

**MINUTES
TOWN OF MARSHALL
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
April 13, 2021**

The monthly meeting of the Town Board of Town of Marshall was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Those present were Chair Durst, Supervisor Chupp, Supervisor Sebranek, Treasurer Spencer, Clerk Hubbs, Patrolman Paasch, newly elected Supervisor Dan Buroker and one resident. Supervisor Sebranek moved to approve the posting and agenda. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Durst called the meeting at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Supervisor Sebranek moved to approve the March 9, 2021 Monthly Board Meeting minutes. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Spencer presented the Treasurer's Report. Current revenues and balances were reviewed. Aaron Spencer has taken another position and will no longer work at the Town Recycle site. His brother, Alex, will continue.

Supervisor Chupp moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Sebranek seconded. Motion passed.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Hubbs presented the Clerk's Report.

We have received bids for several used culverts. Evan E. Roloff of Wonewoc bid \$1,550 for a 60" x 30' round culvert. Jeff and Kathryn Berner bid \$535 for a 60" x 30' flat bottom culvert. The Board also agree to sell a 36"x 22' culvert to Kinley Fish for \$100.

John Lichteig's request for a garage siting was denied due to inadequate setback. He was informed by the Board in person during Spring Road Check.

A Public Test of the voting machine was held on April 5 at 9 AM.

A Spring Election was held on April 6. Workers were: First shift, Barbara Duerksen, chief, Mike Byrnes, and Kathryn Berner, second shift, Julie Durst, chief, Dillion Louis and Anna Berner. 148 of our 376 registered voters participated, about 40%. The statewide participation rate was about 20%. 44 voted by absentee.

Results were as follows:

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Jill Underly	73
Deborah Kerr	69

Town Chair

Jerome Durst	119
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Town Supervisor

Calvin Sebranek	90
Daniel Buroker	72
Eric Rynes	68

Town Clerk

Don Hubbs	125
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Town Treasurer

Kimberly Spencer	126
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School Board- Richland -A1, East

Melissa Wertz	120
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School Board - Richland -A3, City

Rosanne E. Knower	54
Paul F. Corcoran	80

School Board - Richland -A4 At Large

Brady Doudna	113
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County Referendum 1 (fair redistricting, reject gerrymandering)

Yes	87
No	52

Richland School Referendum

Yes	51
No	95

Notice of Election forms were given to officers and Oath of Office forms were signed and returned to the Clerk during the meeting.

Seven voters who had previously requested to automatically receive absentee ballots due to being "indefinitely confined" did not return ballots for this election. As required by Wisconsin law, all were sent letters informing them that they had 30 days to respond if they wished to continue the "indefinitely confined" status.

We have received two recent requests for a large quantity of public records. We currently have a policy of charging .25 per page for copies. I would suggest we also pass a motion to charge \$15 per hour for the time it takes to process these requests. Supervisor Sebranek moved to charge \$15 per hour for time needed to compile and prepare requested documents and to increase the per page copying fee to 50 cents per copy. The charges will go to the Town, not the Clerk. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Motion passed.

We received an Open Records request from the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty for all records concerning the CTCL private grants we received. I informed them of the appropriate charges and they greatly reduced the scope of their request and received the reduced requested information electronically without charge.

A media organization called Locallabs has requested all materials related to absentee ballots at the November election. This would include the applications, photo ID's, ballot return envelopes and the list the Clerk and elections workers prepare as the requests are processed and ballots received and opened. I have part of this information and the County Clerk has the rest. This request was made county-wide and perhaps state- or nationwide. I sent them an estimated cost and so did the County. Neither of us has had any further response. I would need to redact all personally identifiable information from photo ID's, including DOB and license #'s. The State Elections Commission has declined to speak to the legality of the request or what constitutes compliance, saying they lack authority and that we need to consult with corporate counsel.

The State Legislative Audit Bureau is conducting a review of the November election. I have responded to their survey.

Logging notices are supposed to be sent from the County Clerk to the Town Chair for all cutting done in the Town. This has nothing to do with MFL. If the property owner owes the Town any taxes, fire calls or other charges, the log sale can be halted until the debt is paid. Loggers are frequently failing to file the notices. I spoke with Joe Schmaedick, Forestry Tax Law Specialist with the DNR and local forester Julie Van Cleve. We need to report any commercial cutting that we don't have a notice for and Julie will follow up.

