

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **December 8, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 8, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

**Minutes:** Motion by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Olson, second by Worsing, to approve the minutes from the Public Budget Hearing held November 10, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to approve the minutes of the Special Town Meeting also held November 10, 2020. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The board accepted the treasurer's report with November disbursements of \$20,953.84 and receipts of \$18,278.28 for a month-end balance of \$48,883.16.

**Payment of bills:** Motion by Worsing and seconded by Olson to pay the November bills. Motion carried.

**Road Work:** Not much going on. Done pothole patching for the year. 690<sup>th</sup> Avenue has damage. A driveway is being constructed which caused the damage. May need to do some patching. Some tree trimming in process. The beaver dam has been washed out.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in November he was on sick leave for part of the month and did not have time to count his work hours. He is getting the racking up in the shop.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** The pickup is going in on Thursday for a possible brake repair. The plow is going to be delivered and we will have 30 days to pay for it.

**Driveway permits:** Permit No. 2020-8 has been requested. The driveway is actually already there. Applicant is Dennis Shaw. Driveway location is 770<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Worsing moved to approve. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Discuss and act on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** Nothing new happening to act on in terms of the zoning issue. But there is an issue with the renter's dog. Tim Brown's dog bit a neighbor which is the second bite for the dog. The dog was supposed to be under quarantine when it bit Matt Koenning. According to State Statutes, Matt has to file a civil lawsuit to recover damages. If the town changes its ordinance, it will help future victims of dog bites. Clerk will look at how to amend the ordinance. The Treasurer will send a letter to the property owner telling him the dog needs to be removed. The dog was still at there as of the day before the meeting.

The victim has a copy of the Menomonie Police Report on the first bite. Matt will forward his police report when available. Ordinance states that vicious dogs are not allowed in the town. The problem is that the ordinance does not contain a remedy to get the dog out of the town. The dog is probably not licensed either. Tim Brown had the shot record but claimed it was a stray. The Koennings have three kids and they cannot go sledding or ride their bikes up and down the road when the dog is there. The dog was on a rope at the time he bit Matt. Another neighbor has been driving to the bottom of the hill to walk her dog because of the vicious dog. The owner does not seem to have control over the dog. Mr. Koennings medical bills are \$1315. The property owners phone number is 715-441-9405.

**Broadband Discussion:** Presenter was not able to attend. Postponed to the January meeting.

**Ellsworth Ambulance Service:** As of yesterday, the Ambulance Service did not have a medical director which is needed by the end of the year. They cannot distribute drugs if there is no medical director. Supervisor Worsing handed out a green packet to board members regarding the issues. Worsing has discussed moving to Aliana. Aliana is OK with Martell joining their service if River Falls is OK with it.

The town will have to make a formal request to the City of River Falls Council. The town cannot leave the Ellsworth until we know if it is OK to join River Falls. Aliana offers some things that Ellsworth does not offer and vice versa. Worsing did a mileage and time comparison between the services which is in the packet. The biggest difference is in the Southeast corner. Ellsworth is best here. But, for the Northwest corner, Allina is better. Allina has a dispatch center that will walk you through what you can do while waiting.

Apparently, the Ellsworth Ambulance Service final agreement that would have been signed by all parties cannot be found. The Agreement spells out what happens if any towns leave. The map in the packet shows what areas are served by Allina now. The feasibility study for River Falls when they were considering Aliana is in the packet. A similar assessment would be done for Martell. Allina is a non-profit. They run 13 hours a day shifts versus 24 hours for Ellsworth. Worsing believes the costs will decrease by 50% with Allina. If there was a medical director, we would have more time but if no director, Ellsworth cannot provide full service.

The Town of Martell is adjacent to River Falls which makes it easier to move than other towns. Probably cannot happen until March. Should go forward with trying to align with Allina. There will be no additional costs to join River Falls/Allina. They will absorb us as an additional municipality. The costs will include a 1.5% escalation per year. Supervisor Worsing will ask what we need to provide to initiate process. The Town Board Chairman and Worsing will need to go to the River Falls Council meetings. Worsing will send a letter to get the process started.

**Read correspondence:** We will be receiving \$140.38 from Liberty Mutual. They insure United Parcel. A UPS truck hit a street sign, so the payment is for the cost of the County replacing the post.

Received a thank you from Cpt Fhlug for Clerk's letter of appreciation for Sgt. Homann helping with the November election.

The Disaster Damage Aids payment from the state was approved. Martell will be receiving 75% of our request or \$7,991.44. This will completely recover the County's invoice and partially pay for Bob and Eric's time.

Received another notification of a change in our Terrorism Coverage from Rural Mutual.

Received a notification to join the Town Advocacy Council from WI Towns Association.

Received a notification that Gregerson Hardware is changing their hours and will only be open from 8 am to 3 pm Monday through Saturday.

Received notice that a building permit was issued to Phil & Jessica Watkins.

Received a copy of the Watchtower from Jehovah's Kingdom.

**Set Date for Town Caucus:** Motion by Worsing, second by Olson, to hold the Town Caucus on Jan. 12, 2021, immediately following the regular Town Board meeting. Motion carried.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing to hold the next Board meeting on January 12, 2021. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

The treasurer provided a copy of the information that will go on the tax bill for review. Information will include a reference to the website, adding the Assessor Mark Garlick's phone number on the bill, describing dog issues and that it is unlawful to push snow across the road. A few townspeople have not paid the fees owed for the Animal Control Office visits regarding their dogs. This cost will be added to taxes for these residents.

Worsing motioned to adjourn the meeting. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board**  
**Agenda**  
**December 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM**  
**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from Nov. 10 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Broadband Discussion – Carissa Kirchner
- Ellsworth Ambulance Service
- Read correspondence
- Set date for Town Caucus
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
  
- Adjourn meeting

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **November 10, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

**Minutes:** Motion by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The board accepted the treasurer's report with October disbursements of \$24,478.89 and receipts of \$49,804.87 for a month-end balance of \$51,692.77. Had a \$10 counterfeit bill in the recycling money this past month. Treasurer wanted to make the Recycling workers aware of this.

**Payment of bills:** Motion by Worsing and seconded by Olson to pay the October bills. Motion carried.

**Road Work:** Not much going on. The town is in a winter maintenance mode.

**Employee's report:** Ortnier reported that in October he spent 76 hours on road maintenance, 40 hours on shop work, and 20 hours on road construction.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** The Town Hall repairs have been completed to Dale Olson's satisfaction so the remainder of the bill can be paid. Monroe has a used plow for sale for \$7,142. The patrolman has been having issues with his current plow. The plow the patrolman would like to purchase is higher than the current one. Taplin stated we should table this purchase until the first of the year to ensure the town has the funds available. The Town should also ask if we can get anything for a trade-in of the current one.

**Driveway permits:** No permits.

**Discuss and act on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** Nothing new happening to act on.

**Ellsworth Ambulance Service:** The service states it is going to make \$128,000 next year. Worsing is concerned as they have never made this much in the past. Worsing is responsible for negotiating with Allina. Not sure the rest of the board is in favor of moving to Allina. If the timeframes proposed by Allina cannot be met, there may not be an opportunity to make the change. The Town is required by law to offer ambulance and fire service.

Paramedic David Kidd that works for the Ellsworth Ambulance service attended the meeting. He stated that people should talk to the Ambulance Service Director. The service has operated in the black since 2012. Expenses have been high recently as the service has purchased an ambulance, a used ambulance, a rapid response unit and heart monitors. They have a full-time

director and one full time EMT. There have been no raises for workers in 12 years. The volunteers are paid \$1 per hour and then more if there is an ambulance run but if they do not get a run, they do not make enough to pay for their gas.

Prescott went to Allina on January 1<sup>st</sup>. There have been two deaths because they could not get an ambulance from River Falls quick enough. There is only one truck part of the time in Prescott. River Falls has one truck and the truck assigned to Prescott has to be stationed ½ way in between River Falls and Prescott if the River Falls Ambulance is on a call. The Ellsworth Ambulance service has to stand by. There was an accident on Hwy 63 recently. The helicopter could not have gotten the victim to Regions Hospital faster than the Ellsworth Ambulance Service.

John Worsing countered that Allina has not provided a contract to Ellsworth so we cannot be making assumptions about what the service would look like. The Ellsworth Ambulance Service is operating on a negative cash flow. Worsing is tired of the people who operate on rumors and not facts.

**Read correspondence:** No significant correspondence was noted.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing to hold the next Board meeting on December 8, 2020. Chairman Taplin asked if the Town should move back to call in meetings due to the high number of recent Covid-19 cases in the county. Worsing stated that in person meetings should be OK if we wear masks and continue to practice social distancing. Olson seconded the motion to hold the next meeting on December 8, 2020. Motion carried.

### **Open discussion:**

The treasurer provided a copy of the information that will go on the tax bill for review. Information will include a reference to the website, adding the Assessor Mark Garlick's phone number on the bill, describing dog issues and that it is unlawful to push snow across the road. A few townspeople have not paid the fees owed for the Animal Control Office visits regarding their dogs. This cost will be added to taxes for these residents.

