

**Minutes of the Town of Newbold Town Board Regular Town Board Meeting held on
Thursday, May 25, 2023**

The Town of Newbold, Town Board, met on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., for the Town Board Regular Monthly Meeting, held at the Newbold Fire Station, 4588 Highway 47, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, Oneida County, Wisconsin. The following were in attendance: Chairman Dan Hess; Supervisors Mike McKenzie, Scott Ridderbusch, Petra Pietrzak and Brad White; Kim Gauthier, Clerk and Jodie Hess, Treasurer.

Chairman Dan Hess called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Hess led the audience in the pledge of allegiance and the Clerk verified the agenda was properly noticed to the public.

Public Comment and Communication Period per Wisconsin Statutes whereby the Town Board may receive input on any matter raised by the public. Dorothy Skye commented on concerns with proposed Assembly Bill 245, no longer allowing advisory referendums at the local level. Mrs. Skye also indicated she disagrees with the extra items attached to the state shared revenue proposal.

Approve prior Town Board meeting minutes of May 11, 2023 regular Town Board and Finance Meeting. *Motion by Mr. White and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the meeting minutes, as amended. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and action on Town Building Project, Updates and any other building project matters. Chairman Hess reported construction is going okay, the walls to the new community center are up and questions will be raised to Keller on the placement of the side door slabs.

Discussion and possible action or update on Fundraising Activity for the Town Hall construction project. No change in fundraising activity. Ms. Pietrzak presented a handout of recommendations for relaunching the building fundraising campaign. Board discussion on reaching citizens through various platforms such as social media, mailings, newsletter, banners, a new website platform, etc.

Discussion and action on possible town Facebook page. Board discussion on this agenda item along with the above item on fundraising activity. Ms. Pietrzak volunteered to bring back a draft fundraiser post card and Facebook page. *Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. White to recommend Ms. Pietrzak come back to the board with a postcard mailer and sample Facebook page (under construction) for consideration. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Monthly District Library Report by Newbold Representative(s). Representative Ruth Jaeger was present and provided a written report noting the building project expenses will be separate from the regular operating budget, a fundraising link is on the library website, and summer programming will begin in June. Ms. Pietrzak serves on the WVLS board and noted 22 members attended the state budget hearing in Minocqua and 3 members spoke in support of funding local libraries.

Monthly County Board of Supervisors Report by Newbold representative(s). Mr. Roach was absent and excused. Mr. Winkler was present and reported on Veterans and Health Services committee updates. Recent county board action opposed the Pelican River Forest easement on a vote of 12/6.

Monthly report of Terrestrial Invasive Species activity by Newbold representative and WHIP. Tabled.

Discuss and action on Oneida County Zoning Requests, Plan Commission and Citizen Zoning Request, if any along with Plan Commission Chairman's Report. Chairman Hess reported no reviews have come before the town at this time. Mr. Ridderbusch indicated county ordinance 9.43, Home Occupation changes were passed at the zoning committee level and now goes before the county board. There is concern with the language proposed.

Discussion and action on 2023 road projects and possible awarding. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ridderbusch to reject the Fahrner bid as presented, as it did not meet the specification criteria. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye. Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Pietrzak to approve the chip seal bid in the amount of \$289,477 to Pitlik and Wick. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and action on purchase of handicap accessible voting device(s) and WEC grant Memorandum of Understanding. Clerk, Kim Gauthier presented the board with a Wisconsin Election Commission 2023 accessible voting equipment sub grant reimbursement program memorandum of understanding. The grant allows for \$750 towards the purchase of accessible voting equipment. Mrs. Gauthier proposed the board approve \$825 for the purchase of one Imagecast Evolution dual display kit for better handicap accessible voting on the current ICE machine and the grant M.O.U, as presented. The device will allow for accessible voting while paper ballot voting is in process in a more efficient manner. *Motion by Mr. Ridderbusch and Ms. Pietrzak to pursue the accessible voting device under agenda item ten with the aid of the grant to utilize one device, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and action on bartender (operator) applications. Clerk Gauthier presented the board with applications from Marian Kotecki-Lynn, Eileen Splitt, Michelle Steinbach, Criste Branstiter and Nancy Gorman Smith for consideration. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ridderbusch to approve the five applications as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Discussion and possible action on training regarding open meetings, walking quorum and open records. Chairman Hess presented notes from previous Wisconsin Towns Association handouts on the agenda items indicated and referenced Wis. Statutes 19.81(1) and the association handbook for town officials.

Approval and payment of any bills and/or funds adjustments. *Motion by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. White to transfer of \$28,281 from general fund to capital improvement budget, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye. Motion by Mr. Hess and Mr. McKenzie to approve the bills and disbursements, as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

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 regular board meeting and finance meeting scheduled for June 8, 2023. Agenda items must be to the Clerk by the Friday before the next meeting. Board request to discuss on meeting times, shredding options and resolution in opposition of senate bill 289, at the next meeting.

Public Comment and Communication Period per Wisconsin Statutes whereby the Town Board may receive input on any matter raised by the public. Dorothy Skye extended her appreciation to Clerk Gauthier for ensuring voting accessibility is efficient in the Town of Newbold.

Adjournment at 8:22 p.m., with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by: Kim Gauthier, Town Clerk