

TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at the Martell Town Hall. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; treasurer's report; old business: discuss road work; new business: discuss and approve driveway permits, employee's report, approve payment of bills, adjourn Board of Review to June 12, meet with Darel Hall (potential animal control officer), discuss holding tank agreement with Jane Schwalbe, sign ordinance appointing alternate members Board of Review, accept lawn mowing bid from Outdoor Lawn Management, discussion and recommendation on conditional use permit for Matt Matzek for garage addition, read correspondence, set date for next meeting, open for discussion and adjourn.

Martell Town Board
Agenda
April 9, 2019

Open meeting

- Approve minutes from March 12, 2019 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report

Old Business:

- Discuss road work

New Business:

- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Employee's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Meet with Rural Insurance agent to review coverage
- Discussion of ongoing investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wine sales in town
- Discuss application from Dao Yang and Troy Olson for slaughterhouse (This request was withdrawn March 27.)
- Discuss date for Board of Review (Mark Garlick says 1-3 p.m. June 5 for Open Book and 6-8 p.m. June 12 for Board of Review.)
- Appointment new representative to Ellsworth Area Ambulance Board
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Adjourn meeting

TOWN OF MARTELL
March 12, 2019 meeting

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, 2019 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Also present were board members John Worsing and Dale Olson, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Judy Wiff.

Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to approve the minutes from the Feb. 13, 2019 meeting with two revisions. Motion carried.

The Board accepted the treasurer's report with February disbursements of \$879,955.22 and receipts \$415,596.96 for a month-end balance of \$154,207.98.

OLD BUSINESS

Road work: Taplin reported he has gotten estimates from the Pierce County Highway Department for 2019 work. The estimates are: sealcoat 530th Street, one mile, \$16,200; sealcoat 780th Avenue, one mile, \$16,200; seal coat 690th Street, 1.75 mile, \$28,275; overlay 810th Avenue, \$55,000; 770th Avenue culvert, total cost \$33,080 with the town and county splitting the cost and each paying \$16,540. Taplin said the county could do this work for town. Total cost estimates for the Town's share of this work would be \$132,215.

Taplin noted there will be a need for a lot of road patching this year. He told road patrolman Bob Ortner to let him know if the roads have to be posted before the April Town Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Driveway permits: Taplin said there were none.

Employee's report: Ortner reported that in February he spent 224 plowing and sanding and 22 hours on shop work

Ortner said people who plow their driveway snow across roads create problems for road maintenance when the snow piles freeze. He said hitting a frozen pile of snow pushes the grader across the road.

Taplin asked the treasurer to include a notice that it's illegal to push snow onto the road when she sends out property tax bills later this year. He also asked that that information be posted on the Town's web page.

Payment of bills: Motion by Worsing, second by Olson , to pay the February bills. Motion carried.

Report on investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wines sales in town: Taplin said he is still waiting to hear back from the Town's attorney. He directed that the lawyer be told to go ahead and prepare an ordinance that would allow the Town to issue liquor licenses.

Correspondence: No action was taken on correspondence.

Date for next meeting: Worsing made a motion, seconded by Olson, to hold the next meeting April 9, 2019. Motion carried.

Open Discussion: Conditional Use Permit – Dao Yang and Troy Olson asked the Town Board to endorse their plans to establish a slaughterhouse. The business would be on a 15-acres site across Hwy. 63 from the Red Barn. Olson said they are proposing a USDA-inspected facility for farmers who want to sell their poultry, sheep and pork commercially. The applicants said they need the Town Board's blessing before they can continue with the process of applying to Pierce County for a Conditional Use Permit.

Yang and Olson said they plan to build a 3,000 to 5,000 sq. ft. pole building, process 500 to 600 chickens per day and send a lot of the meat to St. Paul. Yang said they expect much of the product to be sold to the Hmong or Asian community.

Town Board members said they need a legal description for the property and a plot map before they can take any decision. The Yang-Olson request will be added to the agenda for the April 9 meeting.

At 7:50 p.m. Worsing made a motion, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried.

Judy Wiff, Clerk

Martell Town Board
Agenda
March 12, 2019

Open meeting

- Approve minutes from Feb. 13, 2019 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report

Old Business:

- Discuss road work

New Business:

- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Employee's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discussion of ongoing investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wine sales in town
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Adjourn meeting

TOWN OF MARTELL
Feb. 13, 2019 meeting

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 13, 2019 by Chairman Brad Taplin. (The meeting had been postponed for a day because of weather conditions.) Also present were board member John Worsing and clerk Judy Wiff.

