

Town of Rock Elm  
Elmwood, WI 54740  
Pierce County  
Tuesday November 15, 2022  
7:30 P.M.  
Rock Elm Town Hall

**Public review of proposed budget for 2023**

- I. Approve Agenda
- II. Public review of proposed budget for 2023
- III. Public Input
- IV. Adjourn

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tim Bates at 7:34 PM.

Motion to approve the agenda by Chris Thibado, seconded by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

The Board and public was presented with copies of the agenda, the notice of public hearing and budget summary with the levy increase figured in, the spreadsheet on 5 year road maintenance goals, the Town Board resolution to exceed the levy limit, and copies of the town electors endorsement of the town board resolution and the resolutions of whether or not to approve the total town tax levy. There was time to review and ask questions.

Chris Thibado motioned to adjourn, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Attendance Tim Bates, Chris Thibado, Matt Holcomb, Pam Reitz, Monica Robey  
Fred Koehler, Diann Holcomb, Paul Churchill, Bob Huebel, Dave Bechel(patrolman)  
Adam Carson, Gabe Weix, Kyle Claflin, Hugh Hatch, Randi Tolonen, Mark Tolonen, John Robey

### **Special Public meeting on proposed levy for 2023**

Immediately following the public review of proposed budget

- I. Approve agenda
- II. Discussion on increased costs of road maintenance and repairs and other items as they pertain to needed increases in revenue for the township
- III. Read through Town Board's resolution on exceeding the current levy
- IV. Public review of proposed levy for 2023
- V. Public Input
- VI. Appoint ballot clerks
- VII. Public vote (paper ballots) on endorsing the Town Board's resolution to exceed the town's current allowable levy with their own written resolution
- VIII. Public vote (paper ballots) to approve the total tax levy amount via written resolution
- IX. Propose hourly rate for elected official when working for the Town of Rock Elm with possible action
- X. Adjourn

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Bates at 7:46 PM.

Motion to approve the agenda by Adam Carson, seconded by Gabe Weix, motion carried.

Tim Bates led the discussion on the increased cost of road maintenance and fuel and needed supplies. The examples of the expensive 20<sup>th</sup> Street repair and several culvert replacements were used. The grant from Pierce County for 70<sup>th</sup> was brought up and Matt Holcomb explained that if we didn't have the funding to do this project by June of 2023 it would be looked on unfavorably by the state and county for future cost sharing opportunities. Fred Koehler brought up the aging plow truck. Discussion about DNR and other government mandates. Examples were given of how this patrolman and board try to save funds where ever possible and have applied for other grants without success.

Monica Robey, clerk, read aloud the Town Board's resolution on exceeding the current levy and the public was asked if there were any questions concerning it. Tim Bates appointed 2 ballot clerks, Adam Carson and Paul Churchill. Paper ballots were distributed, collected and counted, on endorsing the Town Board's resolution to exceed the town's current allowable levy by approving their own written resolution. There were 16 electors present, 12 voted in favor of the Town Board resolution and 4 against. Then, also by paper ballots the electors were asked to approve the total tax levy amount. Again there were 16 voters, 14 voted to approve, 2 voted not to approve.

The hourly rate that is paid to members of the board when working for the town was discussed and is currently \$20/hour. Adam Carson motioned for this to remain at \$20/ hour, Fred Koehler seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Adam Carson made a motion to adjourn, Fred Koehler seconded, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Attendance was the same as review of budget meeting.

## **Monthly Town Meeting immediately following the Levy meeting**

- I. Approve agenda
- II. Minutes several October meetings
- III. Financial Report, discuss current expenses and revenue expected in the next couple months, with possible action
- IV. Public Input
- V. Discuss Broadband progress by Celect Communications
- VI. Discuss Contract renewal with Weber Inspections, with possible action
- VII. Review Ordinance to Establish Fire Inspection Duties, with possible action
- VIII. Highway Report, discuss present and future road work with possible action
  - A. Discuss culvert projects progress
  - B. Discuss progress on replacement of fire numbers
  - C. Highway Misc.
- IX. Discuss Budget for 2023, with possible action
- X. Correspondence
- XI. Set next meeting date
- XII. Adjourn

### **Call to order**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Bates at 9:11PM. Motion to approve the agenda made by Matt Holcomb, seconded by Chris Thibado, motion carried.

### **Minutes from previous meetings**

The clerk read the minutes from the regular board meeting in October. Motion to approve by Chris Thibado, seconded by Matt Holcomb, motion carried. Minutes were read from the October 18 meeting, Motion to approve by Matt Holcomb, seconded by Chris Thibado, motion carried. Minutes for the Oct 25 meeting were read. Motion to approve by Chris Thibado, seconded by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

The clerk presented the bank balances and the amounts of the bills to be paid which was \$32,869.23. The expected income through year end is \$26,693.42 (Shared Revenue). Matt Holcomb made a motion to approve, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried. The bills and income anticipated through year end were presented, showing a possible end of the year balance of a positive \$2000.

### **Public Input**

Hugh Hatch brought up that a parcel in Rock Elm was recently sold with the incorrect measurements. This is a matter to resolve elsewhere.

### **Broadband progress by Celect Communications**

They have received the grant but are still waiting for materials and a state contract. Will begin work next spring and will attend meeting when closer to that time to update us.

### **Weber Inspections Contract**

Matt Holcomb made a motion to approve, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried

### **Ordinance to Establish Fire Protection Duties**

Establishes rights and duties on frequency of Fire Inspections by the Elmwood Area Fire Department. Motion to approve by Matt Holcomb, seconded by Chris Thibado, motion carried.

### **Highway Report**

Presented by Dave Bechel, patrolman. With the recent moisture he has been able to do some grading. He and daughter Hailey have been patching and filling holes and are currently working on removing an old fenceline on 210<sup>th</sup>. All culvert projects have been completed and look good and Pierce County should be paving over them tomorrow. Dump truck needed servicing as it had turbo trouble and oil leak. Working good now but expensive repair. Dave thinks he has enough salt sand for now and hopes to order mid- December.

Tim Bates stated that X-cel Energy has filed a R.O.W. permit. There was no home found for the last stray dog so it was taken to the Humane Society.

Matt and Dave have the list for fire number just about finalized and ready to order. The clerk needs to establish an account with this vendor. There will be an explanation on fire numbers in real-estate tax envelopes with the expectation that property owners will pay for these more noticeable and more easily readable signs. The Town Board feels that this is an improvement in the safety of our residents.

### **Budget**

Chris Thibado made a motion to approve the proposed town budget for 2023 of \$388, 495. Tim Bates seconded, motion carried. This amount reflects the \$125,000 which the electors voted on to endorse the Town Board's resolution to exceed the current allowable levy limit.

### **Correspondence was reviewed**

Next meeting date was set for December 13, 2022 at 8:00PM

Matt Holcomb motioned for adjournment, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM

### **Attendance**

Tim Bates, Matt Holcomb, Chris Thibado, Pam Reitz, Monica Robey, Fred Koehler, Bob Huebel, Dave Bechel, Kyle Clafin, Adam Carson,

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