

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 17, 2024

Members Present: Jane Mueller, James Rolbiecki, Robert Solberg, Karen Tomesh,
Jeffrey White

Staff Present: Jackie Vold

Members/Staff Absent: Janelle Henning

A quorum being present, Chrm. Solberg called to order the monthly Town Board meeting of the Washington Town Board at 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at the Town Municipal Building, 5750 Old Town Hall Road.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

Supv. White moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 TOWN BOARD MEETING. The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Aye 4 Nye 0

Citizen's Input and Action Thereon:

None

September 2024 Financial Statement was reviewed.

Supv. Tomesh arrived.

Checks

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE CHECKS 031361 THROUGH 031411 FOR \$684,331.81. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Licenses:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE BARTENDER LICENSES FOR BERKELEY WELLS DIEDRICH, KATE C. SEYMOUR, DANIEL D. ROGGE; AND THE "CLASS B" BEER & LIQUOR LICENSE FOR EAU CLAIRE BILLIARDS BAR AND GRILL; AND THE CHANGE OF AGENT FOR THE GROWLER GUYS TO EMILY MARTIN. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Fund Transfer, LGIP #2 Equipment to Capital Outlay Equipment, Sweeper Purchase:

Chrm. Solberg indicated the transfer is in regard to the Sweeper purchase that was made. Supv. White moved TO APPROVE THE FUND TRANSFER, LGIP #2 FOR \$247,500.00 TO

CAPITAL OUTLAY EQUIPMENT, SWEEPER PURCHASE. The motion was seconded by Supv. Rolbiecki.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Dog License 2025 Fee Increase:

Deputy Clerk, Jackie Vold reported that Eau Claire County is increasing their portion of the dog license fee by \$2.00 per dog for 2025. The Town is proposing a \$3 increase to the overall fee (Town's portion would increase by \$1 per dog). The Eau Claire County Humane Association is our law enforcement for animal control; our yearly contract with them has gone up substantially and we do not receive enough revenue to cover the expenditure.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO INCREASE THE DOG LICENSE FEE FOR 2025 TO \$18 FOR ALTERED AND \$28 FOR UNALTERED DOGS. The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Aye 3 Nye 2

Repeal ATV/UTV Ordinance 2018-08-16 and Approve ATV/UTV Ordinance 2024-10-17:

Chrm. Solberg stated that Eau Claire County would like all towns to adopt the new ordinance for uniformity for law enforcement of ATV/UTV signage, speed, routes, etc. In order to adopt the new ordinance, the Town first needs to repeal their existing one.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO REPEAL ATV/UTV ORDINANCE 2018-08-16 AND APPROVE ATV/UTV ORDINANCE 2024-10-14. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Approve Eau Claire County Recycling Special Charge for 2024 Tax Bill:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY RECYCLING SPECIAL CHARGE FOR 2024 TAX BILL. The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Amend Municipal Code Appendix A, Fees for Permits, Licenses, or Other Charges, for Dog Licenses and ATV/UTV Applications:

Deputy Clerk, Jackie Vold indicated that the update to Appendix A in the Municipal Code is to reflect the dog license and ATV/UTV ordinance.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Resolution 2024-10-17 to Authorize the Town to Exceed the Levy Limit for the Joint Fire Department:

Chrm. Solberg indicated that the Township Fire Department, Inc. has received an answer from the State of Wisconsin after asking for years if they are considered a joint fire department; they are. As a joint fire department, they can increase their levy by CPI plus 2%. All five towns need to pass this ordinance for each individual town to consider raising their own levy. TFD, Inc. has struggled to purchase new trucks and increased funding is vital to a successful fire department. The resolution only authorizes each town to consider increasing their levy limit.

The Board discussed the resolution.

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-10-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN TO EXCEED THE LEVY LIMIT FOR THE JOINT FIRE DEPARTMENT. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

2025 Draft Budget Summary:

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2025 draft budget summary.

Administrator's Report:

November 5 Election preparation: the office has issued over 800 mailed absentee ballots so far; in-person absentee voting is October 22 - November 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Paving projects are all complete.

Preliminary plat for development on Balsam Road will be coming soon.

Chairman's Report:

Admin. Henning and Chrm. Solberg met with County regarding EMS services.

Supervisor's Report:

Supv. White spoke about the ribbon cutting for The Haven Church on November 4.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

None

Adjournment:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO ADJOURN. The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

THE NEXT TOWN MEETING WILL BE AT 5:00 P.M. ON NOVEMBER 21, 2024
AT THE TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
5750 OLD TOWN HALL ROAD, EAU CLAIRE

Jackie Vold

Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Attendance: None