion to approve minutes as sent via email. Supervisor Ed Miller 2nd the motion, All in favor, Motion carried.

4-The Treasurer report for February and March was given by Treasurer Hoyt Rose. Supervisor Harland Becker made a motion to approve Treasurer's report as presented, Ken Scheps seconded this, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk presented working capital and budget with no questions from the board.

5-Chair Ken opened public portion at 6:10pm. Ken shared that both him and Ed went to District Meeting and discussed the BOR and talked about shared revenue update and that we should be getting some and it should help a lot but up to a 15% penalty if the fire chief doesn't turn in his report. We have to make sure that Turtle Lake also claims and reports us. Harland stated that we need to update the TL Fire Department about this also. Vince should know something before the June meeting. It is for Fire Protection and EMT but we only utilize Fire Protection. Ken said that Ed messaged about a tree down and they messaged Gary but he is out of the country so Nolan went and took care of them. Harland noted another one that he will check on tomorrow morning. One was already moved and the other one was still there and needed a large chain saw. Board discussed the need to fix ditches etc. after the last snowstorm. Board then reviewed and discussed what was learned at the BOR training and new things that were learned and discussed. Public Portion closed at 6:24pm

6-Bruce Sellent presented that he received a letter from his assessor. He went to the county for a formality to put up a grain facility that is already up. He did go to county and would like to get an exception for his grain bins and he basically is trying to get approval from the board to have put them up. Asking for a variance or a special exception and is it 75' off of the road right away. Ken asked if a fire number is there and he confirmed with Fire Number and it is posted. Board agreed and signed documents. Harland Becker made motion to approve variance for Sellent's grain bins/warehouse keeper 1362 6th Street Almena, Ken seconds the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

7-Clerk presented CDBG-CV Overview, board noted.

8-LRIP update from Mark Servi and board noted.

9-17th Ave ARIP Project and discussed. Clerk to send Mark Servi his check for creating the grant document and submitting this. Board discussed what they were planning to do and explained to town members that were at the board.

Ken was reminded of a culvert that was approved by the county to fix the culvert by Echo and Horseshoe and the town is still responsible for 25% of the cost. Ed asked if the DNR would help with this since it is there water, board discussed that they probably wouldn't. Board then discussed the boat landing and when that will be done.

10-April 15th at 1pm Xcel Energy meeting and board noted. Larry Nevin from Clinton Township wanted to also be present at the meeting so that he is aware of what is going to be happening. Meeting is next Monday and Clerk responded to email from Megan per Ken's request confirming the meeting and answering her questions.

11-April 11th 8am Annual County Town Day Board noted and Ken RSVP'd.

12-FEMA FY SAFER Grant board noted.

13-New Pressure Washer as the current one is many years old from when Ed was here and at that time it was a used rebuilt one. Gary quoted a 3.8 gallons per minute and 2800PSI. It is a steam pressure washer and they are asking \$5700 as an invoice for IDSO's out of Chippewa Falls. Board discussed where other money was saved this year with plowing and gas. Harland Becker made the motion to spend \$5700 to purchase a new pressure washer KWMH4M. Ken Scheps seconded this motion, all in favor motion carried. Invoice is available upon request.

14-Small Bridge-Culvert Program Update which was already discussed as it was approved between Echo and Horseshoe lake. We will have 25% responsibility. Another bridge will be going 15 ½ ave and was approved last year.

15-Road Maintenance and equipment update board discussed roads etc. and board didn't have much to discuss. There is one spot that Ken noted that would need to be fixed and board agreed that cold mix would be suitable to fix the breakup on the edge of the road. Driveway needs to be made larger and line fence and road way cleared out to prevent this from happening and board discussed. Another spot on upper turtle has a spot that is washing away closer and closer to the road. Board noted these 2 spots for the road run day. Board discussed "road run" day and decided that Friday April 19th at 7:30am

Ken then was reminded that on 2 2/1 street and on that curve it has a 35 MPH sign on that corner and a special needs child lives there. The parents are wondering if we could do an Autistic Sign for on that corner. Cops and Gary have sat on that corner and many people speed on that road. Board agreed to drop speed limit to 25 and it needs to be registered with the county. They also agreed to purchase 2 Autistic Child Area signs for both directions on that road.

11-Board audited and approved vouchers 9796-9817 void of 9797. Ken made motion to approve vouchers, Ed Miller second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

12-Board sets next regular monthly town meeting for May 13th 6pm. Annual Meeting is set for Monday April 22nd at 6pm and Open book is Tuesday April 9th 10:30 – 12:30pm with BOR on Monday April 22 from 8-10 am, Fire meeting April 18th and Road Run Friday April 19th.

13-Chair Ken made motion to adjourn, Harland 2nds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.

Respectfully submitted – Kristen Moen, Clerk