

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 14, 2013 AT THE MINONG TOWN HALL**

**CALL TO**

**ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Harold Smith. Board members present were Tom Havlicek, Linda Featherly, Rick Gottschalk. Tony Tubbs not present. Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer also present.

**APPROVE**

**AGENDA:**

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to approve the agenda with two changes, to remove the Insurance Renewal and the Union Representative Concerns section under New Business.

Chairman called for discussion. Gottschalk stated he did not receive this updated agenda in the mail. Chairman stated it was legally posted for 24 hours and that to remove the Insurance portion we will not make the deadline.

Clerk stated we had to add this after the last special meeting. The notice was posted in the required 3 posting places for more than the required 24 hours. Clerk stated this was done do to the November 1, 2013 deadline on the insurance issue.

Chairman stated if we don't act on this insurance issue tonight the Town will lose \$13,000.00. Havlicek questioned why? Chairman explained by not renewing with the insurance company we have now which is Medica by November 1, 2013 our premium will raise 17.7%, and we don't have another meeting until after that time.

Havlicek stated it is only the 14<sup>th</sup> so we still have time to do this, and to have a vote on this.

Chairman stated that will require another special meeting which costs the Town more money.

Havlicek, Featherly and Gottschalk in favor, Harold Smith Opposed.

More discussion from board and residents.

Clerk stated if the board doesn't act on the insurance portion of this tonight it will likely cause a lapse for every employee in their health insurance coverage. This insurance renewal with Medica states; we need to sign by November 1, 2013 or renewal will be at 44% increase. We could also be without insurance for a month if we wait. Clerk also stated she talked with the lawyer the Town board hired and was told that the Medica Insurance has nothing to do with the rest of the Union Negotiations as we have an insurance policy that we can renew tonight at 17.7% increase or if we wait it will increase to 44% as of January 1, 2014 or we could go to a different insurance.

Havlicek stated we are prepared to meet on October 29, 2013 with the attorney here and invite the Union & the help. Chairman questioned who set this up?

Havlicek stated the attorney called him today and told him it would be wise to meet with him and the board before doing any negotiating.

Clerk stated she will be at the Town's convention on that date.

Chairman stated to Havlicek that he thinks what he is doing with the attorney on his own should come thru the board first so the board can act on it and that Havlicek is overstepping his boundaries by doing this on his own. Any correspondence that comes thru the attorney should come thru the board first not just an individual.

Question from the School Board President as to why the Town would have to hire an attorney, as the school did not hire an attorney for their negotiations.

Havlicek stated Act 10 has a ton of changes in the law and if you don't know everything in Act 10 it's very easy to do something that's not legal.

Havlicek stated in the long run by having this attorney we will see a big return coming back to the people.

Larry Radzak asked Havlicek what this big return is that this attorney will get us.

Havlicek stated the return will be when the contract is rewritten, and right now just as for one thing, we are paying 100% of the retirement for the help, that's against the law, you can't do that.

Clerk stated it is not against the law as of today.

Havlicek stated as of January 1, 2014 it will be against the law. That's when the contract is due.

Larry Radzak stated yes that is true but the contract is being updated right now to reflect this so we are not doing anything wrong.

Havlicek said this will be changed next year and that's when the return will be coming back to the Town. It was explained to Havlicek that yes next year the employees will need to pay ½ of their retirement, everyone already knows that.

Chairman stated all we are trying to do tonight is get the insurance issue settled and then bargain under good faith with the employees on the rest of the negotiations.

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to bring the Insurance issue back onto the agenda. All in favor. Carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Featherly 2<sup>nd</sup> by Havlicek to approve the minutes of September 9, 2013 as presented. All in favor. Carried.

**PAY BILLS:** Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Havlicek to pay check numbers 24633 thru 24673, totaling \$48246.66. All in favor. Carried

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Motion by Havlicek 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gottschalk to approve the financial report in the amount of \$860,626.87, dated 10/14/2013. All in favor. Carried.

**OLD**

**BUSINESS:** Flood Aid Petition Update -

Clerk reported that the Island View Rd project is done and the Town's cost was \$3,955.92 and we are still waiting for the County's bill. When we receive the County share we will send the paperwork in and will receive a 75% reimbursement.

Pavilion Update -

Chairman stated this has been started and should be done around November 1, 2013.

