

**TOWN OF BLACK BROOK  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 15, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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 were 3 residents 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 Matt, second by Jake to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

**MINUTES:**

Erik entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the January 2024 meeting. **Motion by Matt, second by Jake to approve the minutes from the January meeting. 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.** Discussion and instruction to use ARPA money to pay our portion of the Tender rebuild for Deer Park Fire Department. **Motion carried, 3 yes.**

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Our first election of 2024 will be next Tuesday, the 20th. The Wisconsin Elections Commission is advising all small Towns to be prepared for a polling place review at some point this year. I've researched compliance items and I believe we are prepared. I've met with most poll workers; I'll meet with the remaining few tomorrow.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Put our tax collection dollars into our Achieve Money Market account temporarily to take advantage of some interest gains. The balances on January 31, 2024 were as follows: General checking was \$227,114.44, the ARPA Money Market was \$111,778.68, the Achieve Money Market was \$848,951.29. The total of all asset bank accounts, including the new CD for \$250,000 was \$1,438,686.27. We received the grant check from the State for 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was applied directly to the loan, so that the loan balance is now \$279,667.05. Tax collection is now done for 2023 and most of the tax money collected will be paid out right away to the schools and the County.

**SUPERVISORS' REPORTS:**

**Matt:** Keeping track of dumpster costs. Waterman charged \$100 per tire for the implement tires the Town disposed of. Put lighting in the voting booths. Appreciated being allowed to attend the recent ad hoc committee meeting.

**Jake:** Amery Fire Dept needs a new ladder truck. Spending a lot in maintenance per month on their 30-year-old truck. Got 3 different bids and the best one came in at \$1.9M, with a four-year lead time. There is a possibility of getting a “floor model” truck, about the same price without the lead time. Our share would result in about a 40% increase to our bill: approximately \$245,000 over the course of a 10-year loan. The general feeling at the meetings is that the Towns involved would like to explore a used truck. Will continue to attend all meetings. Discussed the need for residents to keep driveways clear so emergency vehicles can gain access to homes of people in need.

**ROADS REPORT:** Plowed snow off roads today. Had the arm mower out earlier this week to clean up some roads that didn’t get done last fall. Aerator went in on King Lake. Clear Lake Town is coming to help trim trees on roadsides later this week. Issued a couple of driveway permits.

**CHIEF’S REPORT:** 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 75<sup>th</sup> Street being patrolled more, the weather has been nice. Finally got an officer hired, will be back to full staff in March. Had a couple dog complaints that Dale is handling. Broke up a house with cock fighting activities; that investigation is still going on.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** SMC in Amery called and asked about a speed limit sign by their business driveway on 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue; directed them to the city as they are in the city limits.

**PLAN COMMISSION REPORT:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Dale Wood gave update of ad hoc committee, has a meeting scheduled with Berghammer’s to come out next Wednesday to look at the condition of the buildings and offer solutions. Other committee members are collecting information, and they will meet again at a later date. Resident asked if the new driveway going in on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue has been permitted. It was confirmed that it has.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Salt box for the one-ton.** Received a quote from Dave’s Service Center in Star Prairie for \$10,575. **Motion by Erik to purchase the salt box per quote.** Discussion on install, removal, and storage of the new salt box. **Amended motion by Erik, second by Matt to purchase the salt box for up to \$10,575 if Aaron feels that a part listed is not needed. Motion passed, 3 yes.**
2. **Moving from a three to a five-member board** At the 2023 annual meeting, it was voted that this matter to go to referendum. Per legal counsel, this question cannot be on the ballot. A resident presented opinion on the cost of additional members and said that he feels that the three-member board is doing fine. Another resident spoke in favor of moving to five members. Suggestion made to wait until after the April election to decide about this. No action taken.

3. **United Fund Disbursements** \$165 total was collected this year. **Motion by Jake, second by Matt to split this year's donations equally between Amery Area Food Pantry and Lifeline Food Pantry in Clear Lake. Motion carried, 3 yes.** Discussion on whether to continue the United Fund collection.
4. **Culvert Inventory** Required to be done this year, as well as to collect other data points regarding each one. The Department of Transportation is fully funding this and strongly recommends having the inventory done by a specialized company. Dan Fedderly with Paladin Group offered to take this inventory for us. Delmont Company also offered. **Erik made a motion to have Paladin Group LLC conduct the inventory process, second by Jake, motion carried, 3 yes.**
5. **Public Meeting Posting Policy** Physically posted notices are currently being posted at the Alcivia Country Store in Amery, at NextGen Watersports in Clear Lake, on the Town Hall door, and on the Town's official website. **Erik made a motion that moving forward the posting locations be the Town Hall door and the Town website, second by Jake. Motion carried, 3 yes.**
6. **Update Emergency Operations Plan** Need to update the current plan. Board will work on it. No action this month.
7. **Agricultural Roads Improvement Program** Ag specific program, applications due in April. Discussion on 105<sup>th</sup> Street and other roads. Great program, bad timing due to current debt. Will not apply.
8. **Remote meeting attendance policy** Discussion. If the public can clearly hear the board member, and the board member can hear and communicate with the public, open meeting law is met. Matt attended the recent ad hoc meeting via Teams and was proven to work well. May be used for a board member to attend a board meeting in extraordinary circumstances, and not to become the norm.

**Motion by Jake, second by Matt to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3 yes.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.**

**Respectfully submitted and posted by:**

---

**Erik Henningsgard, Chairman**

---

**Janel Belle Isle, Clerk**