Motion by Worsing, second by Taplin, to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2019 meeting. Motion carried. Motion by Worsing, second by Taplin, to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019, Town Caucus. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with January disbursements of \$293,653.73 and receipts of \$862,456 for a month-end balance of \$618,566.24.

OLD BUSINESS

Road work: Taplin said road projects considered for 2019 include cold patch on 810th; sealcoat on 530th and 780th and possibly sealcoating on 690th. Taplin asked road patrolman Bob Ortner to get estimates on four miles of sealcoating and the cold patch for 810th. Taplin said he will see if he can get a new price for a culvert on 770th.

Ortner asked about repairs to the bridge on 620th. Taplin said he will have someone take a look at drainage there.

Worsing thanked Ortner for the good work he has been doing on keeping roads cleared during several weeks of particularly hard winter.

NEW BUSINESS

Driveway permits: Taplin said there were none.

Employee's report: Ortner reported that in January he spent 74 hours plowing and sanding, 52 hours doing shop work and 20 hours cutting trees.

Ortner asked for a new welder since his old one burned. Worsing made a motion, seconded by Taplin to buy a welder with torch kit, and cart from Mississippi Welders Supply Company for \$2,597. Motion carried.

Ortner asked board members what they think of getting a snowblower for the tractor. Taplin said snowblowers can work ok, but they can be a problem too and mentioned having one machine blowing snow into an area he had just plowed. Worsing said the snowblower wouldn't be used much because there is only a

limited time during which it would be needed. Taplin suggested putting off the discussion.

Payment of bills: Motion by Worsing, second by Taplin, to pay the January bills. Motion carried.

Report on investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wines sales in town: Taplin said he hasn't had time in the last month to look into this. He said he will talk to attorney Bob Loberg.

Correspondence: Board members declined to pay for membership for the 2019 Town Advocacy Council of the Wisconsin Towns Association or to pay for a listing in the International League of Cities directory. Taplin signed the federal certificate, sent by Countryside Cooperative, to exempt the town from tax on fuel and gasoline. Taplin also signed the contract for to purchase stockpile gravel from Kraemer Company.

Date for next meeting: Taplin made a motion, seconded by Worsing, to hold the next meeting March 12, 2019. Motion carried.

Open Discussion: Two write-in candidates for town clerk introduced themselves.

Kate Wolfe said she has been living in the town for 10 to 12 years and wants to get more involved in the community.

Sara Cardwell said she has an undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin and a masters from the University of Portland. Her family lived here from 2007 to 2013, then moved to North Dakota after her job with Xcel Energy was eliminated during reorganization. Her family did not sell their house in Martell but had a house sitter while they were gone and moved back June 2018. She said she was employed most of her career by utilities, working in utility regulation on rate design and cost of service issues. Most recently she worked in North Dakota siting wind farms and pipelines. She said she is now working at Menards but hopes to retire soon and it would be nice to have part-time job.

At 7:35 p.m. Worsing made a motion, seconded by Taplin, to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried.

Judy Wiff, Clerk

**Martell Town Board
Agenda
February 12, 2019**

Open meeting

- Approve minutes from Jan. 8, 2018 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report

Old Business:

- Discuss road work

New Business:

- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Employee's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discussion of ongoing investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wine sales in town
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Adjourn meeting

TOWN OF MARTELL
Jan. 8, 2019 meeting

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 8, 2019 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Also present were board members John Worsing and Dale Olson, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Judy Wiff.

Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to approve the minutes from the Dec. 11, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with December disbursements of \$47,688.16 and receipts of \$25,063.58 for a month-end balance of \$49,763.97.

OLD BUSINESS

Road patrolman Bob Ortner reported that it has been a quiet month except for salting of roads.

NEW BUSINESS

Driveway permits: Taplin presented one driveway permit: a request from Brian Borgerson, N8346 710th St., River Falls. The permit is for an agricultural driveway on 690th Street. Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to issue the permit. Motion carried.

Employee's report: Ortner reported that in December he spent 60 hours on plowing and sanding, 88 hours on shop work and 8 hours on tree cutting.

