

**TOWNSHIP OF BALDWIN
BUDGET HEARING & SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
2399-90TH AVE., BALDWIN, WI.**

November 4, 2021

Budget Hearing: Chairman Douglas Veenendall called the Budget Hearing open for discussion at 7 PM. Proposed budget was reviewed, and questions answered. Hearing closed at 7:10 PM.

Special Voters meeting was called to order. Elector's present were Joseph Kusilek, Don L. Johnson, Douglas & Chris Veenendall, Terry & Ronda Helgeson, James & Kay Harer, David Niccum, Brian L. Zimmerman and Heather Zinda. Motion by Chris Veenendall to approve Resolution No. 2021-11-4-1 to set the 2021 levy to be collected in 2022 at \$293,688.00. Seconded by Kay Harer. Voice vote indicated 11-Ayes and 0 Nays. Special voters meeting was closed at 7:15.

Board Meeting: Chairman Douglas Veenendall opened the regular monthly board meeting with all members present. Others in attendance were all listed in Special Voters meeting plus Tim Simmons and Kevin Oium, Cedar Corp.

Joseph Kusilek moved to approve the agenda as printed. Seconded and carried.

Minutes of the October 2021 board meeting were read. Motion by Joseph Kusilek to approve as read. Seconded and carried.

Vendor checks and fund balances were reviewed. Motion was made to approve checks #11037 and 11062-11096 for \$27,390.50 as well as approve payment to Murtha Sanitation when statement arrives, and months end payroll check when rate is determined. Seconded by Joseph Kusilek, carried by voice vote.

Kevin Oium of Cedar Corp. was present to give an update on Rose Lane. The project is complete, funding applied for, and town confirmation of completion entered. The issue of wetlands reimbursement has waffled back and forth at the State level. With the help of Former County Highway Commissioner, Danial Fedderly, PE wetlands payments are approved for payment. The town should see the check in the next couple of weeks.

The board stated they were happy with the completed project; residents appreciate the new road. Attendees expressed appreciation for the newly installed 4-way stop at 220th St. & 70th Ave. along with trees pushed back in the NE corner for better vision.

No one was present for the Aaron Foster request to subdivide parcel #13 offered for sale by Tom Kanten. Don L. Johnson moved that the board endorse the findings of the Plan Committee: 1) Concerns of a required shared driveway. 2) State Statute states that the CSM must indicate the number of additional residential lots that may be further divided. Seconded by Joseph Kusilek, carried by voice vote.

Town Employee wage review & adjustment: Motion by Joseph Kusilek to increase the Hall & Collection Attendant position by \$.50/hour (\$14.50 per hour). Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried by voice vote.

Motion by Joseph Kusilek to increase the Town Road Maintenance position by \$1.00/hour (\$26.00 per hour). Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried by voice vote.

Motion by Douglas Veenendall to increase election worker to the same wage as Hall & Collection Attendants or \$14.50/hour. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried by voice vote.

Motion by Douglas Veenendall to increase the Chief Inspector wage by \$1.00/hour (\$21.00 per hour). Seconded by Joseph Kusilek, carried by voice vote.

All wage adjustments are effective on November 16, 2021.

General discussion was held on the building permit procedure. Residents should be obtaining building permits for all buildings and additions but there seems to be an increase of noncompliance. Correspondence with All Croix Inspection stated that this trend is county wide. Towns have to obtain legal advice to pursue violators, direct contact will be pursued. So far this year the town has retained about \$1,800 in permit fees.

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 Board Meeting
 (Continued)

United Fire & Rescue purchases remain the same. They are scheduling a open house for public comment on a new building which would house both United Fire and EMS in Baldwin. Discussion continues with Spring Valley and Cady over coverage and reimbursements.

All road projects assigned to St. Croix County Highway Department have been completed with billings for culvert patches remaining. Town forces are shouldering, patching and mowing.

The towns LRIP application for 90th Ave. between 250th & 260th St. for 2022 mill/pave project has been submitted.

WTA highlights were: 1) The State of Wisconsin is strongly encouraging towns to have a .gov email account for security. 2) Our WISTAR accounting program is getting outdated. TOWNHALL is a program based on Wisconsin town accounting and cost is \$3,600 setup and \$1,000 per year maintenance. This is ARPA approved. 3) Will be pursuing a records retention policy with hopes of cleaning up some old town documents and make room for more current records. 4) There was a good presentation on uses for ARPA fund utilization, but questions still remain. Funds have to be designated by 2024 and used by 2026. 5) A pull type road groomer was promoted to cut cost of gravel road maintenance. Tim Simmons and Jim Harer attended a road demonstration and felt the \$20,000 price tag did not warrant the outcome.

The board was made aware of a "Recycling Score Card" being proposed by Kris Poston, St. Croix County Recycling Specialist. It is being created to evaluate municipalities recycling programs and provide comparisons. Since state funding grants are staying stagnant this card will help allocate municipal payments. The score card will weigh towns population, tons recycled and cost of program yielding pounds per person and cost per ton. Ranking would be between towns and state averages.

Since this program is in the draft stage, we have made her aware of the inequity of towns with larger Amish population that do not have the "normal" material to recycle. Our Collection Attendant, Brian Zimmerman stated a large percent of their material is plastic wrap and bags that are not recyclable and are considered garbage.

Correspondence: Several vendors making us aware of their services. No public comment: Tim Simmons mentioned that the shop office heater was serviced by AM Heating and we should schedule replacement next year.

Future agenda items: Board adoption of the working 2022 operations budget, appointment of election workers for the 2022-2023 term & Building permits.

Joseph Kusilek moved to have the next board meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 7 PM. Seconded and carried.

Adjourned 8 PM.

(Minutes approved and signed December 2, 2021)

 Chairman, Douglas Veenendll

 Clerk, James Harer