

**TOWN OF BLACK BROOK
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FEBRUARY 20, 2025**

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 were 13 residents in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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/second; Jake/Matt. Motion carried.**

MINUTES: Erik entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025 caucus and board meeting. **Motion/second; Matt/Jake. Motion carried.**

APPROVE VOUCHERS: Erik entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and pay the bills. **Motion/second; Jake/Matt. Motion carried.**

CLERK REPORT: The Spring Primary was Tuesday the 18th and it went well. The election workers are very good. The next election will be the Spring Election on April 1st, so working on that.

REM Inspecting will be at next month's meeting to present their annual report.

District Meetings are coming and offering Board of Review Training. I plan to attend virtually.

Alcohol License Training is coming up, I plan to attend virtually.

Filed both the annual Fire Dues Certifications for all 3 Fire Departments that serve the town and the annual Illness and Injury report with the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

TREASURER REPORT: \$4866.18 was the month end balance in the general checking account. \$1,707,605.69 total cash, but \$1.2Million in collected tax dollars goes out tomorrow to the schools and county. The CD will come due in April and the board needs to decide the plan for that. Called WTA to ask how much money can be kept on hand. No limit, but it must be named for a specific purpose, which will be roads.

Met with Isaac from Pillar about the possibility of changing to that bank. Pillar offers good rates for all accounts, not just savings, and would also be able to reduce the interest rate of our new loan. Also received an email from Royal Credit Union with good offers to consider. Will reach out.

Pillar will let us pay early but recommend that we use the tax dollars to make bank payments and to use the matured CD to pay down or pay off the WCU loan for 60th.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS:

Jake: Attended Amery Fire meeting on 2/10 - looking for a new side by side and a new truck for brush fires. Want an ok to look for both. \$120,000 limit for both. Town's share would be approximately \$15,000 of that, next year. Encouraging to look for used rather than new. Going to work on getting a grant from Polaris for a side by side.

Attended Northwestern Municipal EMS meeting on 2/17 - executive committee meeting. With the \$4 per capita increase, debt will be greatly reduced and will be on track to be on a 2 year cycle for ambulance replacement. They held 4 meat raffles and made approx. \$1000 on each of them. \$60,000 of federal Medicare/Medicaid money coming in for 2022 & 2023 that had been on hold. Next year will receive for 2024, and so on.

Matt: Attended the Wisconsin Towns Association in Balsam Lake on 1/23. Discussion about the LRIP program – Polk County HWY commissioner is ok staying like it is. Polk Co conservator to talk about a new farmland preservation program. Has a handout to share if others are interested. The town chair from Osceola was there. He spoke about an E-recycling program that worked well for them. Suggests looking into it and discussing the possibility later this year. Attended the Clear Lake EMS meeting in January, that will be discussed later on the agenda. Solar Farm being talked about in St. Croix County. Suggested looking into our comp plan and regulations to be prepared in the event they bring a proposal to our area.

ROADS REPORT: Had a few days of plowing and a couple days of laying aggregate with the grader. Cut trees on 90th north end. Mike Helgeson rode around and plowed with Jim Shafer because Jim might be done plowing after this year, so training now to be prepared. A resident asked for gravel or sand to be put in the dip on 20th Avenue between the ponds. Aaron will investigate it.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief 2 stops in Black Brook; one warning for speeding and one ticket for speeding. Returned a coffee mug to a happy owner after last month's meeting. There will be no charge for services in January. Officer Wood still in training and will be done in April.

ANIMAL REPORT: One call – battery in a dog collar died and dogs went to neighbors. Settled.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Received an email from the company that is doing the design on the 50th Ave. bridge. Because of DOT funding the construction has been moved to 2028 but will still be fully funded.

Received a few calls about plowing. Ask people's patience when we get those big storms as the workers are out doing their best.

The grader is leaking fluid. Hopefully just seals, but if it is more, Aaron will report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Gail Kuhl asking about the chapel parcel being put in her son's name. Janel reported that Title One has been contacted and they advised they are working on it.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **2 Lot CSM for property of Gail Kuhl** Held until agenda item #2 was complete as the Plan Commission recommended approval contingent on the driveway variance approval. **Motion/second; Erik/Matt to approve the 2 lot CSM. Motion carried.**
2. **Driveway variance from sight distance requirement for Lot 8 of Gail Kuhl CSM**
To qualify for variance, it must be the following; a unique scenario, a hardship to owner, and can't impact others negatively. Unique, yes, site distance. Hardship, yes, you need a driveway. Impact others – no. It does check the boxes of qualifying for a variance. **Motion/second; Erik/Jake to approve the requested location of the driveway and grant the variance.** Discussion. **Roll call vote Matt, aye; Erik, aye; Jake, aye.**
3. **Plan Commission member appointment** Plan Commission currently has 6 members, and it is to be a 7-member board. No requirement of members being residents of the town. **Motion/second; Erik/Jake to add Mark Hansen to the Plan Commission.** Discussion. **Motion carried.** Welcome Mark.
4. **Approve proposed dates for Open Book and Board of Review** Prochnow Assessing has proposed the following: April 24th from 5:00 – 7:00pm for Open Book and May 15th from 5:00 – 7:00pm for Board of Review. **Motion/second; Jake/Matt for Black Brook to hold Open Book on Thursday, April 24th from 5pm – 7pm and Board of Review Thursday, May 15th from 5 – 7pm. Motion carried.**
5. **Schedule Annual Meeting (April)**
Discussion. **Motion/second; Matt/Erik to schedule the Annual meeting for April 17th at 7pm with the regular board meeting to follow. Motion carried.**
6. **Clear Lake Ambulance Agreement** Matt attended the Clear Lake EMS meeting. Went through the budget, minimal changes. Brought paper copy of agreement to sign. Stayed within budget last year. This year they have a few things written into the budget that they are looking for grant money for. We do have 2 voting seats with them. **Motion/second; Matt/Jake to accept and sign the contract as written. Motion carried.**

Motion/second; Matt /Jake to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted and posted by:

Erik Henningsgard, Chairman

Janel Belle Isle, Clerk