

Hartland Regular Town Board Meeting October 10, 2023 at 7:00pm

The town meeting was called into session at 7:01PM by Chair, Kurt Nelson. Others present: Supervisor Don Acker, Treasurer Cyndi Kern, Clerk Polly Remick, Highway Patrolman RJ Duden, 2 guests.

The **minutes** of the September 12, 2023 regular meeting were presented by the Clerk. Motion made by Acker to accept minutes, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Operational Planning Meeting for the 490th Street Bridge Project were presented by the Clerk. Motion made by Acker to accept the minutes with corrections as noted, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

Monthly bills were presented. Acker made a motion to accept and pay all bills. Motion seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

The **Treasurer's Report** – showed \$368,967.07 in the checking account. Total funds available \$368,967.07 less equipment outlay of \$36,379.57, road expense of \$220,284.80 Local Recovery Fund of \$41,002.64 and EI Grant of \$400 for an adjusted balance of \$71,300.06. A motion was made by Acker to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

RJ's Road and Road Work Report

- Johnson's were here to pump out septic system
- New tires/wheels installed on tandem truck
- WISLR paperwork submitted and received on 9/20. *Dec Deadline
- Mower pulled out of storage and serviced. Started with mowing all the hills, and will continue mow-back as crops come out.
- Met with Chad and Kurt to inspect the route that the Purina sludge haulers have been using. These roads will need fairly significant repairs in the coming years.
- Finally received some much-needed rain. Was able to get out grading for 2 ½ days. Most roads holding up well. Some will need additional grading going into fall/winter.
- Tree work is ongoing. Hoping to get out later this fall to clear back some of the problem areas.
- Hand patching continues weekly.
- Spoke with Elliot about spray patching the bridge edges on 290th near the Andrews property. The road has settled some on both sides of the bridge creating a ridge that the plows catch on.
- Treated the Hall/Shop with bug slayer to knock down the Wasps/Boxelders/Asian beetles.
- Delivered rock to a handful of residents in the past couple of weeks.
- Will be out inspecting culverts during and after mowing is complete.
- Reached out to the county sign crew about new numbers to overlay Dump Hours sign. Possibly add a sign to the gates on the driveway if/when hours would change.

Chairman Nelson reported that Town of Hartland has been approved for a \$26,000 match for roads through the TRI program. A road or section of road will be selected for paving as funding will allow, and Chair Nelson will prepare the necessary documentation to secure the funding.

Old Business

Chair Nelson provided the following bridge projects update –

- 490th Street – Operational meeting was held on October 5, 2023. The board decided to move forward with a bridge vs a box culvert for several reasons. See Operational Planning meeting minutes meeting for more detailed information.
- 570th Street – Five RFQ's were sent on September 15 2023 with a due date of October 4, 2023. Only one Statement of Qualifications was received back, from Ayres Engineering. Discussion about potential construction concerns and access to adjacent private property. The Clerk will resend the invitation to bid with updated information as to project timeline.

Ambulance Committee Update – None.

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Fire Department Report – None.

Building Ordinance as revised in [August] is OK to be publically noticed. Motion by Nelson, seconded Acker to move forward with publically noticing and finalizing adoption of new language.

New Business

A motion was made by Nelson seconded by Acker to go into closed session to discuss and take action for town maintenance compensation for 2024. Motion carried.

A motion to return to open session was made by Nelson, seconded by Acker. Motion carried. The board recommends a 5% increase for 2023 for both salary and retirement contribution for full-time employee.

Pay for part-time road maintenance help will be raised to \$22 per hour. A motion was made by Nelson to approve the increases, seconded by Acker. Motion carried.

New town owned pick-up truck – main justification is to save wear and tear and fuel costs on the larger vehicles. RJ is thinking three quarter ton, 4WD, estimated 4,000 – 7,500 miles per year. Huge savings in fuel alone for diesel in big trucks vs gas in a ¾ ton. Clerk and patrolman will check with SourceWell and local GM and Ford dealers.

Dump hours change – The Board is in favor of changing the dump hours to 8AM to Noon effective January 1, 2024. RJ will work with the County to get some new signage. Treasurer will include the hours change in the upcoming tax newsletter.

Public Comment

Resident expressed concerns about a local property using their existing farm as an Air BNB / VRBO land a commercial hunting preserve. Pierce County zoning should be consulted as to the need for a conditional use permit. There are also rules about how close they can be to existing structures when shooting a bow, rifle, etc.

A letter was received from Pierce Pepin regarding liability related to fires. No action is needed. This is just an administrative action on the part of Pierce Pepin.

Correspondence

- The September building and/or sanitary permit reports was presented. [Clerk's note – information from the county regarding September permit activity was received after the October meeting, and will be presented at the November meeting.]
- Companion Animal Control Report – no calls in September.

Upcoming Events

Next regular Town Board meeting November 14, 2023 7:00PM

Budget meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2023 following the regular town board meeting

Motion was made by Acker to adjourn the monthly meeting. Seconded by Nelson. Meeting adjourned at 8:47PM.

Polly Remick – Clerk