Featherly suggested maybe in next year's budget to add a small playground.

**NEW**

**BUSINESS:** Assessor's Contract Renewal - (Copy attached)

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to approve the Assessor's Contract Renewal for 2014 in the amount of \$8,500.00. All in favor. Carried.

Insurance Renewal/

Discussion on which insurance to accept, Medica at the early renewal of 17.7% increase, Medica to renew in January at 44% increase, or the Union insurance with a 27% decrease.

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to not accept Medica's Insurance Proposal. All in favor. Carried.

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Havlicek to accept the Union's Insurance proposal as presented. (Copy attached) All in favor. Carried.

Union Representative – Concerns of the upcoming expiration of labor Agreement

This has been taken off the agenda and will be at a later date.

Review 2014 Proposed Budget for Budget Hearing -

Chairman stated we will come back to this later in the meeting.

**ROADS:** Maintenance -

Chairman stated Island View is done. They have been hauling gravel on Big Sand and some of the other washouts have been taken care of.

Purchases -

Laptop – costs

Two quotes from Dell. One with Windows 7 at \$921.60 and one with Windows 8 at \$955.72.

One quote from HP with Windows 8 at \$1,312.97.

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to purchase the Dell computer with Windows 7 at \$921.60. All in favor. Carried.

Resident thanked the road crew and board for the good roads the Town has.

**MONTHLY**

**REPORTS:** Fire & Ambulance -

Gottschalk reported 29 Ambulance runs in September of which 19 were in the Town. Two fire runs.

Featherly stated she was at an Emergency Government and Unit on Aging meeting at the County and the County has taken out of their budget the \$700,000.00 that was earmarked for Towers up this way. This all has to do with the capabilities of the radios for the fire and ambulance. The Sherriff's office suggested that a Town citizen become an advocate to fight for equal rights up in this area. If anyone is interested please talk to Linda Featherly.

**Transfer Station – (Copy of August Minutes attached)**

Chairman gave report: 7 loads in August averaging 12.5 tons. Monies collected to date \$15,666.25.

**Constable –**

Erik Gulbrandsen gave report: Erik was involved in a search for a missing women in the Town of Casey and they did find her. We did get a mention from the Sherriff thanking us for the help.

Also we have still had a rash of thefts going on.

**Lakes Committee –**

Laurie Johnson gave report and stated that the Town should be receiving the check from the DNR for \$24,750.00 of which \$24,000.00 is to repay the Town for their loan.

The Lakes Committee also requests the services of the Fire & Ambulance and Eric Gulbrandsen for the Lakes fair that will be on July 26, 2014.

**Don Olson gave report for informational purposes only**, on the channel between Upper Kimball and Middle Kimball, regarding changes in the water and shoreline. A resident that owns both sides of the channel got a permit from the DNR for more rip-rap to prevent erosion. This has made it extremely difficult for people with pontoon boats to get in and out on the lake. There will be some follow up meetings with the DNR regarding this matter.

**John Ney stated the Lakes Committee would again like to have the Boat inspection program next year.**

John asked if this needs to be brought up at a separate meeting. This will be put on the November agenda.

**Discussion from Other Meetings Attended**

Max Ericson stated that at the Northwood School's monthly meeting, their budget has about a 2 1/2 % decrease from last year.

**CITIZENS**

**COMMENTS:** Resident questioned if we could use the \$800,000.00 surplus that shows on the financial statement on roads. It was explained it is not the end of the year yet, so that figure will go down some. Also that the Town is required to maintain enough surplus funds to run the Township for up to 1 or 2 quarters plus pay the loan payments for one year.

**DATE &**

**AGENDA:** **Next Board Meeting: November 13, 2013 due to Veterans day on November 11, 2013**

This will include the Budget Hearing along with the Regular Town Meeting.

**REVIEW 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR BUDGET HEARING**

Proposed Budget was gone over by the board. The only changes were: add \$5,000.00 for the Library and to lower Employee Health Insurance \$18,000.00.

Clerk asked if once these corrections have been made can the difference come out of surplus funds?

Board agreed to take out of surplus funds.

Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to approve this proposed budget with these corrections to present to the people at the Budget Hearing. All in favor. Carried.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Gottschalk 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to adjourn. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

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Chairman

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Clerk/Treasurer