Worsing motioned to adjourn the meeting. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

### **Public Budget Hearing**

At 7:38 p.m. Chairman Taplin called the Public Budget Hearing to order. Four electors were in attendance. Chairman Taplin asked if anyone had questions regarding the budget documents that had been distributed. No electors had questions. Worsing motioned to close the budget hearing. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Special town meeting**

At 7:45 p.m. Chairman Taplin called to order the special town meeting. He stated the purpose of the meeting is to adopt the 2020 levy and 2021 highway expenditures. All persons in attendance voted to approve the 2020 levy and the 2021 highway expenditures of \$377, 718.

Worsing moved to adjourn the meeting. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 10-0. Meeting Adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## **Martell Town Board**

### **Agenda**

**November 10, 2020**

**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

#### **Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from October 13 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Ellsworth Ambulance Service
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion

#### **Public Budget Hearing**

At the conclusion of the regular board meeting, there will be a public hearing on the proposed 2021 budget.

#### **Special town meeting**

At the completion of the public budget hearing, there will be a meeting of the town electors to adopt the 2020 levy to be paid in 2021 and to approve 2021 total highway expenditures.

- Adjourn

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING FOR THE TOWN OF MARTELL

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 immediately following the regular meeting, there will be a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED BUDGET at the Town Hall at W5581 800<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Spring Valley, WI. The proposed budget in detail is available for inspection at the home of the town clerk by appointment. All persons are encouraged to attend this hearing and be heard. The following is a summary of the proposed 2021 budget:

	2020 BUDGET	2021 BUDGET	% CHANGE
REVENUES			
Taxes	\$317,613	\$322,204	
Intergovernmental	\$162,735	\$162,735	
New shop/Tractor	\$ 55,514	\$ 55,514	
Public charges for services	\$	\$	
Miscellaneous	\$ 7,666	\$ 5,771	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$543,528	\$546,224	+0.5%
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	\$ 57,100	\$ 52,100	
Public Safety	\$ 82,100	\$ 83,333	
Public Works	\$295,072	\$ 331,947	
Health & Human Services	\$ 7,990	\$ 9,225	
Culture/Education/Recreation	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,105	
Equipment/Debt repay	\$ 47,265	\$ 15,613	
Bldg Shop/Repair Shop	\$ 39,901	\$ 39,901	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$543,528	\$ 546,224	+0.5%
Property taxes levied for Town	\$373,127	\$ 377,718	

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF THE TOWN OF MARTELL TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 immediately following the completion of the Public Hearing on the proposed budget which begins immediately after the regular meeting at the Town Hall, a special town meeting of the electors called pursuant to Section 60.12(1)(c) of Wisconsin Statutes by the Town board for the following purposes will be held:

1. To adopt the 2020 Town tax levy to be paid in 2021 pursuant to Sec. 60.10(1) (A) of WI Statutes.
2. To approve the total 2021 total highway expenditures pursuant to Sec. 81.03 (3) of WI Statutes.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> of October, 2020. Sara J Cardwell, Clerk

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **October 13, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 13, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members John Worsing, Dale Olson, Treasurer Heather Sitz and Clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with September disbursements of \$213,929.22 and receipts of \$176,198.84 for a month-end balance of \$26,366.79. Balance is now \$62,000 because of the Transportation Aids from the state.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing to pay the September bills. Mr. Olson seconded the motion to pay the September bills. Motion carried.

#### **Road Work:**

Turn around on 710<sup>th</sup> finished. Bob was hauling rock there. Mowing in progress. Patrolman will have Eric Eckoff help with moving dirt. Beavers have not been trapped yet. Flood damage has been repaired. Bridge approaches have been paved. Weather is not going to cooperate to get the driveway at the town hall repaired.

**Employee's report:** The patrolman reported that he spent 140 hours on road maintenance and did 20 hours of shop work in September.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Shingles need to be replaced on the Town Hall porch and Dale will do some painting. Once these items are complete, that will complete the repair work scheduled at the townhall this year. The patrolman worked on repairing the pressure washer.

**Driveway permits:** A driveway permit was requested by Steve Trebus for 650<sup>th</sup> Street, 3/10 of a mile past the intersection with 870<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Worsing motioned to approve Permit No. 2020-7. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

#### **Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Nothing happening.

#### **Update on Ellsworth Ambulance Service:**

Emergency meeting tomorrow morning at 9 am. There is also a meeting scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> of October to discuss the budget. The Service still has a negative cash flow. People don't want to see an increase next year.

**Read correspondence:**

The town received an Email regarding an estimate of the population. The estimate is there are 1213 people in the town, 939 of voting age. There were 753 in the August poll book and 682 people voted in November of 2016. To date, the Clerk has sent out 209 absentee ballots. If the estimate is correct, we could still have 700 at the polls.

Monthly Land Use Permits and All Croix Permit Report were received.

A Hearing was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> regarding an Updated Floodplain for the County.

We have a bill for \$41,114.32 from the County that we hopefully can pay in December. Right now, we don't have enough money to pay it.

**Date for next meeting:** A motion was made by Olson to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, November 10th. Worsing seconded it. Motion carried. Budget meeting to be held afterwards. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

Treasurer received a notice to put a fraud statement by register of deeds in with the tax statements. The register of deeds is supplying the statements.

A Sanitary permit application was received from Steve Trebus for his property on 650<sup>th</sup> Street. Worsing motioned to approve the application. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

Testing of Voting Machines will occur on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.

The patrolman stated that a trailer was left at the shop. It turned out it was stolen but was returned to the owner.

Eric Eckoff is not going to be able to help plow this winter. People need to ask around to see if there is someone available. The last resort would be put an ad in the paper. The hours are bad so it isn't a popular position.

The chairman stated that the Fire Association will be a \$1233 increase.

**Board 2021 Budget Workshop:**

Keep everything the same as last year with the exception of the fire association, patrolman wages and lower the election costs. Any unallocated funds should go to roads.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted  
Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board  
Agenda**

**October 13, 2020**

**This meeting will be held at the Town Hall.**

**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Status of Town Hall Maintenance
- Update on Ellsworth Ambulance Service
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Board 2021 Budget Workshop
- Adjourn meeting

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **September 8, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members John Worsing, Dale Olson, Treasurer Heather Sitz and Clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with August disbursements of \$113,283.06 and receipts of \$125,994.84 for a month-end balance of \$54,347.17. Cindy Haley sent a check and a letter regarding the complaint against her dogs.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing to pay the August bills. Mr. Olson seconded the motion to pay the August bills. Motion carried.

#### **Road Work:**

All culverts have been installed. Dust control has been applied to two miles. First round of mowing complete and started on second round. Ground has been smoothed around culverts. A temporary wire had been run through a culvert. It needs to be fixed. Warren's road has been patched. Beavers are still there. Still need to work on getting them trapped. They are located at 780<sup>th</sup> West of J after 650<sup>th</sup>. There is a big pond on the side of the road. Lori Close was at the meeting and stated her son traps and she will ask him if he is interested in trapping them.

**Employee's report:** The patrolman reported that he spent 85 hours on road maintenance, 21.5 hours on road construction and also took vacation in August.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** The patrolman worked on repairing the pressure washer. The contractor hired to perform maintenance on the Town Hall will let Dale Olson know when they can start work. It will probably be in early October. The town pickup truck is working OK. There is rust on the cross members and will continue to watch for rust on the leaf spring hangers.

**Driveway permits:** A permit was requested by Phil and Jess Watkins for a driveway on the east side of 690<sup>th</sup> Street, 0.3 miles north of 780<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Olson made a motion to approve Driveway Permit No. 2020-5. Worsing seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Nothing happening.

**Discuss and Take Action on allocating remaining Road to Recovery Grant proceeds to other towns:**

The County is going to buy the new voting machines. The Town Chairman signed an agreement that the County can buy the machines for the Town. The Town can decide later on the distribution once costs for the machine and other election expenses are known.

**Preliminary Budget Discussions:**

The discussion was preliminary, and the budget information will be presented at the October meeting.

**Read correspondence:**

No significant correspondence was received.

**Date for next meeting:** A motion was made by Worsing to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, October 13th. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

There was driveway issue mentioned for a road shared with Gillman. It is on Gillman's side of the road and Martell has no reason to become involved.

Art Schaller stated that everything is fine at the recycling center except for the lady that comes periodically and throws two black bags in the garbage bin. Art will try to get her name. She comes in and out quickly and does not come every week. She told Art that her husband indicated that this was a free service.

**Closed session:** Motion made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to go into closed session to discuss the possibility of the Ellsworth Ambulance Service transitioning to Allina.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to return to open session. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted  
Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board  
Agenda**

**September 8, 2020**

**This meeting will be held at the Town Hall.**

**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Discuss and Take Action on allocating left over Road to Recovery Grant proceeds to other towns
- Preliminary Budget Discussion
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion

**Closed session**

Go into closed session to discuss:

- Ellsworth Ambulance Service/Allina
- The board may come back into open session to take action on subjects discussed in closed session.
- Adjourn meeting

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **August 18, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 18, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members John Worsing, Dale Olson, Treasurer Heather Sitz and Clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with July disbursements of \$36,505.48 and receipts of \$53,259.43 for a month-end balance of \$54,635.39.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Olson to pay the July bills. Mr. Worsing seconded the motion to pay the July bills. Motion carried.

