



Town of Superior

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Chair: Sheila Keup
Supervisor: Janet Dalbec
Supervisor: Robert "Zimm" Zimmerman
Clerk: Patrice Stalvig
Treasurer: Cindy Theien

TOWN OF SUPERIOR – ANNUAL MEETING Wednesday, April 19, 2016

The annual meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Sheila Keup.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was met, with notices posted at the Town Hall, Superior Meats, Bartley's, Four Corners Store, Vine Body Shop, and published on the website and once in the Daily Telegram as a service to residents.

In addition to Chairman Keup, Supervisor Dalbec, Clerk Stalvig and Treasurer Theien, 22 residents were in attendance.

After review, motion was made by Keup and seconded by Clerk Stalvig to accept the minutes for the April 22, 2015 annual meeting. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.

Clerk briefly explained the authorities the electors have at the annual meeting.

Annual Financial Report prepared and presented by Treasurer Cindy Theien. Actual revenues for 2015 were \$1,007,264 and expenses were \$945,637. Extraordinary items were the Tuff Road Project at \$108,834 of which we were reimbursed \$28,378 through TRIP funds, for a net cost to the town of \$80,456. We also received \$177,834 due to the Forest Crop Law. \$35,567 of that was required to be paid to the County and \$117,305 was used to pay off an unfunded liability the town carried with Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). Resident Ron Pete motioned and Keup seconded to accept the annual financial report. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

Supervisor Dalbec indicated that at the budget workshop there should have been a vote on whether to use the income from the Forest Crop Law to pay the unfunded liability. Discussion was held at the budget workshop where two board members opted to pay it in full, and one wanted partial payment, but a vote did not take place.

Resident Roger Letourneau stated the town didn't know who the unfunded liability was for and more information should be gathered. Treasurer Theien reported she had contacted the WRS and the unfunded liability has been in existence since 1966 when, at its inception into the program, the town voted 100% coverage for employees at that time. Theien had received computerized records from the WRS dating back to 1988 indicating a beginning balance that year of \$36,183.62. Payments made each year were less than the interest accrued and the liability grew each year until the total amount reported at the end of 2015 would have been \$120,106.69 had the liability not been paid off.

Resident Dale Johnson asked why the town budgeted \$295,380 for public works and spent \$537,290. Treasurer Theien explained the unfunded liability of \$117,305 is for highway employees and is part of public works. The Tuff Road repaving project and increased highway outlay for gravel and road maintenance on Darrow, Baumgartner and Dedham Roads due to the closure of Highway 35 last summer make up the rest.

A detailed payment plan for the four loans the Town has with the Bureau of Commissioner of Public Lands (BCPL) was presented. Johnson indicated the town needs to watch how much we're paying in interest. Dalbec reported the loans

with the (BCPL) are low-interest loans and part of debt service, which partially determines the levy limit for the town. She also explained the interest on those loans is the funding source for public school libraries in the state.

Letourneau stated an audit should be presented at a board meeting. Clerk Stalvig reported the audits were on the agenda, at a board meeting, and available for anyone who wanted to see them. They are still available for review in the clerk's office. Dalbec requested a special meeting for the board to review the audits of 2013 and 2014 in detail together.

Chairman's Annual Report Keup reported ditching and culvert replacement took place last year on Darrow Rd, Hammond Ave, Nemadji Loop Rd, Tuff Rd and Irondale Rd. Tuff Road was blacktopped from Hwy B to Leggate Rd. New tires were purchased for the grader, and the truck got 5 new rear tires. Ditching and grading will continue. Garage foreman will meet with the DNR to determine if ditching materials from During Rd can be dumped onto Omberg Rd to fill where road is sloping on the corner. Keup thanked everyone, including volunteers and board members, for their service. Resident asked about the new fire signs. They are scheduled to arrive this week.