Payment of bills: Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to pay the December bills. Motion carried.

Request to buy new tractor: Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to buy a John Deere 6110M cab tractor and with a 620R standard farm loader from Tractor Central, Durand. The price will be \$105,220.71 minus trade allowance for the 2000 John Deere 6319, for a balance owed of \$76,445.71. Motion carried. The town will pay for the tractor when it is delivered in the spring.

Report on investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wines sales in town: Olson said he could find no record of any ordinance making Martell a "dry" town. He said if the Town took action to allow sales of liquor, the Town would take applications. He said the Board must work with an attorney to assure the Town's

quota of liquor licenses is appropriate for its population. Olson said he sees no problem with issuing liquor licenses.

Taplin said he asked to have the issue investigated because there are two wedding venues in Martell, and their owners say the state is trying to make it a requirement that they have a liquor license to continue their businesses.

Olson said the Town can work with the Wisconsin Towns Association, and he will continue to look into issue and contact the Towns Association and the local historical society.

Taplin suggested calling attorney Robert Loberg for pointers and advice.

Building Inspector Contract: The Board was presented with the 2019 Agreement for Building Inspection Services with All Croix Inspections Corp., Hudson. All Croix serves on an as-needed basis. The agreement sets the fees that will be charged to persons requesting permits and All Croix's fees. Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to accept the contract. Motion carried.

Date for next meeting: Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to hold the next Board meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019. Motion carried.

Open Discussion: Worsing said he discussed the possibility of Martell joining that service with representatives of the River Falls ambulance. Those representatives are not opposed to Martell joining, said Worsing, but the Town would have to talk to the River Falls city administrator.

Worsing said River Falls now charges \$11 per capita but may have to increase that soon. The Town is currently charged \$24 per capita under its agreement with the Ellsworth Area Ambulance Service. Worsing said it is hard to determine response time from the River Falls service, but the time would be slightly longer to the eastern part of the Town than it would be with Ellsworth service. He said if the Board is interested, he can set up a meeting with River Falls.

Worsing also reported there is some discussion about centralizing ambulance service and make it a county service. The change would take a lot of discussion and County Board action. Worsing said everyone has a problem with the centralized service because of concerns over where ambulances would be stationed. He said the Ellsworth service can't continue to run as is because it will either go broke or increase its charges to municipalities. He said about 48 percent of runs are paid by Medicare or Medicaid, and the service loses money on each of those runs.

Worsing said the Ellsworth service is planning a February meeting to discuss options. He thought he would know more after that meeting.

Comprehensive Plan: Olson said it is time to start updating the 2010-2020 Town of Martell Comprehensive Plan.

Bryan Klaenhammer, who was secretary of the group that developed the current plan, suggested going through it, identifying revisions that are needed and changing those rather than starting fresh.

At 7:40 p.m. Worsing made a motion, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried.

TOWN CAUCUS

The town caucus was called to order.

Motion by Worsing, second by Taplin, to elect Dan Sitz to chair the caucus.

Motion carried.

Nomination for Town Chairman: Sitz asked for nominations for chairman. Olson nominated Taplin. The nomination was seconded by Worsing. There were no other nominations.

Nomination for Supervisor 1: LaDonna Worsing nominated John Worsing, second by Sheila Olson. There were no other nominations.

Nominations for Supervisor 2: Sheila Olson nominated Dale Olson, second by Worsing. There were no other nominations.

Nominations for Clerk: Sitz called for nominations for clerk. There were none. Taplin said the town will have to rely on write-in candidates for this position and asked if anyone knows of anyone who might be interested.

Nominations for Treasurer: Taplin nominated Heather Sitz, second by Worsing. There were no other nominations.

With no more business, a motion was made by Taplin, seconded by Olson, to adjourn. The Caucus was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Judy Wiff, Clerk

Martell Town Board
Agenda
January 8, 2019

Open meeting

- Approve minutes from Dec. 11 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report

Old Business:

- Discuss road work

New Business:

- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Employee's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Take action on request to buy new tractor
- Report on investigation of allowing liquor/beer/wine sales in town
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Adjourn meeting

Town Caucus

Immediately at the conclusion of the regular meeting, a caucus will be held to nominate candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the positions of town chair, supervisors, clerk and treasurer.