#### **Road Work:**

Dust control has been applied. Another culvert went bad. County approved upgrading the culvert so it will qualify for bridge aid. Have three done have three left to do. Two bridges need black topping and the road in Martell needs black topping. In pretty good shape considering the flood. Beavers are still a problem. 650<sup>th</sup> has soft shoulders. The Culvert qualifying for Bridge Aid is on 650<sup>th</sup> Street south of 690 Avenue. It will cost the town \$6250 and the county will pay \$6250. Worsing motioned to approve the bridge aid. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Employee's report:** The patrolman is on vacation. The Chairman reported that Ortner spent 85 hours on road maintenance, 42 hours on storm damage, 32 hours on road construction, 9 hours on PTO and 10 hours on vacation in July.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Need to get insurance on the truck right away. Bob would like to transport it to where the box and plow will be put on. Would like it not exposed before the box and plow get installed. Loan has been approved. Will have to set up a savings account for the loan proceeds until the truck comes in and the box and plow are installed.

**Driveway permits:** None.

**Discuss and take action on Town Hall Repair Estimates:** Drain tile now included in the estimate. Nothing behind the soffit and fascia which is why there is lumber in the bid. Price of lumber has gone up. Worsing moved to approve \$12,938.00 for town hall repairs. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

#### **Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Nothing happening. No survey done yet. Tim Brown didn't take building down. County didn't fine him because he said he would do a survey.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Chippewa Valley Energy LP Bid:** 1,724 gallons used last year. Worsing made a motion to book 2000 gallons for this coming heating season. Olson seconded it. Motion Carried.

**Discuss and Take Action on the use of the Road to Recovery Grant for the purchase of new voting machines:**

The County Clerk was at the meeting to explain the grant and how it can be used to purchase new voting machines. The Martell grant is \$19,639. The grant covers Covid related expenses and will also cover voting machines. When the town files the paperwork, the expenditures will have to be described using the language the County Clerk will provide. Can only use the current machines for two more years. The new machines will last 10 to 15 years and should cost approximately \$11,500.

The new touch screens will record the votes cast on a card about the size of an envelope. The touch screen is more of a ballot marking device. It won't let the voter vote wrong. The new machines have better software. The card shows the voter their results. If it is wrong, the card can be spoiled and the voter receive a new card. Then the card is fed into the same optical scanner as used for paper ballots. Thus, only one machine does the counting. The result is only one total. Don't need to combine votes from the two machines manually like we do now. The scanner is the more expensive portion of the equipment.

The County Clerk needs to know how many pieces of equipment we want. He recommends two touch screens and one scanner. If the town were to buy a second scanner, it would only be needed for the presidential election. Heaviest voting times are after work and early morning. The town can still use the old machines for the November elections however, the new machines are easier to set up. The cost of the new machines includes training that will occur sometime before the November elections. Worsing moved to buy two new touch screens and one new optical scanner. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The County Clerk also mentioned that Martell has a larger grant than needed. There are seven townships that also need machines and the County is \$14,000 short to purchase all these additional machines. The agenda next meeting will include a discussion on providing some of our grant money to these other towns.

**Read correspondence:**

Two Land Use Permits issued in July: One for a dwelling and one for a garage. One sanitary permit issued for the house and an address was also issued for the house.

The town received approval on our loan for the new truck. We need to request the check within 4 months of the approval.

The town received a request to join the international league of cities. The town will pass on this opportunity.

**Date for next meeting:** A motion was made by Olson to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, September 8th. Worsing seconded it. Worsing may be late due to another meeting. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

Seeing the town has more money in the Road to Recovery Grant than we can use, the Clerk was asked to order masks so they would be available for any voters in November that need one. Money will also be set aside for postage.

**Closed session:** Motion made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to go into closed session to discuss a new two-year contract for Ortner. Motion carried. Present at the closed session were the board members, clerk and treasurer.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to return to open session. Motion carried.

Worsing moved to increase the patrolman's pay by \$1 per hour. This is a \$160 raise per month that will net to \$135 per month after taxes. This is the amount that the Town proposed to offer in a tax free health care savings account which was later determined to be against IRS rules as a health care savings account can't be offered without the accompanying high deductible health insurance. Olson seconded the motion to provide the raise. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted  
Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board  
Agenda**

**August 18, 2020**

**This meeting will be held at the Town Hall.**

**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on Town Hall Repair Estimates
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Discuss and Take Action on the Chippewa Valley Energy LP Bid
- Discuss and Take Action on the use of the Road to Recovery Grant for the purchase of new voting machines.
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion

**Closed session**

Go into closed session to discuss:

- Employee's contract
- The board may come back into open session to take action on subjects discussed in closed session.
- Adjourn meeting

## **TOWN OF MARTELL**

### **July 14, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members John Worsing, Dale Olson and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present. Treasurer Heather Sitz joined via teleconference.

Motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with June disbursements of \$17,875.23 and receipts of \$3,236.71 for a month-end balance of \$34,704.04. Outstanding checks include the payment to the WI Towns Association. A payment was received from Kayla Kvale for her animal control issue. The town also received the WEC subgrant. All residents that requested sanding on their driveways last winter have paid their bills.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Olson. Worsing asked about the OnX software that Mr. Olson bought for \$32. Mr. Olson states this works well on his phone and is easier to use than a plat book for checking property boundaries, etc. The Chairman stated he was OK with the expense. Mr. Worsing seconded the motion to pay the June bills. Motion carried.

### **Road Work, including storm damage:**

Martell saw a lot of damage from the storm. The Chairman received bids for two of the three culverts that failed. The patrolman found two more on 650<sup>th</sup> Street that the Chairman needs to look at. A gentleman at the dump told Olson that the patrolman smashed his culvert. The patrolman said no. The patrolman has been trying to keep up with all the road work. Costs need to be separated between normal work and repairs due to the storm in case emergency funding becomes available. Will have to get the paving done to know what the final bill for the paving job will be. Once the costs are known for all the culverts, the town can see if there is additional funding left for blacktopping. A repair was made on 730<sup>th</sup>. The 36 inch culvert on 610<sup>th</sup> qualifies for cost sharing with the county. This culvert will cost \$12,453 but the county will pay half. The culvert on 870<sup>th</sup> is only 30 inches so does not qualify for cost sharing. It will cost \$9,700 to replace. The culvert on 740<sup>th</sup> is 18 inches and 20 feet long. It shouldn't be as expensive to fix.

The Chairman made a motion to file the Bridge Petition with the county to receive cost sharing on culvert for 610<sup>th</sup> Street. The motion was seconded by Olson. Motion carried.

The dust control has been completed. The patrolman asked about the mile of road on 780<sup>th</sup> that needs repair. It is not patchable. This section of road should be ground and dust control applied. The patrolman will get this scheduled.

In spite of all the flooding, the beaver dam is still there. There is work to be done on the Danny Knutson property. The patrolman will ask the county to do the work. The patrolman will also be ordering more rock.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in June he spent 148 hours on road maintenance and 26 hours on storm damage.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Equipment is holding up well. The cab and chassis are expected to be delivered in August. But, Universal is backlogged due to Covid-19 and we will not receive the other parts for the new truck until May of 2021. It was suggested that Freightliner should be asked to keep the cab and chassis until we have the remaining parts from Universal. Freightliner will have better security than the town for the cab and chassis.

**Driveway permits:** A request for a driveway permit was received from Justin Constant for W6055 690<sup>th</sup> Avenue 0.4 miles west of 570<sup>th</sup> Street. This will be Permit No. 2020-5. Worsing move to approve issuing the permit. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Discuss and take action on Town Hall Repair Estimates:** Two bids received. One from Seamless Gutter and the second from Lindus Construction. Soffit and fascia repairs are \$7800 for Lindus and \$5760 for Seamless. Gutters need to be done and the soffit and fascia. Can put off the window work for a few years if Olson works on it. Shingles on the front porch need replacing. \$9,608 for this from Seamless. There are a couple of questions regarding the Seamless estimate. Olson will discuss the Seamless bid further with the Company and this item will be discussed further next month agenda.

**Discuss and take action on Town clerk's recommendation to only publish in the Pierce County Journal:**

Worsing moved to accept this recommendation. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Tim Brown has not gotten the survey done and isn't sure he needs to. He is getting a permit for the garage. Taplin asked if he doesn't want to pursue getting the well deeded to the property. Mr. Brown said he does. Taplin stated that the town needs a survey to know where exactly the 33 feet is so if the town abandons it, the legal description is clear. Renne Soberg will need to continue to have access and the remaining 66 needs to stay public in order for this to happen. Tim Brown stated he is getting complaints on the location where he is storing tools. It isn't stopping access. Soberg stated the complains are because Mr. Brown's using the roadway for storage. Mr. Brown stated he cut the road in and it is on his property and Mr. Soberg has items in the access as well. Taplin looked at the area before the meeting and Mr. Brown's skid loader is in the public access. Again, Mr. Brown stated that Mr. Soberg is using the roadway as well. Mr. Brown stated he is not restricting access. The patrolman also needs to retain access. Further discussions are anticipated next month.

**Read correspondence:**

Four Land Use Permits issued in June: One for a dwelling. Two for garages and one for a pole shed.

The town again received information to join a Opioid Class action suit

An Insurance Refund of \$401 was received.

**Date for next meeting:** The next meeting cannot be held on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> as that is the election. A motion was made by Worsing to move the meeting to the third week, Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

Testing of the voting machines will be at 3 pm on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Tom Sitz turned in 19 pair of gopher feet and is due \$57.

