

**TOWNSHIP OF BALDWIN  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
2399-90<sup>TH</sup> AVE., BALDWIN, WI.**

March 3, 2022

Chairman Douglas Veenendall opened the meeting at 7 PM. Other board members: Supervisor's Don L. Johnson & Joseph Kusilek, Treasurer Ronda Helgeson and Clerk James Harer.

Others: Terry Helgeson, Kay Harer, Aimee Rock-Dedicated Animal Services, John Hilgers- St. Croix County Community Development., Darel Hall, Dedicated Animal Services, Scott Miller & Tim Simmons- Town Patrolman.

Don L. Johnson moved to approve the agenda as printed. Seconded and carried.

The February 2022 board meeting minutes were read. Motion by Joseph Kusilek to approve the minutes as read. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried.

Bank statements and town balances were reconciled. After board review of the vendor check for March a motion by Joseph Kusilek to approve check numbers 11166 & 11198-11224 for the amount of \$24,383.26. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried by voice vote.

**Pitstop Impound**, Darel Hall and Aimee Rock from Dedicated Animal control were present to explain the Pitstop Impound contract. They are required to upgrade the impound facilities by state law. The maximum amount the town would be liable for is \$100 if an owner could not be found. The other possible cost would be if the animal is injured, and the owner could not be found. Then we could owe as much as \$150, otherwise the owner would be responsible. The only time cats are impounded is if they are injured, sick or kittens. If an animal such as a kitten is found in the middle of a boarder road, he will alternate billing. They do maintain a website for lost and found at: [DedicatedAnimalControlServices.com](http://DedicatedAnimalControlServices.com)

Motion by Joseph Kusilek to approve the contract with Pitstop Impound. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried by voice vote.

**2006 Heartland Plan:** John Hilgers, from St. Croix County Community Development was present to outline the scope, purpose and cost of the 2006 Heartland Comprehensive Plan update. Originally 6 towns participated in plan. Their goal this time would be to do separate plans for any town that would approve the county upgrade. Cost would be about \$5,000 and could be paid over several years. John gave members a handout outlining the reasons for update, timeline and goals. One important factor the Town of Baldwin is that farmland preservation is now at the 80% threshold and with an updated plan the state has agreed to 70%. The county will also maintain a web page for each town to give residents more information. They would like to have a decision by early to mid-April.

Chairman Douglas Veenendall felt this should be reviewed by the Town Plan Committee for recommendation to the board. Plan Chair Joseph Kusilek stated that a Monday, April 4, 2022, plan meeting would be held at 7 PM at the town hall. The board will have this item on their April agenda.

**2021 Financial Report.** The clerk handed out the 2021 Financial report and 2022 Budget information. With some minor corrections this report, and a one-page information sheet will be ready for April board approval.

**Building permits.** There was no activity in February.

**Double fees.** At the February board meeting there was interest in doubling the permit fee if construction was started before a permit is issued. It is felt that doing so would greatly reduce the problem of building structures without a permit.

**2022 Road Projects:** The county had requested information on what projects the town had for them this summer, this was sent in, no word since then. Price increases have not been determined yet. The chair had input from Eau Galle Chairman, Jim Lund and they have "penciled in" 2023 for a joint mill/pave of 60<sup>th</sup> avenue from 270<sup>th</sup> street west to CTH "B".

**United Fire:** Chairman Douglas Veenendall stated a down payment was sent for the fire truck purchase saving about \$70,000.

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(continued)

**ARPA:** There will be an annual report to file with the Treasury Department by April 30. Another \$49,000 is expected to be deposited by June 2022.

**Shop Furnace:** AM Heating and Cooling LLC, has offered a quote of \$2,930.00 to replace the north office shop furnace using the existing duct work.

Motion by Joseph Kusilek to go ahead with the AM Heating proposal. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried.

**BIL:** Wisconsin DOT has been rolling out the process for utilizing **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law** funds, the exact amounts and procedures are yet to be determined but engineering services will have to be hired for both design and construction. Don L. Johnson moved to ask Kevin Ouim of Cedar Corp to attend the April meeting to explain the process and impact on our town road projects. Seconded by Joseph Kusilek, carried.

**.GOV:** Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) and Dept. of Revenue (DOR) are encouraging towns to switch their email accounts to .gov for more security, they are saying eventually they will require that for submission of forms. The account is free, but the cost comes with a host carrier. WEC is talking about a \$600 grant to help with cost. Baldwin Lightstream was asked about being the host carrier, but it is new to them also and are investigating.

**ES&S Election Machines:** Town resident Scott Miller spoke during the public comment section and handed out a flier about the possible hacking threat of using ES&S election equipment with modem to transmit data to Hudson. He stated the there have been examples of problems and candidates pre-chosen for voters. He wanted us to be aware of the possible problems and use all safeguards as necessary.

**Future agenda items:** Road projects, Heartland Plan, Building Permits, .gov and plan committee appointment.

Joseph Kusilek moved to hold the next board meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at the town hall starting at 7 PM. Motion was seconded and carried.

The Chair ordered adjournment at 8:20 PM.

(These minutes were approved at the April 7, 2022 board meeting and signed below)

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Douglas Veenendall, Chairman

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James Harer, Clerk