

**TOWN OF BLACK BROOK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, Erik Henningsgard. Supervisor I, Jake Macholl; Supervisor II, Matt Belle Isle; Treasurer, Carrie Blanchard and Clerk, Janel Belle Isle were also present.

There were 3 residents in attendance.

The meeting began by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of the meeting notices, pursuant to Wisconsin Stats.19.83 was made by the Chairman.

AGENDA:

Chairman Henningsgard entertained a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Supervisor Macholl, second by Supervisor Belle Isle to approve the agenda, motion carried, 3 yes.**

MINUTES:

Chairman Henningsgard entertained a motion to approve last month's minutes. **Motion by Supervisor Belle Isle, second by Supervisor Macholl to approve the September 21, 2023 minutes. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

VOUCHERS & BILLS:

Chairman Henningsgard entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and pay the bills. **Motion by Supervisor Belle Isle, seconded by Supervisor Macholl to approve the vouchers and pay the bills. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

CLERK'S REPORT:

Have been getting more comprehensive training for myself in the Marge program. Working on the budget and learning the annual process, last night's meeting went very well. Still doing some election and WisVote training, and I'll start getting ahold of past election workers to see if they are interested again this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beginning Bank balance of the General Checking was \$378,660.20, which had deposits of \$620.46 and withdrawals of \$6,612.97 in checks and \$1840.70 in electronic payments, leaving a balance of \$366,670.27. The Money Market-13 gained interest of \$98.14, leaving a balance of \$62,939.06. The Money Market-03 gained interest of \$173.35, leaving a balance of \$111,177.99. The savings gained interest of \$0.01, leaving a balance of \$32.84. Ending total of all above accounts is \$540,820.16. Road maintenance savings account still has \$5.00, and the checking had a beginning balance of \$1000.48 and gained interest of \$0.08, leaving a total of \$1000.48. Treasurer then discussed the additions and changes that were made to the dumpster schedule and fee collection schedule that will be inserts in our tax bills.

SUPERVISORS' REPORTS:

Macholl:

Attended Amery Fire meeting on 10/10/23. They finalized their budget with an 8% increase from last year. Talked about private roads needing to be wide enough to accommodate the big trucks. Attended Northwest Municipal meeting on 9/26/23 budget meeting. Remains at \$14 per capita. At this meeting, a citizen was concerned about Amery's plan to annex down to Trident Lake. Attended our own budget workshop meeting last night (10/18/23) Extends many thanks to Sally Pickard for being here to help out and provide insight and answer questions. Very informative. Planning to Attend the Polk County Wisconsin Towns Association meeting on 10/26/23.

Belle Isle:

Learning as much as possible about budgeting and how it works for the town. Attended our budget workshop last night. It was great, learned a lot more. Also giving a sincere thank you to Sally Pickard for being there and helping all of us out. Aaron started digging up the supply line for the well. Planning to come tomorrow to help Aaron continue the process. Hoping to get water before winter.

ROAD REPORT: Finishing mowing. Still have a few gravel roads left to grade. Just about set for winter. Working on the trucks and getting chains ready. Gas line for our LP was fixed today. Everything checked out and the heat was turned on and is working. Discussion about storing equipment at Fowler's. Chairman thanked Aaron for cleaning in the hall.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Not present, no report

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Thank you to Sally Pickard for being here last night to help us through the budget meeting. It was very helpful and we all learned a lot from her. Attended CL Ambulance meeting on Monday – a continuation of their September meeting. Major items were the bylaws and the rate per capita increase. Bylaws changed some areas to have a different number of votes. Black Brook may now have two, based on population served. Also changed that to take an action, they must have a majority of people that attend, not a majority of the towns in attendance. Increased from \$20 per capita to \$36 starting January 1, 2024. This will almost double the Town's cost to them, from approximately \$11,000 to approximately \$20,000 per year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Comment on Aaron doing good job on cleaning up trees that continue to fall on the roads, still concerned about more dead ones ready to fall. Matt Belle Isle offered the use or rental of his bucket truck to the Town to make trimming some trees easier for Aaron.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding referendum for electors' input on 3 vs 5 person board and information campaign

Referendum question that will appear on the April 2024 ballot was defined with counsel's help. An informational piece that will be sent out with resident's tax bills was completed and approved by Town Counsel who was in attendance. **Motion made by Chairman Henningsgard to approve the referendum question and the mailing information regarding a 3 vs 5 person board, second by Supervisor Macholl. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

2. Discussion regarding referendum for electors' input on clerk & treasurer positions being appointed vs elected and information campaign

Referendum question that will appear on the April 2024 ballot was defined with counsel's help. An informational piece that will be sent out with resident's tax bills was completed and approved by Town Counsel who was in attendance. **Motion made by Chairman Henningsgard to approve the referendum question and the mailing information regarding the clerk and treasurer positions being appointed vs elected, second by Supervisor Belle Isle. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

3. Discussion/Decision regarding inserts for tax envelopes

Reaffirmed each piece that will be in the tax bill mailings. Discussed bill from ABT Mailcom, the company who assembles and mails the tax bill on our behalf. **Motion by Chairman Henningsgard to approve the invoice from ABT Mailcom for \$700, second by Supervisor Macholl. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding Cemetery and Chapel

If there is a cemetery at that location and no one maintains it, we are required as a town to maintain it. This board is not aware whether there is a cemetery there. Discussion on whether to sell it, possibly a neighbor is interested. Town Counsel discussed process of selling; cannot sell unless certain statutes are followed. Janel will ask Clear Lake Historical Society if they have any information regarding the chapel and cemetery.

2. Review/Discussion/Decision regarding effective date of wage changes

The Board had already approved making it effective with the October paycheck, it will be left the same rather than changing it to be effective January 2024.

3. Review/Discussion/Decision pay application from Monarch Paving Company for 60th Avenue project. Have not received the pay application yet, no action.

4. **Review/Discussion/Decision for bills from DJ Fedderly Management Consultant LLC for 60th Avenue project.**
Motion by Chairman Henningsgard to approve the following invoices for payment: Invoice #010843 in the amount of \$4,226.25; invoice #010848 in the amount of \$11,812.50; invoice #010854 in the amount of \$7,875.00; invoice #010863 in the amount of \$5,040.00; invoice #010869 in the amount of \$2,835.00; invoice #010878 in the amount of \$21,656.25 from DJFedderly Management Consultant, LLC for the 60th Ave. project, second by Supervisor Macholl. Roll call vote: Henningsgard, aye; Macholl, aye; Belle Isle, aye. Motion carried.

5. **Review/Discussion/Decision regarding bill from Scott Construction for road maintenance items for 60th Avenue project.**
Motion by Chairman Henningsgard to approve and pay the invoice from Scott Construction, Inc. for \$111,040.00 for 2023 road maintenance of chip sealing, second by Supervisor Macholl. Roll call vote: Henningsgard, aye; Macholl, aye; Belle Isle, aye. Motion carried.

6. **Discuss annual budget.** Budget workshop was held yesterday. We added a line to the 2024 annual budget for the 60th Ave. loan. Due to that and other increased costs, the blacktopping budget will decrease.

Chairman Henningsgard entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion made by Supervisor Macholl and seconded by Supervisor Belle Isle to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted and posted by:

Erik Henningsgard, Chairman

Janel Belle Isle, Clerk