

**TOWN OF BLACK BROOK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Chairman, Erik Henningsgard. Supervisor I, Jake Macholl; Supervisor II, Matt Belle Isle; Treasurer, Darcy Lorsung; and Clerk, Janel Belle Isle were also present.

There was 1 resident in attendance as well as our town attorney, Michelle Erdman.

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:

Erik entertained a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Jake, second by Matt to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

MINUTES:

Erik entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the three December 2023 meetings. **Motion by Jake, second by Matt to approve the minutes from the December meetings. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

VOUCHERS & BILLS:

Erik entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and pay the bills. **Motion by Matt, second by Jake to approve the vouchers and pay the bills. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

CLERK'S REPORT:

W-2s and 1099s for 2023 have been filed and distributed. All other quarterly and annual filings for payroll are done and submitted.

Getting more familiar with updating and posting to the website. Open to any suggestions.

We will have an election on February 20th, the only item on ballot is primary for District 14 county board supervisor. Still waiting for training materials for the poll workers.

I will start working on the 2023 financial report – annual meeting is in April, the 3rd Tuesday.

The Verizon invoice came after getting the wi-fi hotspot and was not as quoted. I will stop by Verizon store and sort it out.

Received a letter from Northwood Tech College regarding upcoming openings on their district board.

Wisconsin Towns Association Polk County meeting is coming up on Thursday the 25th.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Our ending balance in our general checking was \$522,311.90 on December 31, 2023. It was this high due to the taxes coming in. Total of all bank accounts on December 31, 2023 was \$698,195.31. The second draw on the loan was taken on December 29th, so the total balance of the loan is now \$903,526.53. Talked with Westconsin Credit Union about rates on CD’s. Will move \$250,000 into them. Cancelled QuickBooks subscription, as not using it. Working on dog tags, need rabies certificates on file. Slow process, but working through it.

SUPERVISORS’ REPORTS:

Matt: The well malfunctioned again. The wires from the ground to the motor are very short. Added a jumper wire to fix it. Got a call from a resident with questions on his tax bill. Made a signpost for recycling and garbage day notifications. Looked at the equipment in the town shed, can tell that Aaron takes very good care of all of it.

Jake: Northwest Ambulance meeting on Monday this week. Everything is going very well. There are no foreseen rate changes. There is talk of ordering their next ambulance soon as it takes about three years to get it. Current ambulances are being repaired for various reasons. A couple of towns are interested in joining Northwest Ambulance Service due to having more affordable rates. Culvert survey coming up, Zoom meeting on the 29th. Planning to attend.

ROAD REPORT: New tires ordered for backhoe. Two loads of tires hauled to Barron. Going to put all tires that come on garbage day into the dumpster to prevent a tire pile. Contacted WITC in Rice Lake, their automotive shop doesn’t do body repair. Will move forward with getting the one ton’s surface rust repaired.

CHIEF’S REPORT: none

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: Attended Clear Lake Ambulance meeting on Monday, not a lot to report. Have a new agreement for \$36 per capita fee; will sign and return to them. Read through the number of runs per town. Black Brook had none. Response times averaged 10 minutes for 2023. They have started a new equipment fund.

Letter from Prochnow with suggested dates for our Open Book and Board of Review meetings. No objections to these dates so the Open Book will be on Thursday, April 11 from 1 – 3 pm and the Board of Review will be on Thursday, May 16 from 5 – 7pm, immediately before the scheduled board meeting. Discussed dates of Town’s Association trainings coming up which include Board of Review training.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Driveway application for Oconnell** Reviewed ordinance to ensure compliance.
- 2. Equipment replacement schedule** Discussed condition of equipment and the need for a replacement schedule. Want to protect the town from unexpected costs. Look at equipment replacement at approximately 3500 hours, continue to maintain. Aaron referred to the equipment life expectancy page on DOT website. Aaron will investigate the cost of a spreader box for the back of the one ton.
- 3. Items needed for spring election referendum questions:** In June of 2023, a law was passed that non-binding referendums are no longer allowed. The question we had ready to go to referendum regarding moving from a 3 person to a 5 person board cannot legally be on our ballot. Clerk will notify County Clerk to remove it. Board will post update on the website and will create a posting to have available to electors at the April election. The referendum question regarding the clerk and treasurer positions being appointed rather than elected needs an ordinance in place which automatically brings it to referendum. **Motion by Erik, second by Jake to pass Ordinance number 01-2024. Carried, 3 yes.**
- 4. Remote meeting attendance policy** Discussion regarding board members attending remotely if needed via zoom, or phone with speakerphone. The public must be able to clearly hear the person attending remotely. Will discuss further at next meeting.

Erik entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion by Matt, second by Jake to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted and posted by:

Erik Henningsgard, Chairman

Janel Belle Isle, Clerk