Bob wants a used racking system for the shop. The cost is \$900. Olson made a motion to approve. Worsing seconded it. Motion carried.

Warren Schade asked what the plan is for remainder of 530<sup>th</sup> street. Bob will patch it. Will take a couple of weeks to do.

**Closed session:** Motion made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to go into closed session to discuss a new two-year contract for Ortner. Motion carried. Present at the closed session were the board members, Ortner and the clerk.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to return to open session. Motion carried.

In open session, Worsing made a motion to give Ortner a new two year contract with \$135 in a pre-tax Health Savings Account that Ortner could use for health insurance with a statement that the contract can be revisited next July. No other changes in provisions will be made to the contract. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Closed session:** Motion made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to go into closed session to discuss the Ellsworth Ambulance Service and Baldwin hospital's ambulance transport services into Martell.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to return to open session. Motion carried.

In open session, no further discussion was necessary.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted  
Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board  
Agenda**

**July 14, 2020**

**This meeting will be held at the Town Hall.**

**Social distancing and mask wearing are strongly recommended**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work, including recent storm damages to the roads
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on Town Hall Repair Estimates
- Discuss and take action on clerk's recommendation to only publish in the Pierce County Journal
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion

**Closed session**

Go into closed session to discuss:

- Employee's contract
  - Ellsworth Ambulance Service
- The board may come back into open session to take action on subjects discussed in closed session.
- Adjourn meeting

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**June 9, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin via teleconference. Board member John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Taplin to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with May disbursements of \$51,901.19 and receipts of \$2,023.81 for a month-end balance of \$49,342.56. The tractor payment to John Deere was one of the big payments in May. Have received all payments for residents that requested sanding during the winter.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Taplin to pay the May bills. Motion carried.

**Road Work:** Getting ready for the seal coating project. The patrolman applied six loads of gravel to the road intersecting with Rush River Township and spent two hours blading.

The patrolman has not heard back from the Town of River Falls regarding the intersecting road that was discussed at last month's meeting.

The patrolman will continue grading, mowing ditches, and patching potholes. May have some flood control to do tomorrow.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in May he spent 70 hours on road maintenance, 30 hours on construction and 20 hours doing shop work. The employee contract ends next month so it should be on next month's agenda for discussion.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** There was an issue with the pick-up. New plugs, wires and a relay was fixed. Dale Olson will have some repair estimates for the Town Hall next month that need to be on the agenda.

**Driveway permits:** We have a request for a permit at approximately 720<sup>th</sup> and 610<sup>th</sup>. The permit would be issued to a relative of the Knutson Family Farm. It

would be Permit No. 2020-4. The road is crushed rock in that area so the driveway should not cause any damage. Worsing motioned to approve Permit No. 2020-4. Taplin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Worsing asked about a new driveway he saw at 780<sup>th</sup> just east of 690<sup>th</sup>. Taplin stated this was the gentleman who requested to move his driveway and it was approved last year. This is the same area where we have the beaver issue and the beavers are back again. Taplin called someone about trapping the beavers.

**Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** No survey has been done yet. Got a copy of a violation from the county as a new building was erected where the building was required to be torn down. The enforcement will happen next week. Angie Stockwell stated that the prospective buyer told her he got his permit and doesn't need a survey. Ren stated that this gentlemen has become hostile toward him. Brad will call the county tomorrow.

#### **Read correspondence:**

Two Land Use Permits issued in May: One for an attached pole shed & a garage, and the second for a chicken coop. Four sanitary permits were issued and one uniform address numbering was issued.

Do we use the WisDOT LRIP application? Not this year.

Taplin requested the clerk look into the Covid-19 funding for election needs. He believes the town can get a \$1900 grant and as a minimum should buy plexi-glass screens to have in front of the poll workers.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing and seconded by Taplin to hold the next Board meeting on July 14, 2020. This will be a live meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Open discussion:**

No one came to the open book. Board of Review is scheduled for next Tuesday evening at 6 pm until 8 pm. This will be an-in person meeting.

When residents want to burn, they need to call Brad and the Sheriff Dispatch number.

Clerk will put an item on the agenda that we plan to start publishing notices only in the Pierce County Journal.

The patrolman stated that the bill just received from Kraemer should be charged to the town of Rush River as well as two hours of grader time.

The patrolman asked about dust control. Yes, the town will do dust control and should include in front of Jeremy Beadles place.

Worsing asked about the decision in the dog case that went to court. We have not heard from the dog control office.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 7:28 pm. Taplin seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

**Martell Town Board**  
**Agenda**  
**June 9, 2020**  
**This meeting will be held via teleconference**  
**Dial into the meeting: 715-201-9185**

**Open meeting**

- Approve minutes from May 12 meeting
- Approve treasurer's report
- Approve payment of bills
- Discuss road work
- Employee's report
- Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues
- Discuss and approve driveway permits
- Discuss and take action on the zoning issues for the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Read correspondence
- Set date for next meeting
- Open for discussion
- Adjourn

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**May 12, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin via teleconference. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2020 meeting with corrections on the road work section. This section should be modified to state that seal coating 690<sup>th</sup> and 530<sup>th</sup> will be done and there is only a possibility of doing 780<sup>th</sup> and 810<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with April disbursements of \$27,542.59 and receipts of \$49,827.17 for a month-end balance of \$99,219.74. The current balance is just over \$69,000.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Olson to pay the April bills. Motion carried.

**Road Work:** The Patrolman mentioned that work needs to be done on a road the town shares with River Falls. The shoulders are bad, it is beyond patching and ditching needs to be done on the River Falls portion. River Falls previously indicated that they did not want to do anything with it. The Patrolman believes at a minimum, the road should be milled it so it can more easily be maintained. The Patrolman received a bid of \$2200 to do this work. River Falls is also meeting tonight & will let the town know if they agree to do the work with each town paying half of the \$2200.

The patrolman has been working on ditch maintenance. Board Supervisor Olson stated that the patrolman did not lock the gate at the recycling center and people dumped garbage into the recycling bin and recycling into the garbage bin. The patrolman left the gate open for service to the porta-potty. Supervisor Olson mentioned the door is still busted on the porta-potty. The patrolman has previously repaired the door and the porta-potty was serviced.

Dirt is piling up at the recycling center from the ditch maintenance. The patrolman will work the pile. Some ditches have a continued problem. The County has cleaned up these problems and the patrolman and Shadow Excavation have cleaned them twice now.

The seal coat bid from the County for 690<sup>th</sup> to County J and 530<sup>th</sup> for one mile includes spray patching before applying the seal coat. The spray patching will cost approximately \$5,000. The seal coating will cost \$80,300. A topcoat would be another \$9,950. It will be less if the patrolman can help with traffic control. The bid from Scotts to chip seal 690<sup>th</sup> was approximately \$94,000. The county is less expensive and is using a different product. The Chairman asked what the other Board members thought about optional portion. This was done on Hwy 63 and a section of QQ. The topcoat seals the top of the road so the water cannot get in and as a result, the road lasts longer. It also provides a better color, so the snow melts off in the winter. The County can do the work towards the end of June so if the town does not have the money to pay until August, they are OK with that. Motion by Worsing to go with lower price and extra topcoat provided for in the County's bid. Olson seconded the motion. Motioned carried.

The County also provided prices for the overlays on 780<sup>th</sup> and 810<sup>th</sup>. While this work may not be possible this year, it is good to know what the costs are. The county does not advise a one-inch overlay as it does not provide enough cover. They recommend at least an inch and ½. For 780<sup>th</sup> the one inch would be \$54,000 and the 1.5 inch would be \$78,600. Also need shouldering work here. The Patrolman thought the Scott bid for a double seal coat on 780<sup>th</sup> was \$36,000. If so, that would be a better option. 810<sup>th</sup> will need blacktop. Good to have the numbers in case there will be enough funds to do the work. The Patrolman will get the actual Scott numbers to the Chairman.

The town received the bridge inspection report back from the County. The Patrolman will review to see if he can do the shimming and brush removal. The town should also consider doing an epoxy seal on the three major bridges as they are showing surface cracks. River Falls had all theirs done and the County is doing this as well. It is a good way to seal a deck. It is a fairly expensive process but better than no maintenance as maintenance is less expensive than new bridges. Usually the town has the bridges washed annually. Should we do this? The consensus was yes.

There is an issue with the new driveway added on 690<sup>th</sup>. There is now a dip in the road that was not there before. The Chairman believes that the construction equipment being used has damaged the road. This section of the road may have to cut out and repaired. The landowner should be responsible for paying for this damage. There is a culvert laying on the road by the recycling center that is for the

Verizon cell tower. The driveway is in and the foundation for the structure is in progress.

Received an email regarding 530<sup>th</sup> Street. There are big holes that need to be filled. This should be added to the list of future projects. Still need to finish the work where there was the culver washout on 650<sup>th</sup>. It is not a big project. Will cost \$5000 if the county fixes it. Will do a blade patch and find another spot for the rest of the material. Also need to have the seeding done at this site. The Patrolman will work on this.

The new sign has not yet arrived for the park. The Patrolman will take down the sign that is there currently and put up a temporary sign, so people know that camping is no longer allowed.

