

Minutes of the Town of Newbold Town Board Regular & Finance Town Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 11, 2024

The Town of Newbold Town Board met on **Thursday, January 11, 2024**, at 6:00 p.m. for the Town Board Regular and Finance meeting, at the Newbold Community Center, 4608 Apperson Drive, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, Oneida County, Wisconsin.

The following were in attendance: Chairman, Dan Hess; Supervisors, Mike McKenzie, Petra Pietrzak, Scott Ridderbusch, and Brad White; Clerk, Kim Gauthier. Absent and excused was Treasurer, Jodie Hess.

Regular Town Board Meeting: Chairman Hess called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Hess noted this is the first town board meeting in the new community center! (Audience applause).

Clerk Gauthier verified the meeting was properly noticed on three Town bulletin boards required and included on the town website. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. White to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.* Chairman changed the order of agenda as indicated below.

Approval of prior Town Board Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Ms. Pietrzak and Mr. Ridderbusch to approve the December 14, 2023, town board meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and action on Oneida County Zoning Requests, Plan Commission and Citizen Zoning Requests, if any along with Plan Commission Chairman's Report.

Mr. Hess indicated the commission met on January 4, 2024, on the review below.

Discussion and Action Two preliminary four (4) lot Certified Survey Maps of lands owned by Secluded Land Company LLC, submitted by Raymond Surveying, LLC, Gregory Raymond Surveyor for the property further described as: Part of Government Lots 3 and 4, Section 35, T37N, R8E, PIN #NE 395-A and NE 396-A, Town of Newbold.

Jack present and described the lot split of the former Grafelman property along Townline Lake Road. The fees were paid for this review. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the four lot CSM as described. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Monthly Town Assessor Report by Jef Muelver, Town Assessor.

Mr. Muelver provided a written report of sales transactions for the town year ending 2023 and permit activity as of this date.

Public comment and communication whereby the Town Board may receive input on any matters raised by the public.

Laurie Clausen, Wendt Road, commented on behalf of Two Sisters Lake Property owners with approximately 150 households on the lake, there is much opposition to enhanced wakes and supports the town enacting an ordinance as proposed.

Nancy VerKuilen, North Rainbow Lake Road, representing Pickerel Lake, commented on several reasons the majority is against enhanced wakes and supports the ordinance as proposed.

Paul Evans, Shoreview Drive, representing 91 Lake Mildred and Clear Lake Association members commented on several reasons the owners are against wake boats and enhanced wakes on the lake. Mr. Evans indicated there is strong support of the proposed town ordinance and encouraged enactment by spring.

Karyl Rosenberg, Tom Doyle Lake, commented on behalf of the 55 lake association members in support of the proposed ordinance being presented tonight and encouraged citizen enforcement be used with the ordinance if passed.

Ted Rulseh, Harshaw and member of the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association, commented that with permission from all members, the group is in support of regulation on enhanced wakes and the proposed ordinance forwarding onto the DNR for support. Mr. Rulseh also noted there is great support throughout the Northwoods of regulation, as seen during a recent listening session with legislative representatives when some four hundred persons attended.

Richard Phillips, Presque Isle, commented on his involvement with this issue as a retired attorney he supports the proposed ordinance for the Northwoods.

Eric Rempala, Lakewood Road, Cassian, commented on his involvement with environmental issues throughout the Northwoods and support for the proposed ordinance, as Newbold is very proactive and a benefit to the Northwoods as a whole.

Terry Magowan, Tom Doyle Lake, commented in support of the proposed ordinance and believes it is enforceable despite the comments made at the recent listening session with representatives. Mr. Magowan commented further on citizen or self-enforcement once an ordinance is in place.

Stephanie Boismenu, Black Lake Road, commented as the invasive species coordinator for the county on the regulation of ballast water on the great lakes and if they can regulate so can we at the local lake level.

Discussion and possible action on proposed draft ordinance Chapter 11, Boating Regulations on Artificially Enhanced Wakes.

Chairman Hess noted Newbold has 137 lakes with three showing invasive effects. The town has received complaints from both Lake Mildred and Tom Doyle Associations regarding this issue and Senate Bill 680 was also introduced, showing great interest in the topic of artificially enhanced wakes and the concerns of enhanced wakes on our smaller Northwoods lakes. A draft ordinance was presented to the board for consideration and forward onto the Wisconsin DNR for approval. Upon approval the town would then hold a public hearing on the ordinance. Citizen request for additions to the ordinance were also received by the Chairman and discussed by the board.

Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to forward the proposed ordinance to the DNR for review and add a two-year sunset clause for review (with follow up by the board to see if intended purpose is being met). Roll call vote taken with White aye, Pietrzak aye, McKenzie aye, Ridderbusch aye, Hess aye. Motion to amend the first motion by Chairman Hess and Mr. Ridderbusch to include Section one, as read from the received citizen recommended language, minus the Rhinelander Flowage. Roll call vote taken with White aye, Pietrzak aye, McKenzie aye, Ridderbusch aye, Hess aye. Motion carried.

Discussion and action on town building project, updates with Keller, Inc. and any other building project matters.

Chairman Hess noted the kitchen door glass was installed today. The exterior light to be installed in February by the contractor.

Recess called at 7:00 p.m. to allow time for a large crowd to exit. Reconvene at 7:10 p.m.

Discussion and action on scheduling ribbon cutting ceremony and open house.

Board discussion to move forward with an open house soon. *Motion by Mr. Ridderbusch and Ms. Pietrzak to host an open house at the new community center on Saturday, January 27th from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and provide refreshments, snacks, or cake. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.* A press release and Facebook post will be completed by officials.

Discussion and action on Town Community Center Rental Agreement revisions.

Clerk Gauthier provided the board with a copy of the revisions previously discussed along with some formatting changes. *Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. McKenzie to approve the community center rental agreement as revised. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Public comment allowed by the board. Dorothy Skye requested consideration of a reduced fee to just use the conference room. Board discussion to follow at the next meeting.

Discussion on Fetke Lake Road LRIP moneys approved \$ 27,846.62.

Chairman Hess noted the town will receive this grant. No action necessary.

Discussion and action on Clerk Computer Managed Service Agreement purchase.

Clerk Gauthier asked to renew the computer managed service agreement, the original purchased under a grant from the State Wisconsin Election Commission. The agreement is \$695 for the annual service through Kerber Rose for election system security requirements. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. White to approve \$695 for the Kerber Rose I.T. security agreement as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Approval of any line-item Budget Transfers.

Clerk Gauthier read the 2023-year end transfers as previously approved by the board for the Clerk and Treasurer to complete while closing out year end budget accounts.

Approval of bills and disbursements.

Motion by Mr. Ridderbusch and Mr. White to approve the bills and disbursements as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and action on closing community center loan account

Motion by Mr. White and Ms. Pietrzak to authorize the Treasurer to close the community center loan account (funds used up for construction). Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Receive financial reports and discuss any other financial matters. None received.

Administrative review and action, if necessary, concerning general government, public safety, recycling, sanitation, culture, education, job assignments, project updates, transportation, budget items, fund transfers, and future agenda items.

Next town board meeting scheduled for January 25, 2024.

Public Comment Period. None.

Newbold Town Board Meeting January 11, 2024

Board action to possibly go into CLOSED SESSION with Roll Call Vote: The Town of Newbold Town Board may convene into Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1) (c), Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Specifically, the town board will discuss Assessor employment contract & negotiations.

7:45 p.m. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to go into closed session. Roll call vote taken: White aye, Pietrzak aye, McKenzie aye, Ridderbusch aye, Hess aye.*

OPEN SESSION: The Town of Newbold Town Board will reconvene into open session to make decisions on closed session discussions above.

8:35 p.m. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to return to open session. Roll call vote taken with White aye, Pietrzak aye, McKenzie aye, Ridderbusch aye, Hess aye. Motion carried.*

Motion by Mr. White and Mr. McKenzie regarding the employee status of the Town Assessor to increase the licensing compensation by \$37/month and increase the salary by 5 percent and authorize a health insurance opt-out stipend of \$300/month.

Motion by Mr. Hess and Ms. Pietrzak to amend the motion to include salary increases each year to follow public works employees increases. Motions carried on a voice vote of all aye. The board agreed the increases will begin February 1, 2024.

Adjournment. *The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m., with no objections.*

Respectfully Submitted by
Kim Gauthier, Newbold Town Clerk