

# Annual Meeting Minutes

## 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: April 20, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Mentor Town Hall  
N3049 King Street

Chairman Gile called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

All board members present

Pledge of Allegiance

Verification of posting in 3 places

2023 Annual meeting minutes were read.

### **Chairman Gile -**

- Supervisor 1, Carol Johnson retired after 24 years of service. The Board presented her with flowers and thanked her for her service.
- Einar Fransen has been appointed as the new Supervisor 1 by the Board, and he was sworn in by Chairman Gile.
- Chairman Gile thanked Debbie Walker for baking her delicious cookies to share.

### **Kevin Forsting Fire Chief –**

- The fire chief of ACFD provided an update on merging the village of Merrilan into the fire district. The merge will help consolidate resources and share equipment. Action will be taken on the intergovernmental agreement at the May meeting.
- The fire district is purchasing a new pumper/tanker with funds from a FEMA grant that replaces an old engine and tanker. The new vehicle is estimated to be completed the summer of 2025.
- In 2023 the district received 41 calls for service.
- The old trucks will be liquidated.

### **Jim Mankowski Neillsville Chief of Police –**

- This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that Mentor has contracted with the City of Neillsville for police services.
- The contract is for 15 hours per month for ordinance enforcement
- Discussion took place regarding ordinance enforcement and steps taken to achieve compliance before issuing citations:
  - Initial contact is made by the officer
  - 14 day notice letter is sent
  - Follow up contact is made by the officer if not resolved before issuing a citation
- Discussion regarding village vs township focus, and abandoned vehicles.
- Discussion took place on how resident complaints are followed up on.

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## **Black River Falls Ambulance Service –**

- The ambulance service wants money to be paid by the town for their services. There is a concern regarding the cost.
- Jody Stoker, the Black River Falls Fire Chief, attended to explain why he feels the funds are needed. He gets around 2200 calls per year and having 1 truck staffed 24/7 is hard to do. The staffing model they would like to achieve is 5 full time positions plus the chief.
- Last year the department had to write off one million dollars due to a high number of Medicaid/Medicare patients, as well as uninsured patients. \$45 per capita charge annually was the best estimate of what was needed, but now it seems \$20 per capita is a bare minimum for employee retention and staffing needs.
- The budget and spending for this department is available online. More information on this topic will be available at the future meetings.

## **Town Updates –**

- The Rod & Gun Shooting Range will be on the May agenda.
- The Damn bridge replacement will start in 2025. A 100% grant will cover construction costs, and an 80/20 grant will be used for the engineering costs.
- All of the Town culverts that are greater than 36" are in good shape
- An update was given on a plan for road improvements. There is a "slurry" resurfacing material that will extend the life of roads for 10 years that may be an option to improve paved roads.
- Chairman Gile is attending a Road Improvement Training put on by the Wisconsin Towns Association at the end of April.
- There is a "Business to Business" career expo taking place in Greenwood on May 1.

## **Discussion –**

- Open discussion regarding a farm animal ordinance in Humbird. The Board has the authority to create an ordinance. Generally speaking, residents do not have an issue with animals.
- Bill Neville, our Clark County Representative informed the Town that Veterans can get free permits to launch boats in Lake Arbutus. Veterans and their spouses are also eligible to receive up to \$500 to help with financial hardships.
- Residents asked for an update on certain properties that need to be cleaned up. There is no change on the status of the Emer property. There are concerns with a property on Hickman Rd. that has several trailers located on it. There is also a property at N3035 Clark St. that has a dilapidated building on it.
- Residents asked if there was an update for the Green Top Cabin Bar. There is no update.
- The estimated start date for the King Street sidewalk project is around the middle of May.
- The drop inlets at King St. and Hwy 12 need to be cleaned out.

**Town Clean Up Day –** The 2024 Mentor Town Clean Up Day is scheduled for June 22, 2024. Starting with 2025, and moving forward, the clean up day will be scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May each year.

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**2025 Annual Meeting** - Basil Tollefson made a motion to schedule the 2025 Annual Meeting on April 19, 2025 at 10:00am. Mike Siegler 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion was carried.

**Sue Larson** – The Mentor Cemetery Committee will hold a Mother’s Day Breakfast from 9-11 at the Rod & Gun Club to raise money for the cemetery road repair. There will also be a Memorial Day Service at the Cemetery at 11 a.m., followed by a lunch served at the Town Hall. There will be roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, and apple pie served. The Ladies Auxiliary will be collecting a free will donation at the luncheon.

Chairman Gile adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM.

Dated this 22nd day of Apr 2024, Jack Ikhtiari Sr, Clerk /Treasurer