**Employee's report:** Ortnier reported that in April he spent 102 hours on road maintenance, 11 hours on construction and 48 hours doing shop work.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** None.

**Driveway permits:** None.

**Discuss and Act on the Loan Application and Resolution regarding the purchase of a new truck:** Worsing made motion to approve Resolution 2020-2 for the purpose of borrowing \$175,000 for 6 years for a new Freightliner plow truck. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The town has finished paying for the grader and this payment will take its place. The town will keep the old truck as a back-up for plowing to reduce the use of the grader for plowing.

**Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** No survey has been done yet. No one has started work on tearing down the building on the property that is supposed to be torn down by May 15<sup>th</sup>. A neighbor, Angie Stockwell has expressed concern about turning over the right of way. If the survey does get done, the town may only be able to vacate part of the road.

**Discuss and Take Action on Town Hall Maintenance Issues:** There are four areas needing attention: the gutter over the door; a couple of other gutters and down spouts; a window and paint is needed around the entry door and the window that got blocked off in the furnace room. Supervisor Olson will get estimates on the gutter and window work, but he can do the painting himself.

Will have the county look at seal coating the parking lot.

**Sign Ordinance Appointing Alternate Members for the Board of Review (Board of Review Ordinance 2020-01):** Worsing moved to approve this Ordinance which appoints Tim Wiff and Sheila Olson as alternate members. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Read correspondence:**

QuickBooks Renewal on June 25 for \$474.

As per the WI Towns Assn, it is likely that there will be decreases to funding in the next fiscal year starting July 1.

Universal Truck Equipment Open House & Equipment Expo has been rescheduled to September 23. Information was provided to patrolman.

Henderson Parts are offering a 5% discount if you order at least \$250 worth and purchase by 6/30/2020.

Memo from the County regarding Act 185. The County does not recommend that towns pass a resolution to waive interest and penalties on property tax installment payments due after April 1 as long as the payment is received by October 1.

Four Land Use Permits issued in April: One for a pole shed, deck & detached building, one for a garage, one for a pole shed and one to rebuild a barn.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Olson. Seconded by Worsing, to hold the next Board meeting on June 9, 2020. Motion carried. It was suggested that we may be able to have this as an in-person meeting. The Treasurer may not attend.

**Open discussion:** Brad Taplin will take the Board of Review webinar. The dog case will go to trial the first week of June.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020. This meeting will be held via teleconference. Call 715-201-9185 to listen in and, or participate. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; approve treasurer's report; approve payment of bills; discuss road work; employee's report; discuss maintenance and repair issues; discuss and approve driveway permits; Discuss and take action on the Loan Application and Resolution regarding the purchase of a new plow truck; Discuss and take action on the zoning issues concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Discuss and take action on Town Hall maintenance issues; Sign ordinance appointing alternate members for the Board of Review (Board of Review Ordinance 2020-01); read correspondence; set date for next meeting and open for discussion.

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**Annual Meeting April 21, 2020**

The Annual meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, 2020 by Town Chairman Brad Taplin.

**Motion to approve minutes from previous annual meeting**

Motion by Dale Olson, seconded by John Worsing, to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting held April 16, 2019. Vote was 9-0. Motion carried.

**Motion to approve 2019 financial report**

Motion by John Worsing, seconded by Heather Sitz, to approve the 2019 financial report. Vote was 9-0. Motion carried.

**2019 Road Report**

Taplin gave the report for the road work done in 2019. He said the Town added rock on 610<sup>th</sup>, 730<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 620<sup>th</sup> Street. On 620<sup>th</sup> breaker rock was added on 1.75 miles. Brush removal was also done on 620<sup>th</sup>. Two 18 inch culverts were added on 643<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-four inch culverts were added on 870<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 730<sup>th</sup>, 710<sup>th</sup> and 650<sup>th</sup> Streets. Paver patching was done on 490<sup>th</sup> street. The Town blade patched 650<sup>th</sup> with 10 loads of blade patching. Additional brushing was done throughout the township.

Dale Olson added that the culverts were all repairs/replacements and not new work.

**Update on 2020 road projects**

Already had to redo a culvert on 650<sup>th</sup> Street. A culvert on 710<sup>th</sup> street was removed. It had failed but was also not necessary. The town plans to seal coat 690<sup>th</sup> and one mile on 530<sup>th</sup> Street. The town plans to overlay 810<sup>th</sup> avenue and 870<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**Set Date for 2021 Annual Meeting**

Motion by John Worsing, seconded by Dale Olson, to set April 20, 2021 as the date for the next annual meeting. Vote was 9-0. Motion carried.

**Other business to properly come before the annual meeting**

Angie Stockwell asked what will happen when Cherry Lane in the Village of Martell is abandoned. Still waiting for survey results. When that is done it will be on the agenda for a monthly meeting.

Dale Olson stated that the board should address needed maintenance for the town hall. A gutter and window need replacement.

**Adjourn**

At 7:16, Dale Olson moved, motion seconded by Tim Wiff, to adjourn the meeting. Vote was 9-0. Motion carried.

Submitted by Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## **AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING**

**April 21, 2020**

The annual meeting will be held via teleconference.

Please dial 715-201-9185 to participate.

We need a count on each motion.

Each elector participating will need to identify themselves and vote via their phone on each motion.

1. Motion to approve minutes from previous annual meeting
2. Motion to approve 2019 financial report
3. 2019 road report
4. Update on 2020 road projects
5. Set date for 2021 annual meeting (April 20, 2021)
6. Other business to properly come before the annual meeting
7. Adjourn.

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**Annual Meeting April 16, 2019**

The Annual meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, 2019 by Town Chairman Brad Taplin.

Motion by Sheila Olson, second by Lori Close, to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting held April 17, 2018. Vote was 10-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lori Close, second by Sheila Olson, to approve the 2018 financial report. Vote was 10-0. Motion carried.

Taplin gave the report for the road work done in 2018. He said the Town finished the remainder of 690<sup>th</sup> Avenue and installed a 24-inch culvert on 620<sup>th</sup> Street and the town patrolman spread 25 loads of blade patch. Also the Town bought a new mower and, along with the towns of Gilman and El Paso, purchased a patching machine, splitting the cost three ways.

Planned 2019 road projects: Taplin said the amount of planned work the Town can do in 2019 depends upon how much repair work is needed following winter/spring water damage.

The work that was first planned was: sealcoat one mile on 530<sup>th</sup> Street, sealcoat one mile on 780<sup>th</sup> Avenue, sealcoat 1.75 mile on 690<sup>th</sup> Street, overlay on 810<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and a culvert on 770<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The culvert would be a cost-share project with the county.

Taplin also said he expects more brush cutting will be needed and reported that the Town is buying a new tractor loader and gravel bucket, which will be coming soon.

Supervisor Dale Olson said the town patrolman built a shoulder-gravel reclaimer that is working well.

Motion by Kate Wolf, second by Warren Schade, to set April 21, 2020 as the date for the next annual meeting. Vote was 10-0. Motion carried.

Other business to properly come before the annual meeting: There were no complaints. Olson said Martell needs to buy a new water heater for Town Hall because the old one is leaking. He said he will follow up on that.

At 7:15, Roger Wiff moved, seconded by Sheila Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Vote was 10-0. Motion carried.

Submitted by Judy Wiff, Clerk

## RECEIPTS 2019 FOR TOWN OF MARTELL

### TAX COLLECTIONS

REAL ESTATE	\$ 1,201,772.75
SPECIAL ASSESS-VILLAGE LIGHTS	\$ 760.00
USER FEE	\$ 11,550.00
PRIVATE FOREST	\$ 201.60
MANAGELAND FOREST LAND	\$ 6,422.50
<b>TOTAL CASH COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,220,706.85</b>

### OTHER REVENUE

TRANSPORTATION AIDS	\$ 129,507.69
TRIPP FUNDS	\$ -
AUG SETTLEMENT	\$ 123,024.12
LOTTERY	\$ 11,531.91
SHARED REVENUE	\$ 20,271.83
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$ 801.92
SPECIAL CHARGES-LIGHTS	\$ -
SPECIAL CHARGES-LIGHTS INTEREST	\$ -
SPECIAL CHARGES FROM FIRE	\$ -
INT ON SPECIAL CHARGES FROM FIRE	\$ -
<b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 285,137.47</b>

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE 1/1/2019</b>	<b>\$ 86,640.95</b>
RECEIPTS	\$ 1,568,484.51
DISBURSMENTS	\$ 1,768,195.04
<b>BALANCE END OF 12/31/2019</b>	<b>\$ 11,042.17</b>

**OTHER REVENUE**

BLDG INSPECTION FEES	\$	15,937.38
BRIDGE AID	\$	4,874.72
COMPUTER STATE AID	\$	49.89
DNR-PILT	\$	2,185.26
DOG FEE FROM COUNTY	\$	527.39
DOG COLLECTIONS	\$	1,090.00
DRIVEWAY PERMITS	\$	1,350.00
FIRE DUES DISTRIBUTION	\$	4,169.60
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	\$	42.00
GARBAGE BAGS	\$	6,835.50
RENT CHURCH	\$	350.00
PERSONAL PROPERTY AID	\$	1,010.12
CO-OP DIVIDENDS	\$	122.52
REFUNDS	\$	250.00
GRANT FOR CLERK SOFTWARE & TRAINING	\$	600.00
PRIVATE PAY FOR DUST CONTROL	\$	300.00
RENT PATCHER (El Paso & Gilman)	\$	1,365.00
REIMBURSEMENTS (El Paso, Gilman & Maiden Rock	\$	19,163.21
SALTING -- PRIVATE	\$	983.45
SNOWPLOWING - PRIVATE	\$	1,374.70
SALE OF STEEL, IRON	\$	59.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>62,640.19</b>

