

ANNUAL MEETING – April 10, 2012 – 7:00 pm

Mukwa Town Hall, E8514 Weyauwega Rd., Northport 21 in attendance (including Board/Treasurer/Clerk)
– 3 Non-Residents – including Town Attorney, Robert Sorenson.

Chairman Curns called the meeting to order.

Roll call of Officers: Jim Curns, Chairman – Present; Lee Shaw, Supervisor 1 – Present; Neil Freeman, Supervisor 2 – Present; Brenda Grove, Treasurer – Present; Jeannette Zielinski, Clerk – Present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

District 26 County Supervisor Jim Loughrin was present to thank voters for their support & offered his help at any time. District 22 County Supervisor Bob Flease was also present & also thanked voters & that he is always available for questions or concerns.

Minutes of the April 12, 2011 Annual Meeting were approved with a motion by Michael Wundrock. Second to the motion was made by Lloyd Stern. Aye (17) No (0). Motion carried.

2011 Annual Financial Report was reviewed by Clerk Zielinski, and questions were answered. Motion was made by Walter Heise to approve and accept the 2011 Annual Financial Report. Second to the motion was made by Bob Flease. Aye (17) No (0). Motion carried.

Old Business:

(a) Michael Wundrock-Dawn Drive had a quick question whether there were any new projected cuts to Shared Revenue and/or State Transportation Aids – as of this meeting the Town has not heard of any additional cuts to these programs. Thankfully last year's proposed cuts were not as drastic as predicted, but most municipalities took cuts.

(b) Walter Heise-Tank Road asked about finish-up/landscaping on Tank Road since there are large rocks & tree roots that stick out making it hard to mow. Chairman stated that they had no further plans to spend any more money on Tank Road as it would be a large project to remove the rocks. Mr. Heise asked the Board to look at it during the Annual Road Viewing, Chairman Curns said they would look but will not promise anything.

New Business:

(a) Discussion/Clarification on Annual Meeting Date Change: Town Attorney Bob Sorenson was present to explain the reason for the change – Wisconsin Act 115 – starting in 2013, the law now provides that the date shall be the third Tuesday of April or within ten (10) days after, which will be April 16, 2012, or the ten (10) days after this date (April 23rd). *This date to be set tonight.* Act 115 also changed the start of the terms of elected town officers from the second Tuesday in April to the third Tuesday in April – which, for the Town of Mukwa will go into effect after the 2013 Town Board Election. *The Board will be adopting an ordinance at the April Monthly Town Board Meeting to extend the terms.*

(b) Driftwood Road(cul-de-sac area)-Discussion/Possible Motion for Town Board to Purchase Land to Improve the Turn-Around Area for School Bus/Trash/Emergency Vehicles: Bernard Ritchie had approached the Town last year with the prospect of purchasing the property in question at a cost of \$18,000 (cash/one-time payment). Town Attorney had advised at that time that the Town Board did not have the authority to make a land purchase without Elector approval given at the Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting of the Electors. Maps of the area were passed around. Barb Blank asked if the Town could just “take” the portion that was needed. Advised that yes, the Town could do this, but it is not preferable. Town Attorney was asked to explain the process. Attorney Sorenson informed that there were still several steps required by the Town at considerable costs to taxpayers – survey, appraisals, legal fees that run approximately from \$5,000 to \$11,000-which is above the purchase price. Discussion followed, including concern that the property in question will give the Town property with access to the water. Barb Blank asked if there was the possibility of after years of use would it be “grandfathered” in – Attorney Sorenson advised this is only an option after 20 years of adverse use. Board also advised that currently school busses have permission from Jeff & Julie Roberts to turn-around in their driveway. Discussion. Michael Wundrock felt that the Board currently had three options: do nothing, possible annual lease with Mr. & Mrs. Roberts or purchase the Bernard Ritchie property. Questions about where funding would come from for this type of purchase – only possible place would be out of Road Account, which would cut into funds available for road projects. Motion was made by Cathy Stern to take a written vote with #1 as “Do Nothing/As Currently Is,” #2 “Pursue an Annual Lease with the Roberts,” or #3 “Purchase the Bernie Ritchie Property”. This motion was seconded by Michael Wundrock. Aye (17) No (0). Attorney Sorenson handed out & collected paper and counted the votes as follows: #1 Do Nothing - 5 Votes; #2 Lease with Roberts - 8 Votes; #3 Purchase Bernie Ritchie Property - 5 Votes. This showed that 13 people felt that the Board should do nothing or pursue a possible annual lease with the Robert's and 5 people felt the Board should pursue purchasing the Bernie Ritchie property. Consensus is to basically do nothing at this time.

Any Other New Business:

Barb Blank-Klatt Road stated that the last time she voted (at the High School) someone was upset that it is far to walk to the polling place. Clerk Zielinski emphasized that there are many options, stressing that residents can park next to the sidewalk, there is a wheelchair available, ballot can be brought out by poll workers to the vehicle and of course, sign up to become a permanent absentee voter where the ballots for each Election are automatically mailed a ballot for each Election. You must vote at your designated polling location, your name does not show up on both polling lists. Each door at the High School is considered handicap accessible. Please contact Clerk Zielinski with any Election-related questions.

Michael Jensen-Ostrander Road asked about the land that the County owns near the intersection of County Trunk X and Ostrander Road due to past concerns of people parking there to go to Wolf River Campground. County Supervisor Flease advised that the campground was buying land on the campground side of the road for additional parking. Campground did get DNR and County approval to put in a conveyor system for inner tubes and a wider, no-slip ramp will be going in in the Town of Royalton.

Supervisor Shaw advised that the Town did sign the contract with the New London Rural Fire Department, the New London Fire Department and the other municipalities included in the Rural Fire Department to purchase a water tanker truck. The Town of Mukwa portion is \$74,088, to be paid over the next ten years.

Motion was made by Michael Wundrock to set the 2013 Annual Meeting for April 23rd at 7:00 p.m. to be held at the Mukwa Town Hall. Second to the motion was made by Cathy Stern. Aye (17) No (0). Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Walter Heise. Second to the motion was made by Bob Flease at 8:29 p.m. Aye (17) No (0). Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Zielinski, Municipal Clerk

Minutes posted in the three designated places on April 16, 2011. I, Jeannette Zielinski, Mukwa Municipal Clerk do hereby certify to the posting of said Annual Minutes. Jeannette Zielinski,
Municipal Clerk