

TOWN OF MARSHFIELD ANNUAL MEETING

April 15, 2014

8:00 p.m.

The Annual Meeting of the Town of Marshfield was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chairman John Bord. Other Town officials present were: Supervisors Ken Kraus and Tom Steffen, Treasurer Cathy Seibel, and Clerk Marlene J. Sippel. 22 members of the public were also in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting were handed out. Ralph Keifenheim motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Mary Jo Winkler. Motion carried.

Copies of the 2013 Annual Report were also handed out and reviewed. Jr Seibel motioned to accept the annual report as presented, seconded by Herb Pickart. Motion carried.

John Bord reminded those in attendance that any votes taken tonight were advisory.

The electors were briefed on the ongoing or completed projects:

Town Roads:

1. Double box culvert replaced the bridge on Seven Hills Rd. A LRIP grant was received from the WDOT of \$79,877.48. The Town was responsible for the other half. Due to this expenditure, no roads were blacktopped this past year.
2. Maintenance was completed on the following roads:
 - a. Crack filled—Evergreen, Town Hall and part of Holly.
 - b. Wedge & Seal Coated--Evergreen with black slag.
 - c. Wedge & Double Seal Coated with pea stone--Silica, Locust, Old W, Valley, Basswood (east of Walnut), Linden, #832 (Don Sippel), and Dix Road.
 - d. Fond du Lac County dug out and replaced base & paved first part of South Shore Dr.
 - e. Cut down shoulders and re-graveled Cyprus Road.

Tree & Brush Trimming:

Completed brush & tree trimming on first part of Pecan and Hickory –east of Cty G. Starting on Hickory-west of Cty G. Abler Tree Trimming took down tree by Brian Zehren.

Grass Mowing:

Mowed two single rounds and then in fall one round was mowed out as far as possible to control the brush.

Snow Plowing:

Due to the blowing and drifting of snow, the snowplow crew was out a great deal of time. With the ice in January, the reserves of salt were significantly depleted. So this year Halbach Excavating picked some up from a new supplier and we mixed our own sand and salt mix. The Town will have 66 ton of salt delivered this coming year. The International

Plow Truck is 22 years old; the wing area is showing a lot of wear and tear. In the coming years, the Town will have to contemplate replacement.

Culverts:

Along with doing ditch work, one culvert was replaced on Apple Lane, and another one on Oak Road.

Recycling Center: Together with the combined efforts of the residents and John, Jared and Mike, the center is running smoothly. Dylan Guelig was also added to the list of custodians to help out when needed. A question was brought up if the center could open up at 9 a.m. during the summer months. A vote was taken, however the majority thought the hours should remain as is. John will address this at May's Town Board meeting.

Heavy equipment ordinance: Due to the opposition of the proposed ordinance it was put on hold. Instead, a Seasonal Weight Limit Ordinance was enacted effective March 1st on the following roads: Walnut, Basswood, Holly, Apple Lane, Linden, Oak, Don Sippel Drive, Pecan, and Willow. The State Assembly and Senate are working on Implements of Husbandry Bill to address weight limits, but it was not completed this last session.

Road Signs: The Town has started replacing road traffic signs. Eventually all signs will be replaced so the Town's signs will be at or above the minimum established standards of retro reflectivity.

Wolf Lake: The County Parks Department had a new bath facility built in the park and the parking lot was also redone.

Public Nuisance Ordinance-Noxious Weeds: The Town will continue to enforce this ordinance in the upcoming year. If there are any complaints, please contact the Weed Commissioner-Ken Kraus.

Early Warning Siren: Installing a siren in collaboration with Towns of Calumet and Taycheedah has fallen through; however, the Town is still investigating into obtaining a unit for the Wolf Lake area. It would be similar to the one at the clinic in Mt. Calvary. It would be fully the Town's expense as there are currently no grant monies available.

Ambulance Commission: Debra Johnson agreed to serve on the Ambulance Board Commission for the Town. She replaces Jim Schaefer who represented the Town for 40 years. They have just started running a second ambulance.

Ordinance Book: In 2011 the new Ordinance Book went into effect. Due to the fact that the County's Farmland Preservation Amendments were updated last year, the Town had to recertify its zoning ordinances. The Ordinance Book was submitted to DATCP for recertification this spring. This past year Mary Jo Winkler accepted the position of Zoning Administrator.

Bug Tussel: Fond du Lac County has contracted Bug Tussel to install a wireless communication tower in the county to provide high speed internet coverage in rural areas. One will be located in the Town of Marshfield. The Clerk will post on the Town's website when anticipated service will be available.

Wind turbines: The Board of Health presented to the County Board a resolution requesting the State to Fund and Complete a Study on the Impact of Wind Turbines on Human Health. It was supported by the County Supervisors. Jim Mueller would like to see testing done in the Town for inaudible noises. Jim estimates that the cost would only be \$2500 to \$4000. John said that Al Buechel was hoping that the State would become involved for testing.

New Business:

Roads to be worked on:

Elm Road—Approximate cost to pulverize, shape and blacktop 1.3 miles - \$165,000
Town did receive TRI monies from the County of \$41,600.

\$10,000 was budgeted for crack filling

Increase tax levy:

Due to increase cost of blacktop, fuel, etc. there is less money to pave roads. John explained the budget is tight. Would like to consider increasing levy by \$100,000 to use on roads. Additional cost of Town's portion of taxes would be additional \$104.42 on \$100,000. \$178,300 would be \$186.15. This would not include any additional increase from the State, County or schools. No referendum would be needed but a special meeting of the electors would need to be held. Jim Guelig questioned the mil rate and an explanation of the increase in the tax levy. 2013's mil rate was .001430220 (based on levy of \$136,993) and if levy would be increased by \$100,000 – new mil rate would be .002474229. Also in the future, consideration should be given to expanding the town garage approximately 20' – rough estimate of steel shell and concrete work is \$200,000 and maintenance to the building – roof, insulation, and lighting. A portion of the additional space would be utilized for storage of records.

Increase elected official's wages:

Motion by Jim Schaefer, seconded by Mike Schmitz to increase the Clerk's salary to \$16,000 per year effective April 2015. Motion carried by voice vote. Will be addressed at the next Town monthly meeting.

Increase wages of Town workers:

Motion by Jr. Seibel, seconded by Liz Ebertz to increase the wages as follows: Custodian at dump to \$14.50, Shop work to \$14, Mow roadside grass to \$15 and Cut brush and Snowplowing to \$16. Motion carried by voice vote. Will be addressed at next Town monthly meeting.

Miscellaneous:

If anyone is interested in working for the Town or being on a Board or Committee, please contact a Board Member. John thanked the residents who currently serve on a committee or board, for their time and dedication.

John asked if there were any questions. A resident questioned protocol on who gets the wood the Town cuts; John replied: First – Landowner, Second – Whoever is working. The landowner has two weeks to pick it up. John recognized that this was not followed on one instance and apologized for the error.

Next year's annual meeting will be on the third Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 8 p.m.

Motion by Herb Pickart to adjourn, seconded by Gerry Lefeber. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Marlene J Sippel
Town Clerk