**EXPENSES FOR TOWN OF MARTELL  
2019**

**MARK GARLICK-ASSESSOR**

SALARY \$7,900.00  
TOTAL **\$7,900.00**

**HEATHER SITZ-TREASURER**

SALARY \$6,500.04  
SS 403.00  
MEDICARE 94.25  
EXPENSES --TREASURER 1,126.08  
COLLECTING TAXES 2,256.19  
TOTAL **\$10,379.56**

**SARA CARDWELL-CLERK**

SALARY \$5,333.36  
SS 330.67  
MEDICARE 77.33

**JUDY WIFF -CLERK**

SALARY 2,713.35  
MEDICARE 39.34  
SS 168.23

**KATHRYN L WOLF -CLERK**

SALARY 333.33  
MEDICARE 4.83  
SS 20.67  
EXPENSES FOR CLERK 3,196.22

CLERK TOTAL **\$12,217.33**

**ELECTION**

SALARY \$1,367.75  
BALLOTS & NOTICES 254.24  
MILEAGE AND TRAINING 90.18  
GEN. ADMIN. 0.00  
TOTAL **\$1,712.17**

**INSURANCE**

OFFICERS \$3,376.00  
AUTO 1,589.00  
BLDG 1,716.00  
AUDIT 424.00  
TOTAL **\$7,105.00**

**BOB ORTNER**

SALARY \$62,690.18  
SS 3,886.79  
MEDICARE MATCH 909.10  
PENSION 4,057.45  
LIFE INSURANCE 1,071.36  
TOTAL **\$72,614.88**

**PART TIME HELP**

DALE OLSON \$550.00  
ERIC ECKHOFF 8,268.13  
SS 546.73  
MEDICARE 127.81  
TOTAL **\$9,492.67**

**LAWN MOWING**

OUTDOOR LAWN \$2,730.00  
TOTAL **\$2,730.00**

**SHOP EXPENSES**

SHOP PHONE \$156.34  
SHOP CELL PHONE 1,656.00  
SHOP ELECTRICITY 2,012.41  
PORTA POTTY 260.99  
PROPANE 691.84  
TOTAL **\$4,777.58**

**PARK ELECTRICITY**

TOTAL **\$149.86**

**TRACTOR**

DOWN PAYMENT **\$35,000.00**

**LEASE PAYMENT**

FOR GRADER **\$31,652.05**

**SHOP LOAN PAYMENT**

(interest on loan) **\$39,900.68**  
**\$16,855.77**

**CUSTODIAN**

LORI CLOSE \$600.00  
MEDICARE 8.70  
SS 37.20  
TOTAL **\$645.90**

**TAXES**

TREASURER-PIERCE CO  
 USER FEE TO THE COUNTY  
 MFL AT TAX TIME  
 SCHOOL OF ELLSWORTH  
 SCHOOL OF RIVER FALLS  
 SCHOOL OF SPRING VALLEY  
 CHIPPEWA VO-TECH  
**TOTAL**

\$363,915.95  
 11,550.00  
 1,322.02  
 251,129.33  
 242,784.55  
 76,007.26  
 50,521.10  
**\$997,230.21**

**TOWN HALL-EXPENSES**

PHONE  
 LP FUEL  
 REPAIRS AND SUPPLIES  
 ELECTRICITY  
**TOTAL**

\$53.39  
 2,059.73  
 183.16  
 1,145.89  
**\$3,442.17**

**RECYCLING EXPENSES**

ART SCHALLER-SALARY  
 SS TAXES  
 MEDICARE  
 RANDY SCHALLER  
 SS TAXES  
 MEDICARE  
 RECYCLING BAGS  
 RECYCLING EXPENSES  
 WASTE MANAGEMENT  
**TOTAL**

\$1,200.00  
 74.40  
 17.40  
 850.00  
 52.70  
 12.33  
 1,855.80  
 540.96  
 4,804.76  
**\$9,408.35**

**BOARD**

JOHN WORSING  
 DALE OLSON  
 BRADLEY TAPLIN  
 MEDICARE  
 SS TAXES  
 TOWN BOARD EXP  
 NOTICES  
 DUES  
**TOTAL**

\$2,000.00  
 2,000.00  
 4,000.00  
 116.06  
 496.00  
 922.76  
 741.61  
 935.40  
**\$11,211.83**

**ROAD EXPENSES**

PIERCE COUNTY EQUIPMENT  
 HOTMIX PATCHING  
 DUST CONTROL  
 EQUIPMENT REPAIRS  
 DIESEL FUEL AND OIL  
 FUEL FOR PICKUP  
 SALT & SAND  
 COUNTY LABOR  
 PC ADM  
 NEW EQUIPMENT  
 SUPPLIES  
 SIGNS  
 CULVERTS  
 TIRES  
 BRIDGE INSPECT. COUNTY  
 KRAEMER-CRUSHED ROCK  
 TOOLS  
 SPRAYING  
 CUSTOM WORK  
 MAINTENANCE  
**TOTAL**

\$5,642.69  
 16,985.35  
 3,519.00  
 57,431.45  
 12,814.25  
 1,240.24  
 10,841.03  
 17,685.57  
 2,988.06  
 3,351.54  
 3,924.15  
 2,567.50  
 35,365.47  
 1,066.43  
 275.47  
 74,388.73  
 2,087.12  
 1,165.50  
 747.51  
 1,114.84  
**\$255,201.90**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

AMBULANCE  
 BUILDING INSPECTIONS  
 PLT PAYMENTS  
 DOGS PAID TO COUNTY  
 ELLSWORTH FIRE DEPT  
 ELLSWORTH FIRE DUES  
 WORKERS COMP INS  
 GABAGE BAGS SALES TAX  
 STREET LIGHTS  
 MFL PD TO COUNTY  
 REFUND ON BLDG PERMIT  
 GOPHER BOUNTIES  
 STATE BUSINESS LICENSE  
 STATE UNEMPLOYMENT  
**TOTAL**

\$28,824.00  
 9,604.80  
 1,777.70  
 1,468.00  
 35,042.00  
 4,169.60  
 4,077.20  
 321.65  
 914.76  
 59.70  
 25.00  
 150.00  
 20.00  
 257.54  
**\$86,711.95**

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS**

**\$1,599,484.09**

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**April 14, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin via teleconference. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with March disbursements of \$18,965.42 and receipts of \$11,915.43 for a month-end balance of \$76,839.98.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Olson to pay the March bills. Motion carried. Taplin issued a caution regarding the Clerk's projection of expenditures for the upcoming months as the roads look a lot better than they did last year when there was so much rain. Last year the town had to pay \$100,000 for crushed rock. The town will not see that this year.

**Road Work:** A culvert went out on 650<sup>th</sup> south of Hwy 29. It has already been fixed. Grass seed has been laid and a resident will provide hay to cover the grass seed so it will take. A small culvert on 720<sup>th</sup> will be removed as it isn't necessary. There is a soft spot on 730<sup>th</sup>. A resident called Taplin to state they were going to be combining corn. Taplin recommended that they only load their trucks ½ full. The resident took responsibility for the damage and are going to fix it.

Other road maintenance for this year includes seal coating 690<sup>th</sup> and 530<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the availability of funding, the Board will also look at double sealing 780<sup>th</sup> and doing a one inch overlay on 810<sup>th</sup>. Olson wondered if prices would be reduced due to the change in oil prices but Taplin believes contracts for materials were made before the drop in prices so it won't help. It would be good to request firm estimates next month in order to get the road work scheduled. Hopefully there will be no more emergency washouts that need to be taken care of.

The grader has been repaired for less than originally thought. The final bill is \$6300 and the estimate was \$11,000. It took the contractor less time to complete the repairs than they originally thought and they provided a good shop rate as well.

The patrolman has been cleaning ditches on 610<sup>th</sup> Street. The problematic beaver dam has been removed. The beavers were trapped and the muskrats that were digging into the bank at the same spot have also left.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in March he spent 64 hours on road maintenance, 32 hours cutting trees and brush, 8 hours burning brush and 72 hours doing shop work.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** See above discussion regarding the grader.

**Driveway permits:** None.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Acquisition of a new truck based on updated information:** Worsing stated that there was a good meeting with Freightliner. The price is a little higher than discussed at the last meeting due to achieving the correct warranties. Olson motioned that the board approve the revised amount that includes the warranties. Worsing seconded it. Motion carried.

Worsing made a motion to approve the 6 year loan for \$175,000 from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands. Olson seconded it. The clerk will finalize the loan arrangements with the Board of Commissioners to have the first year payment sent to the Treasurer by July 1, 2020.

**Discuss and Take Action on granting IoH permits and the duration of such permits:**

Countryside Cooperative has asked for a 5 year permit and stated that this is what most towns are doing. Taplin looked back to see if the town had previously passed an ordinance with a time limit for permits. He couldn't find anything. The board felt a 5 year time frame was good for the companies and the town and granted the five year permit.

