

**TOWN OF MCMILLAN  
M403 ELM STREET  
TOWN BOARD MINUTES  
March 9, 2015 7:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Carolyn Opitz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Debbie Derfus, Dave Swenson, Carolyn Opitz, Norm Kommer, Joe Burger – All Present

**Visitors:**

Kevin Schmidtke – Kevin requested a closed session meeting with the board, the fire chief, his own representative, and himself regarding an educational waiver document for the Fire Dept. He would like the meeting to be held by April 1, 2015.

**Approval of Minutes**

Town Board Meeting February 9, 2015

Joe/Debbie moved to approve the Town Board minutes of February 9, 2015.

Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Reports:**

**Plan Commission** – No Report

**Fire Department** – Rod Bauer

Rod submitted a written report, as follows:

***Number of calls to date:***

*EMS Calls – 1 medical call*

*Fire Calls – 2 fire calls*

*New Applicants to Department – The department will be having a breakfast March 14th at 9:00 a.m. for past members in hopes of recruiting a few to rejoin.*

*Ladder Truck Update – Two of the rams on the ladder truck have been seeping hydraulic fluid and now have become leaks. We have checked prices with Red Power Diesel and V&H Heavy Truck. We have decided to go with V&H with repairs for a rough amount of \$7,170. Some of the parts have already come in and by the middle of the week all the parts should be here. The truck will be down for roughly 24 hours for repairs. These repairs were unforeseen but at this time we feel that we can handle them with our current budget.*

*We continue to work on MABAS cards to get them all in place soon.*

*We are also working on getting the vehicle checks and inspection into the Image Trend program. For doing fire inspections, which are already in the program, we will need to purchase a tablet or mobile device to remotely work on inspections in the township. We planned for this purchase in our budget.*

*EMS Update - In the upcoming month I will be bringing up the ambulance contract with Stratford for Mass casualty response. (This is also for the MABAS cards).*

**Library** – Ruth Voss

Ruth gave a summary of the many programs being offered at the Marshfield Public Library. The children's activities have been very well attended. Some of the programs being offered include: several story-times, Leggo Club, "Create Your Own Puppet," outreach to schools, "Born to Read Program," Teen Technology Week, and more. 1800 books were given to children through the "Give a Kid a Book" Program. Ruth reminded everyone that there is a complete listing of programs on the library's website:

MarshfieldLibrary.org.

The library community project will break ground in August.

**Supervisors:**

**Norm Kommer** – Library, Newsletter

Norm thanked Ruth for her work at the library.

The newsletter articles have all been completed and were delivered to Quik Print today. They hope to have a proof ready tomorrow (Tuesday), and we hope to get the newsletters out next week.

**Carolyn Opitz** – Garbage, Ordinances

The Board of Review date has been set for June 2. Open Book will be from 5-7 p.m. and the Board of Review will be from 7-9 p.m.

Carolyn received a letter from Clark Electric, asking where the town will be doing work this summer. Carolyn will mention to them that County Road E is the only project that we know of at this time.

**David Swenson** – Highway

The Tire Recycling Day will be the last Saturday in April at Pankratz Trucking on Hwy. 10.

Frost is creating a lot of problems with the roads breaking up. Dave and Pat will be attending an Asphalt Road Maintenance seminar on March 10; hoping to get some tips on road maintenance.

Staad Ave. Bridge will be needing repairs within the next three to five years; most likely it will need to be replaced. The County has inspected it, and they're advising a 20-ton weight limit on Staadt Ave. The funding will be multijurisdictional – state, county, town, etc. Our Engineer, Tom Hardinger advised Carolyn that, once the posting is put in place, there will have to be annual inspections. Carolyn wrote to Jim Griesbach, asking him to put the Staadt Ave. Bridge project as a top priority on the project list. Jim told Carolyn that there will be no available funds at least through the year 2017.

**Debra Derfus** – Buildings & Grounds, Website

The pavilion will reopen for the season on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Ron Derfus has been asked to get it cleaned up before that date.

Debbie reminded Denise to get items to John to be placed on the new website.

**Joe Burger** – IOH

FS Services has sent us a permit for road weight limits. Joe and Dave plan to get together to discuss how to handle this one, and the anticipated others that will be coming in this spring.

Carolyn informed Joe that there is going to be a session on evaluating permits for IOH at the Asphalt Road Maintenance Seminar tomorrow. Carolyn suggested that Joe drop in for that.

**Clerk –**

Financial Report for the Month of February 2015

The beginning cash on hand was \$1,460,401.32. February tax collections totaled \$93,809.76 and the other receipts for February totaled \$2,369.63. The February tax settlement paid to the County, State, and School Districts totaled \$747,522.13. Other disbursements for the month were \$57,612.97. In order to reconcile to the cash balance on hand, we add back the \$2,175.62 in unpaid payroll tax liabilities for February, and subtract the January payroll tax liabilities (\$2,180.30) that were paid in February. The ending cash balance at 2/28/15 was \$751,440.93.

