

Hartland Regular Town Board Meeting December 12, 2023 at 7:00pm

The town meeting was called into session at 7:01PM by Chair, Kurt Nelson. Others present: Supervisor Don Acker, Supervisor Mark Girdeen, Treasurer Cyndi Kern, Clerk Polly Remick, Highway Patrolman RJ Duden; 4 residents/guests.

The **minutes** of the October 17, 2023 Special Meeting were presented by the Clerk. Motion by Girdeen to accept the minutes, seconded by Acker. Motion carried.

The **minutes** of the November 14, 2023 regular meeting were presented by the Clerk. Motion made by Girdeen to accept minutes, seconded by Acker. Motion carried.

The **minutes** of the November 14, 2023 Budget Meeting were presented by the Clerk. Motion made by Girdeen to accept minutes, seconded by Acker. Motion carried.

Monthly bills were presented. Girdeen made a motion to accept and pay all bills.

The **Treasurer's Report** – showed \$329,813.44 in the checking account. Total funds available \$329,813.44 less equipment outlay of (\$11,310.93) road expense of \$217,895.19, Local Recovery Fund of \$39,281.49 and El Grant of \$400 for an adjusted balance of \$83,547.69. A motion was made by Girdeen to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Acker. Motion carried.

RJ's Road and Road Work Report

- Ellsworth Fire Dept. was here for their annual inspection. The inspector noted the Emergency Exit Sign on the north wall of the meeting room should be moved to the south wall. The sign has been relocated accordingly.
- The mower was cleaned up and put away for winter.
- Couple of snow/freezing rain events were handled without any problems.
- Waste management has delivered the new dumpster.
- GFL will be contacted for removal of their dumpster and cancelation of services.
- Hand patching - another 4 tons done this month. Blew a tire on the patching machine last week. Bauer Built has tires on order. Because the patcher is owned in partnership with the Town of Ellsworth they agreed to purchase 1 tire, Hartland purchase 1 tire, leaving us with a spare for future use.
- Sign work is ongoing, RJ inventoried all the signs we have in stock currently. Also placed an order for new signs in need of replacement. Roughly 60 signs to swap out this winter.
- Able to get in contact with our fuel delivery driver. He assured that we do receive blended fuel during winter months. We are also on auto-fill program.
- Kurt, Don, RJ were able to meet up with James from Nestle/Purina to inspect the sludge hauling route. They all agreed the route needs more attention with blade patching. Nestle agreed to aid in more funding.
- The core drillers for the new bridge on 490th were scheduled to do work the week of the 4th. The road was posted.
- New cutting edges were installed on the front plow of the 2013 truck.
- New town truck was picked up and has been working great. Saved roughly 500 miles wear and tear and 100gal. of fuel thus far vs Dump Truck. Designs By Jill was able to get the door decals printed and installed. The County has a 2-way communication radio on order for us. RJ would like to get a headache rack for behind the back window. This would allow us to mount the radio antenna, strobe lights, and some hand tools without drilling holes into the roof, as well as add protection for the back window from any accidents. Approx. Cost \$750. RJ also contacted an upfitter about a basic DOT approved strobe/safety lighting package; the estimated cost is \$1500-\$2000. Another option could be to order the lights and install ourselves.
- Posting boxes are in dire need of repair. RJ patched them up enough to get through the past year but all 3 will need to be replaced. Price for (3) shipped is \$760.

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- The board authorized purchase of the headache rack and the radio from the county and asked RJ to look further into options for the lights.
- There was some discussion about how many posting boxes are needed now that we post the required notices on the webpage as per WI Stats. s. 985.02(2). The clerk will look in to posting requirements to help determine how many posting boxes should be ordered.

Old Business

Chair Nelson provided the following bridge projects update –

- 570th Street – The Clerk resent the invitation to bid with updated information as to project timeline. No responses were received. The Clerk will send out at least 5 additional requests for statements of qualifications to engineering firms not previously contacted.
- Ambulance Committee Update – None.
- Fire Department Report – None.

New Business

The Board discussed increasing the current rates for delivering salt/sand, crushed rock and other materials, as well as the hourly rate for a truck and one man. The patrolman and the clerk will revise the ordinance with the new suggested rates and bring it to the January meeting for consideration and approval by the board.

Public Comment

Representatives from the Bay City snowmobile club were present to discuss use of road use for the snowmobile trail on 290th Street for about 1/3 of a mile. The Board did not see an issue with snowmobiles having access to the road (in the ditch and potentially outside of the road right of way depending on conditions).

Town Residents Matthew and Carrie Duffy were present to discuss concerns relative to animal control services, particularly as relates to abandoned cats vs dogs. The Board listened to their concerns, and explained that, due to budgetary constraints, language in state statute regarding feral and/or abandoned cats, and safety concerns for town officials responding directly, it is not possible for the town to authorize our animal control contractor to respond to calls regarding cats or dogs unless there is imminent public danger.

Correspondence

- The November building and/or sanitary permit reports were presented.
- Companion Animal Control Report – call received in November regarding abandoned cat, but no recovery attempt made.

Upcoming Events

Next regular Town Board meeting January 9, 2024 7:00PM

Adjourn - Motion by Girdeen to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Acker.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Polly Remick – Clerk