**Discuss and take issues on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Taplin was in the area last week to discuss a landowner concern. The potential buyer of the property was there. Taplin reiterated that nothing can happen without a survey. The buyer confirmed he will have the property surveyed.

**Discuss and Take Action on the lawn care contract for 2020:**

Outdoor Lawn Management proposes a \$130 fee per mowing. The Company is fully insured and has provided good service in the past. Worsing made a motion to approve the contract. Olson seconded it. Motion carried

**Approve June 1<sup>st</sup> from 1 to 3 pm as the time for Open Book:**

Worsing moved to approve this time and place. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Approve June 16<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 pm as the time for the Board of Review:**

Worsing moved to approve this time and place. Olson seconded it. Motion carried. The Ordinance to approve alternates for the board of review will be on the agenda next month.

**Set time and place for Annual Road Tour:**

Due to the current environment, the board decided to have the patrolman prepare a list of the road work that needs to be done. The Chairman will review the list and visit the sites. If the other board members are alerted to a problem, they should let the chairman know. The board agreed that this is a better approach with the current environment.

**Discuss Options to control garbage dumping in the park:**

Olson asked if it is a one time or a constant problem. Other than the few recent furniture dumps, it isn't a constant problem. The mowing company brought the human feces issue to the patrolman's attention last year. The board decided to put up a sign that the park is closed from 10 pm to 6 am to eliminate camping which should then eliminate the human waste at the site. The patrolman will have the signs made and post them.

**Read correspondence:** Xcel Energy will be surveying their Transmission Line. The Board had no issue with this.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing. Seconded by Olson, to hold the next Board meeting on May 12, 2020. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

The Board agreed that the election workers should be reimbursed for the election training.

The Chairman reminded everyone of the annual meeting next week.

The patrolman stated that the Board should consider doing something with the parking lot at the town hall this summer as it is in rough shape. It will be put on the list of road repairs.

May 5<sup>th</sup> is the court day for citation issued by the animal control officer to be considered. The Clerk has sent out bills to all the residents that the animal control officer has visited regarding their dogs. The Treasurer has not received any reimbursements from these visits.

The patrolman will submit all the bills for the sanding and salting he did over the winter to the Treasurer.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 7:46 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2020. This meeting will be held via teleconference. Call 715-201-9185 to listen in and, or participate. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; approve treasurer's report; approve payment of bills; discuss road work; employee's report; discuss maintenance and repair issues; discuss and approve driveway permits; Discuss and take action on the acquisition of a new truck based on updated information; Discuss and take action on granting IoH permits and the duration of such permits; Discuss and take action on the zoning issues concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Discuss and take action on the 2020 lawn care contract; Approve June 1<sup>st</sup> from 1 to 3 pm as the time for Open Book; Approve June 16<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 pm as the time for the Board of Review; Set time and place for annual road tour; Discuss options to control garbage dumping in the park; read correspondence; set date for next meeting and open for discussion.

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**March 10, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with February disbursements of \$690,273.83 and receipts of \$335,106.74 for a month-end balance of \$83,888.97.

**Road Work:** Signs are up for weight limits. Roads are looking good.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in February he spent 51 hours plowing and sanding, 8 hours of burning brush and 80 hours of shop work.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Grader has been serviced except for the broken stud in the drive axel. Ortner recommends that the town schedule the repair in April. It is a 50 to 60 hour job. Ortner will have to call to confirm if the service can be scheduled in April. There is a concern about timing on this in case the grader is needed for snow and, or road work. Ortner needed a service call on the truck. The bill was \$1200. It was a throttle issue. New furnace was put in the Town Hall.

**Driveway permits:** None.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Olson to pay the February bills. Motion carried.

**Sale of the old patching machine:** Have no need for it. Rock Elm Township wants to buy it. Worsing motioned to sell the patcher for \$250 to Rock Elm Township. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Feasibility of Purchasing a new truck:** It would be a purchase without a trade in. Peterbuilt is cheaper. Freightliner looks like the best buy. Cab is a lot nicer. Ortner was told to stay away from Cummins. He was told there would be warranty issues if the mechanic isn't certified. Not sure that is a valid reason as all companies would require this. Service on a

Peterbuilt would have to be in Eau Claire. Freightliner is available in Roberts. Universal is the best plow equipment. Salesperson for International never responded to Ortner's request for a quote. Clerk needs to check on the status of the bill for the grader. Was it paid off already? Taplin thought there was another payment to be made. There is a long lead time to get equipment. Receipt of the truck may not happen until 2021. Freightliner has a municipal financial plan. Worsing made motion Olson seconded it to purchase a Freightliner truck for \$173,000. Motion carried. John and Bob will go to the Freightliner and discuss the potential purchase of a 2021 114 SD, with a universal plow.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Larry Murphy, the surveyor that prepared the survey for the Rennie property, attended the meeting. He stated that the town will need one or two hearings on this issue and asked who the town attorney is. Taplin responded that Bob Loberg is the attorney. Surveyor doesn't think changing the zoning will cause issues. Still need a survey on the Freeland property. Larry Murphy is willing to do the survey if called.

**Discuss and Take Action on Noticing Meetings and Whether to Change from the Republican Eagle to the Pierce County Journal:**

Board is in favor of the change. However, this may be temporary if the board decides to do online posting only. Worsing made motion to change to posting notices in the Pierce County Journal. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Rental Issue:** Representatives of the Sportsman's club appeared at the meeting to discuss why they don't pay rent to use the building for their meetings. In the past, they helped with cleaning and maintenance and even painted the town hall. They are a non-profit, 30 of their members are taxpayers and don't believe they should have to pay to hold their meetings at the town hall. They meet once a month for seven months of the year with the summer meetings at their range. The Sportsman Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month and the 4 H meets on Thursday. Worsing motioned to table the discussion. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Read correspondence:** No significant correspondence was discussed.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing. Seconded by Olson, to hold the next Board meeting on April 14, 2020. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

Upcoming events were mentioned:

- The Testing of the Voting Machines for the April 7<sup>th</sup> Election will be on Tuesday the 31<sup>st</sup> at 3 PM
- Election on April 7<sup>th</sup>
- Annual Meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>

**Agenda items for the next meeting are:**

Set times for Open Book, June 1<sup>st</sup> – 1 pm to 3 pm

Set time for the Board of Review, June 16<sup>th</sup> - 6 to 8 pm

Set time and place for Road Tour

The Board was asked about ambulance fees. They are \$38 per capita now. The Board has looked for less expensive services but none appear to be available. The Board was asked about using Spring Valley as they appear to be less expensive. The Board responded that they are less as they are not staffing paramedics.

There appears to be an issue in the park. People dump garbage in the park. This will also be added to next month's agenda. Options include discontinuing overnight camping, rent a portapotty, add a security light or stop mowing. Fire trucks gets water out of river there so the site can't be blocked off.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at the Martell Town Hall. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; approve treasurer's report; discuss road work; employee's report; discuss maintenance and repair issues; discuss and approve driveway permits; approve payment of bills; Discuss and take action on selling the old patcher; Discuss and take action on the feasibility of purchasing a new truck; Discuss and take action on the zoning issues concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Discuss and take action on noticing meetings and whether to change from the Republican Eagle to the Pierce County Journal; Discuss and take action and the feasibility of changing the rental amount for the town hall and requiring the Sportsman Club to pay rent; read correspondence; set date for next meeting and open for discussion.

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**February 11, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Worsing to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with January disbursements of \$566,749.48 and receipts of \$994,253.13 for a month-end balance of \$438,545.82.

**Road Work:** Chairman Taplin asked about seal coating 690<sup>th</sup> south of HWY 29 for 4.78 miles and 530<sup>th</sup> for one mile. Chairman Taplin has received an offer to sell the old patching machine for \$250. This will be on the agenda and further discussed next month. Other roads needing attention sooner than others include 810<sup>th</sup> and 870<sup>th</sup> which are also in the plan to address this year. The board will further assess how much road work can be done once most of the tax payments have been recorded. Ortner has brush piles that he needs to pick up and potentially burn. A resident expressed concern that a brush pile was too close to their driveway and they had trouble seeing when they were backing out.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in January he spent 86.5 hours plowing and sanding, 25 hours cutting trees and brush and 62 hours of shop work.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Ortner fixed the garage fans. He has also been working on the truck snowplow. One of the board members questioned whether the town should trade in the truck. Ortner stated that it is less expensive to plow with the truck than the grader so a better idea would be to have two trucks for snow plowing. The grader will be paid off this year. Ortner will look at prices for new trucks. This will be further discussed next month.

Ortner mentioned that there is a maintenance schedule on the grader, and it is past due. Ortner recommended having the maintenance done. The service can be done in the town shop. Chairman Taplin approved getting the schedule maintenance done. Thermostat went out in the garage. Walters has ordered a new one. During the meeting it appeared that the furnace in the town hall was acting up. Ortner was asked to schedule maintenance for the townhall furnace.

**Driveway permits:** The town received its first permit application for 2020. If approved, Permit 2020-1 would be issued to Aaron Diercks for a driveway on 690<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 1500 feet east of 610<sup>th</sup> Street on the south side of the road. Worsing motioned to approve permit 2020-1. Olson seconded it. Motion approved.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Olson to pay the January bills. Motion carried.