Approval of Checks Written since 2-09-2015

The check register from 2/10/2015 through 3/09/2015 totals \$778,354.68 and is comprised of checks numbered 13304 – 13351, excluding voided check #13345; plus checks numbered 39, 40, and 44.

Dave/Debbie moved to approve the checks as listed above.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Debbie/Dave moved to accept the financial report as presented.

Roll Call: All Ayes

**Treasurer -**

**Financial Report:**

Checking Account Bank Balance	\$305,424.47
Minus: Outstanding Checks	<u>(42,135.18)</u>
Checking Account balance as of 2/28/2015	\$263,289.29
Fire Department Equipment CD	4,100.00
Public Works Replacement Apparatus CD	60,137.51
Park Fund Savings Account	15,002.33
Volunteer Firefighters Fund Savings Account	43,119.88
Tax Savings Account Balance	365,791.92
2/18/15 transferred \$746,648.63 to checking account	
2/18/15 transferred \$200,000.00 to checking account	
Total Cash on Hand 2/28/2015	<b>\$751,440.93</b>

Debbie/Norm moved to accept the Treasurer's Financial Report as presented.

Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Unfinished Business -**

No unfinished business.

**New Business -**

**1. Resolution from the WTA regarding the County Assessment Proposal**

*Carolyn read the WTA County Assessment Proposal, as follows:*

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) proposes to change from municipal assessment to county assessment that requires 100% assessment of every property every year; and,

**WHEREAS**, this proposal will cause an unfathomable waste of taxpayer dollars through extraordinary cost increases; and,

**WHEREAS**, citizens will only be able to access a few Board of Review proceedings throughout an entire county, which significantly decreases the ability of local knowledge to create accuracy in the assessment process; and,

**WHEREAS**, towns, cities, and villages are no longer in control of their own costs because the county will just send them a bill; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proposal is an unprecedented intrusion into local government by requiring the state to suggest a salary range for their assessment director and work with the county to set a county budget and number of employees; and,

**WHEREAS**, the DOR has cited assessor problems as part of their rationale, but has never revoked an assessor license despite having the authority; and,

**WHEREAS**, over the last five years the DOR has already required additional work and detailed information from assessors to improve the process; and,

**WHEREAS**, this proposals kills private sector jobs and grows public sector jobs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the DOR cites that Wisconsin is one of few states that has municipal assessment, but forgets to note the strong leadership of Wisconsin citizens, our state's dedication to local input, and the simple lack of town government in many states;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of McMillan, Marathon County does hereby oppose the implementation of county assessment in Wisconsin and asks for the proposal to be removed from the budget; and,

**BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED**, that Towns are and have always been willing to work with the State of Wisconsin, fellow local government groups, and other stakeholders to continually improve the assessment process.

Joe/Debbie moved to adapt the Resolution from the WTA regarding the County Assessment Proposal.

Roll Call: All Ayes.

**2. Approve/Disapprove agreement with Sandy Strey (MAPS) for cat boarding**

The money has not yet been raised for the new pet shelter; however they have acquired another temporary site to house the stray animals. Currently, they are working with the City of Marshfield to come up with a contract for cat boarding, and they are hoping that the Town of McMillan will adapt the same contract. They will be asking for \$10/day for up to seven days.

Debbie asked about our constable's role in housing stray cats. Gus has never taken cats; they have been going to the Pet Motel, which is now closed.

**3. Discussion/Action on Town Clerk Position**

Carolyn announced that Denise has resigned effective May 1, and they will be looking for another clerk. There was no further discussion.

**4. Board of Review Date Set: June 2, 5-7 p.m. Open Book and 7-9 p.m. Board of Review**

Debbie asked who is certified. She is not, but said that she'd go online and do it. Joe will need to get certified as well. Carolyn and Norm are both certified.

**5. Fire Dept. Equipment CD, matures 3/12/2015**

This is the CD that the board will be adding \$6000 to, as decided at the end of last year. The Board agreed to have the term of the CD be six months.

Gary Franz asked why they do not use the money to pay down the fire truck loan, since the CD is not earning any significant level of interest. Debbie explained that the Fire Department likes to have a little safety net, in case money is needed for equipment repairs or maintenance.

Dave Swenson explained that over the past 25 years, the fire department has donated over \$300,000 back to the community (through Fall Fest profits), beyond what the taxpayers have paid for.

Debbie/Dave moved to approve the fire department equipment CD for six months.

Roll Call: All Ayes.

Norm/Debbie moved to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. All Ayes. Adjourn

Submitted by:

Denise Barg, Town Clerk