Supervisor Dalbec disseminated a report thanking residents, road crew, custodians, fire department, Plan Commission, Friends of Stony Brook, election clerks, clerk and treasurer for their various efforts. She stated we don't want to progress backward, but want to continue to move forward. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

Town of Superior Fire Department Annual Report Fire Chief Darryl Fiegle reported the department had a very busy year with 1323 man-hours of training, 240 man-hours providing education to our schools and 878 man-hours at stand-by events and fundraisers. The department responded to 156 calls; 102 were in the Town of Superior, 34 in the Village of Oliver and 20 were mutual aid for surrounding towns and the City. The average response time of 11.5 minutes was slightly longer than normal due to the closure of Hwy 35 last summer. Since 2011, there has been a 34% increase in calls.

Additional equipment placed into service includes hose supply on engine 2, pump compartment with direct plumbing on the tanker, pediatric EMS bags, and mobile and portable radios. Approximately 559 man-hours were dedicated to new equipment and maintaining existing equipment. The department received a grant to pay for 80% of the cost of new radios. The department watches their spending closely so any surplus funds in their accounts can go into an equipment fund. They will need to be replacing some fire equipment soon. At the recent pancake breakfast, the department received a \$2,000 donation from Team Carr and used the funds to purchase a thermal imaging camera. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

Old Business At last year's meeting, it was suggested that the town look into having a five-member board. Statute only allows for a five-member board if the population is 2500 or more. Our current population is 2212.

The Fire Department needs assessment will be moving forward when the Fire Department staff meets with the Plan Commission in the very near future.

New Business

- a. Residents were informed that Northern Interstate Construction submitted a letter of interest to purchase the town quarry on the Dump Rd on 12/15/15. It's a 40-acre parcel and the electors must grant authority to the board to buy or sell property. It's unclear what the value of the property is; there would be reclamation costs since it was formerly a dump and a study would be required to determine the value of the land and the content. Options raised by residents were to not sell it since there may come a time when it's less expensive to crush our own gravel than to purchase it; hire an engineer to evaluate; find out if it's an asset or a liability; ask the interested party to do the study and make an offer. Roger Stalvig motioned and Billy Anderson seconded for the board to have the study done and find out the value of the property. 11 yeses, 14 no's, 1 abstained by ballot vote. Motion failed.

- b. Clerk Stalvig gave a presentation justifying why the salary for the clerk position should be increased. Clerk duties are varied, increasing, and technical skills have become necessary. Since 1994, town population has increased over 10%, cost of living has increased by 50%, yet there has been only one increase in the clerk salary. Salary has not kept up with the responsibilities, the rest of the state, or even the rest of the county. The current salary for the clerk is \$9600 annually. By comparison, the average salary for part-time clerks in the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association with similar populations is \$24,694. The average salary for clerks in Douglas County (most are part time) is \$12,010. However, the Town of Superior has nearly twice the population of the next two largest towns in the county. If based on the average, per capita, in Douglas County, the clerk salary would be \$51,650. Clerk Stalvig motioned and Keup seconded for the clerk salary to be set at \$25,000 annually. This amount would still be lower than the per capita average of the other towns in Douglas County. 11 yeses, 14 no's by ballot vote. Motion failed. Dalbec agreed with a raise, but not this much, and felt that anyone running for an elected position should be at the meetings for at least two years. Resident Ted Nelson motioned and Keup seconded to increase the clerk salary to \$20,000 annually. 15 yeses and 10 no's by ballot vote, one elector had already left the meeting. Motion carried.
- c. Keup motioned and resident Nancy Nelson seconded to hire a town constable. Motion amended to appoint a town constable. The constable position was put in the budget for this year. Letourneau reported the position was never abolished, and Keup clarified that because it was never on a ballot, the electors have to vote whether or not to establish the position again. Letourneau also asked since the state and county have ordinances and a humane officer, does the town really need a constable? Should the town incur the expense because the county is not doing their job? Constable can have other duties besides just dog catcher. Residents expressed opinions on whether job should be flat rate of \$150 month or a per-call/per-mileage fee. 18 yeses, 6 no's, 1 abstain. Motion carried by ballot vote.

Next Annual Meeting Clerk Stalvig motioned and Dalbec seconded to set the next annual meeting for April 18, 2017 at 7pm. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. At this time, there were 20 residents in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice Stalvig, Clerk

DRAFT MINUTES 4-21-16

MINUTES APPROVED ON _____ of _____, 2017

CHAIR _____

CLERK _____