**Discuss and Take Action on Garbage Haulers:** The town received bids from Waste Management and P.I.G. on garbage service. The bid from Waste Management was lower when three dumpsters are emptied. The board decided to stay with Waste Management but instructed the clerk to inform Waste Management that if they don't pick up the garbage every other week, the Town will change carriers.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Contract for Diesel Fuel:** Olson make a motion to contract for 3000 gallons. Worsing seconded it. The motion carried. The clerk will contact Countryside to confirm the contract.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Zoning Issues Concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Chairman Taplin stated a survey has not been done yet so no action can be taken. This will be added to the on agenda for next month.

**Discuss and Take Action on a New Computer for the Treasurer:**

Either a Dell or HP were recommended by Jesse Marres. Both are comparable in price. Software will be \$125. Both models have good battery life. Worsing recommended approval of the HP. Olson seconded it. Motion carried.

**Update on the Ellsworth Ambulance Service:** A resident in attendance at the meeting, Mr. Wilson, asked why this was being discussed. It was explained that the town is required to offer ambulance service as per state statute. Several towns in the county went into splitting the cost of this service. The towns get faster response from an ambulance as a result. Residents still must pay the cost of transport if they use the service. The service needed to transition to independent agency and needs an executive committee for management purposes. Worsing will be part of the executive committee. The service is looking to buy a used ambulance for around \$80,000.

**Discuss and Take Action on the Resolution Regarding Ellsworth Ambulance**

**Service:** Worsing moved to approve Resolution 2020-1. Olson seconded it.

Motion carried.

**Read correspondence:**

Clerk provided the email from the County Clerk regarding notice requirements and the County recommendation to use the Pierce County Journal for publishing notices. This will be further discussed at next month's meeting.

Other correspondence included mail on available conferences, equipment Expos, etc.; a Department of Natural Resources Order on new Managed Forest Land in the township if the board wanted object; Census Meetings; Redistricting Training; Chippewa Valley Technical College looking for board member applications; Monthly Land Use Permits and Dog Issues.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing. Seconded by Olson, to hold the next Board meeting on March 10, 2020. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:** Steve Wilson lives just off from HWY 63 on 570<sup>th</sup>. He has never come to a meeting before but the road in front of his property was supposed to be worked on about six years ago when new culverts were put in. The Board explained that fixing this road has been on the Town's List, but the Town has limited resources to fix roads. It was explained that about \$80,000 of the budget goes to fire and ambulance service in lieu of road repairs. The State will not let towns raise levies. If property values go up, the town can get more money, but it isn't enough because the levy percentage doesn't change. The WI Towns Assn. has been lobbying for years to change the levy amount. The town was supposed to have another overlay on 690<sup>th</sup> years ago but couldn't do it because of the limited budget. Every year when the Board does its road tour, the amount of work needed is pages and pages. It can cost \$400,000 to redo one mile of road correctly.

The Town of Rush River owes the town for Bob's labor. The Town has an agreement with them, but it doesn't seem to be locatable currently. The Chairman thought blading should be around \$125 an hour, snow plowing with the truck \$60-70 per hour and mowing would be around \$50 an hour.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at the Martell Town Hall. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; approve treasurer's report; discuss road work; employee's report; discuss maintenance and repair issues; discuss and approve driveway permits; approve payment of bills; Discuss and take action on Garbage Haulers; Discuss and take action on the contract for diesel fuel; Discuss and take action on the zoning issues concerning the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Discuss and take action on a new computer for the treasurer; Update on Ellsworth Ambulance Service; Discuss and take action on the Resolution regarding the Ellsworth Ambulance Service; read correspondence; set date for next meeting and open for discussion.

**TOWN OF MARTELL**  
**January 14, 2020 meeting**

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 14, 2020 by Chairman Brad Taplin. Board members Dale Olson and John Worsing, treasurer Heather Sitz and clerk Sara Cardwell were also present.

Worsing pointed out that a correction needed to be made to the minutes to state the county needs to be convinced to assist with ambulance service. Motion was made by Worsing and seconded by Olson to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting with the minor correction regarding the ambulance service issue. Motion carried.

The board accepted the treasurer's report with December disbursements of \$16,952.98 and receipts of \$6,269.72 for a month-end balance of \$11,051.17.

**Road Work:** Road patrolman Bob Ortner is working on snow plowing and cutting brush. Bob presented a map showing where the brush has been cut. This is the year bridges need to be inspected. The County normally does the inspections. Worsing made a motion to have the county do it again. Olson seconded it. Motion carried. It will cost about \$100 to inspect each bridge. There is an issue with 537<sup>th</sup> Street. It should be plowed with the plow truck. Currently it can't be done because of the width of the road. It is a state funded road so the town needs to figure out a way around the issue such as looking at alternatives during the spring road survey.

**Employee's report:** Ortner reported that in December he spent 104 hours plowing and sanding, 76 hours on shop work, and 8 hours on cutting brush.

**Discuss Maintenance and Repair Issues:** Ortner reported that all the hydraulics on the plow on the front of the grader had to be replaced. Some of the hydraulics on the truck were also replaced. Ortner received a quote that it would cost \$11,000 to replace all the remaining hydraulics. For \$11,000 it was decided that the hydraulics should be fixed as they break. Ortner believes if the other back hydraulics are replaced the truck should be OK for a while. He will get one leaking one done tomorrow. Ortner had to buy two new truck tire chains from Monroe.

**Driveway permits:** None.

**Payment of bills:** Motion made by Worsing. Seconded by Olson to pay the December bills. Motion carried.

**Discuss and act on the IRS 2020 Mileage Rate:** Olson made a motion to use the 2020 IRS rate for mileage reimbursement. Worsing seconded it. The new rate is 57.5 cents per mile. The rate for 2019 was 58 cents per mile so this is a decrease of 0.5 cents from the 2019 rate. Worsing motioned to approve the 2020 reimbursement rate. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Read correspondence:** As a follow up to the ambulance issue, a paramedic from River Falls wrote a letter to county officials expressing her concerns on ambulance funding. The Clerk and Worsing received the email. The clerk will distribute copies of the email to other board members.

The town has been having an issue with Waste Management. They no longer pick up on a bi-weekly basis. Sometimes it is three weeks between service. The clerk is in touch with P.I.G. to see what their rates would be for service. Tim Wiff mentioned that the town may be under contract with Waste Management and may not be able to move to another collector other than on a contract renewal date. The clerk will find out if and when the town can leave Waste Management if P.I.G. can provide service at a comparable price.

The clerk has been contacted by Countryside to see if the town would like to enter into a contract for the remainder of 2020. They can provide diesel issue at \$2.59 per gallon. The town would pay \$0.30 up front and then pay \$2.29 per gallon. The clerk will look at whether this is a good price or not and the board will discuss it further at the February meeting.

The clerk also needs to order more garbage bags.

**Date for next meeting:** Motion by Worsing. Seconded by Olson, to hold the next Board meeting on February 11, 2020. Motion carried.

**Open discussion:**

Chairman Taplin began discussion on a zoning issue that came up in Martell. Tim Brown wants to buy the Freeland property at W5366 794<sup>th</sup> Avenue but it has a non-conforming building and the well is in the road right of way. The Freelands stated the right of way was abandoned. But, the Board did not find a record that the right of way was abandoned. Chairman Taplin went to the property on January 11<sup>th</sup> to

review the situation and Renne Soberg, the landowner bordering the property and potentially affected by any changes accompanied him.

The current right of way is 66 feet wide. The board requested that Tim Brown have a survey completed. The Board is willing to consider vacating ½ of the right of way to protect the homeowner's well. The decision has to ensure Renne continues to have access to his lot. The Board will have to consult with the town attorney to see if this is doable. The patrolman also needs a turn out for snowplowing and road work. The Board reiterated that this is not a private road. The black lines on the map shows roads where the township gets state funding. This issue will need to be discussed further in February. If ½ of the right of way can be abandoned, the homeowner will need to pay taxes on the abandoned right of way. The house was not built as originally shown in the plan. The county appears not to have approved the final layout.

Dale Olson stated he would like to attend the February WTA district meeting in Eau Claire at the end of February. The morning session will be board of review certification training. Seeing Sheila Olson is a Board of Review alternate, it would be beneficial for her to attend as well. Chairman Taplin may also attend but will want to check the driving conditions first. The clerk will also attend as the afternoon session is on cyber security and she received a grant to cover her expenses.

The treasurer discussed her computer with Jesse Marre. She looked at computers on line and stated it would costs between \$600 and \$800 for a new computer. She will research it further and the clerk will add this issue to the agenda for next month.

Worsing mentioned that as of January 1, 2020, the Ambulance service is being run by an executive committee. River Falls is projecting \$300,000 shortfall for their service. Ellsworth will look at getting townships together to further discuss the issue.

Worsing motioned to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Sara Cardwell, Clerk

## TOWN OF MARTELL

The next regular monthly meeting of the Martell Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Martell Town Hall. The agenda includes approve minutes from previous meeting; approve treasurer's report; discuss road work; employee's report; discuss maintenance and repair issues discuss and approve driveway permits; approve payment of bills; Discuss and take action on the 2020 IRS mileage rate; read correspondence; set date for next meeting and open for discussion.