

The Ellsworth Town Board met Monday, December 2, 2024 at the Town Hall at 7 p.m. The meeting notice had been posted November 20th at the town hall, website, Kenny's Lawton Bar, 715 Steer and Beer, reposted at town hall November 24th, and published in the November 27, 2024 issue of the Pierce County Journal. All Town Board members (Chair Billeter, Supervisors Ristow and Borner, Treasurer Hines, Clerk Beastrom) were present. Also present were Mary and David Lewien, Ron Reigle, Tim Lorenz, Sheldon Huppert, Barry Foy and maintenance Tim Westerberg and Don Jakes.

**DECEMBER
BOARD
MEETING**

Chair Billeter called the meeting to order.

**CALL TO
ORDER**

The minutes of the November budget hearing, the Special town meeting to approve the levy, and the November board meeting had been distributed prior to this meeting and were available at the meeting.

MINUTES

MSC to approve the minutes of the November budget hearing, the Special Town meeting to approve the levy, and the November board meeting.
(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner).

Clerk presented current financial report: checking \$27,016.57; LGIP General \$134,323.94; LGIP Machinery \$126,901.50; LGIP town Hall Fund \$110,356.75; Cash on hand \$25, Money Market \$62,361.05. The Shared Revenue amount of \$77,446.14 was deposited in the LGIP General account.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

MSC to accept the financial report.

(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner).

Public Comments: Barry Foy asked why the last minutes are not posted on the website. Clerk responded they are posted after being approved at the meeting.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Maintenance Don Jakes reported: snow equipment is ready to go; mowing is done and have worked on the pad for the container office.

**ROAD
WORK**

490th Ave road work is done for the season; final blacktopping will be done as soon as possible in the spring. Mattison Contractors, subcontractor for Haas, seeded and mulched the ditches and put up the silt fences. Town employees did the shouldering. To pay for the project completed thus far, the Town received loan of \$600,000 from CCF at 7.5%; \$50,000 was put into savings. Interest payments due the 12th of the month.

**490th AVE LRIP
RD PROJECT**

Discussion continued between David and Mary Lewien and the board regarding speed limit on 490th Ave. The DOT document does not clarify the issue. Clerk will check with Wisconsin Towns Association and Supervisor Ristow will check with Chad Johnson, Pierce County Highway Commissioner.

The issue is tabled to January.

**490th AVE
SPEED**

MSC to amend Ordinance 2024-2 No Thru Truck Ordinance to include 490th Avenue from County Rd C east to 610th Street.

**AMEND
ORD
2024-2**

(Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow.)

No Driveway applications to consider.

DRIVEWAYS

MSC to enter into an attorney agreement with Lindsey Kohls from Bakke-Norman in New Richmond on an "as needed basis".

**ATTORNEY
AGREEMENT
LINDSEY KOHLS**

(Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow).

Board will meet Monday December 16 at 6 p.m. to discuss clerk responsibilities, job description and process for hiring an appointed clerk.

APPOINT
CLERK

Caucus was set for Monday, January 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. with the board meeting to meet after caucus at approximately 7:00 p.m.

CAUCUS &
NEXT MEETING

Chair Billeter appointed Katie Mazac to the ETZ committee and Ronald Reigle to the Plan Commission.

COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS

The container office unit has been delivered. Electricity, Wi-Fi and internet will be connected soon.

CONTAINER
OFFICE

Proposal from Len Schrieber of Auth Consulting was not timely received for this meeting and was tabled to the next building committee meeting.

AUTH
CONSULTING

No operator license applications.

LICENSES

The following bills were reviewed for payment: Ayres Associates \$5900 (ARIP Application) ; Chippewa Valley Energy \$1904.17 (diesel); Column \$95.96 (publications in Pierce County Journal); Consumer Cooperative \$149.60; GFL \$302.89 (refuse hauling); Hydraulic Component Repair \$425.00 (wing cylinder); Indianhead Truck Equipment, \$1765 (head lamp) and \$1108.05 (spinner); Ironclad Storage \$300 (delivery & pick up charges) and \$500 (rent): John Deere Financial \$1206.19 (pressure censor on tractor); Auth Consulting \$1677 (engineering fees); Owen Assessing \$660.00 (assessing contract); Ellsworth Parts City \$69.31 (parts); Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services \$ 36.00 (electricity); Swift Current \$77.12 (internet & phone); Waltz Ace Hardware \$67.83 (parts and supplies); Phyllis Beastrom \$585.36 (payroll exp \$223.66, ink & paper \$165.51, election postage \$196.18)and the following were charged on the maintenance credit card Runnings 232.11 (parts \$39.16, clothing \$195.95) Fleet Farm \$849.99 (air compressor) and \$345.89 (tarp \$99.99 & clothes, shoes \$245.90).
MSC to pay the bills. (Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow).

BILLS

Correspondence: 1 –The Town received \$600,000 of the \$800,000 line of credit from CCF bank; 2 – town received \$77,446.14 in Shared Revenue; 3 – County land use permits were issued to: Phillip Hakari – addition with porch; sanitary permits to Joseph & Dawn Minder; Melissa Campbell, Jonathan Goodried, and Margaret Feuerhelm; Address sign for Melissa and Aaron Campbell.

CORRES-
PONDENCE

4 – ETZ Permits issued to Sheldon Johnson for attached garage and to the Town of Ellsworth for the container office. 5-Notice from DNR that Rich Hageman enrolled 10 acres Closed in MFL program; 6 – Notice of School board election on April 1, 2025. 7- official 2024 population for Town of Ellsworth is 1127.

Companion Animal Control had contacted clerk just before the meeting about a call for kittens. Board responded they are contracting with CAC for dog control.

ANIMAL
CONTROL

Supervisor Ristow suggested the board meet with the residents on 610th Ave to discuss the ravine and curve and long range plan for road reconstruction.

FUTURE
ITEMS TO
CONSIDER

Chair also mentioned the board needs to consider replacing the 2010 truck – estimated cost of \$250,000-\$300,000.

MSC to adjourn. (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)
Phyllis Beastrom, Clerk

ADJOURN