Our Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.
The March 941 Federal Tax Withholding was paid timely, on-line.
The Quarterly 941 Report has been filed timely with the IRS.

The Quarterly State Income Tax payment has been paid timely, on-line.
The Quarterly State Unemployment Report has been filed timely.
The annual Recycling Grant application has been submitted.
The US Census Bureau 2021 Government Units Survey has been submitted.

Spring Town Officials Workshops are available by live webinar May 10-14 in the mornings and again May 17-21 in the afternoons. Only the Clerk chose to register.

The WTA District Workshops were available on-line. I participated in six hours of zoom meetings on March 22 and 23.

I attended the WTA County Meeting on March 31 at the Phoenix Center. State Senator Howard Marklein and State Representative Tony Kurtz both made presentations and Richland Economic Development Director, Jason Glassbrenner, also presented.

Also from the meeting:

- Over \$14.3 billion is being allotted to Wisconsin governments from the several Covid Relief/Economic Development Grants recently passed by Congress.
- State tax collections are up 8.6% over the same period last year.

- Current Richland County unemployment rate is 3.4%. There are only 6 houses for sale in Richland Center, 3 of them uninhabitable.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will provide Wisconsin Towns with \$.399 billion. Town of Marshall's share is \$54,268.93 of direct aid. Monies may be used

- To respond to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19;
- To provide assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits related to the negative economic impacts of COVID-19;
- To aid impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- For premium pay (hazard pay) up to \$13/hour, not to exceed \$25,000 to any individual employee, to eligible local government essential workers;
- For grants to eligible private employers to provide hazard pay to essential workers;
- To provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such cities/counties due to COVID-19 relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency or;
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure

WTA is seeking clarification from the US Treasury Department if funds could be used to improve roads that help businesses recover from Covid, but water, sewer and broadband improvements are the most obvious potential uses. Half the funds should arrive in the next 60 days, the second half, one year later. We have until December 31, 2024 to spend the money.

The State will also receive about \$3.2 billion which will be used at the Governor's discretion.

- Counties split \$1.129 billion; metros \$.788 billion.
- Richland County's share is \$3,345,919.16.
- Richland School District will receive from the various relief bills \$5,010,882 which equals \$4131 per student.
- The funds allocated to Towns will be largely influenced by the WTA Advocacy Council lobbying efforts and letters and calls from citizens.

The April WTA Journal has an article on ARPA funding. There are several additional funding areas in the law which we may be able to qualify for or benefit from, including funds to "maintain and improve food and ag supply chain resiliency", Public Health workforce needs and property tax assistance to covid affected individuals.

The WTA Town Advocacy Council sponsored "Capital Day" virtual meetings with Howard Marklein and Tony Kurtz. I participated in the training meeting and in-person meetings with the legislators, all on-line. Both legislators are on the Budget Committee. We addressed four primary issues, transportation, fire/ems, PILT, and broadband.

The Town Comprehensive Plan was last done in 2009 and is due to be updated. Jeremy Layer, Mike and Lindsey Byrnes, Julie Durst and I have agreed to join Calvin Sebranek, Steve Chupp and Barbara Duerksen on the committee. I have copies of the current plan printed for the new members to review but have not yet distributed them. The Board requested that meetings not begin until we could safely meet without masks.

Jerome and Sandra Durst have purchased lots 1,2,3, and 49 in English Ridge Cemetery. Marty and Jodeen Hillehiem purchased lot 19 in English Ridge Cemetery.

Supervisor Chupp has remarked lot corners in English Ridge Cemetery.

Discussion was held regarding Supervisor Chupp's responsibilities for the cemeteries. Chairman Durst will talk to various people about assuming responsibilities for selling and marking graves. Copies of the existing maps will be made. Steve Chupp may continue to assist with some duties. Chairman Durst thanked Supervisor Chupp for his many years of dedication to operation and maintenance of our cemeteries.

I will have information at the May Board Meeting about developing a Town website.

Spring Clean Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, from 8 AM until noon. A 50-yard dumpster is reserved, and L & M will bring a metals trailer. Ads will appear in the Shopping News and Observer.

Supervisor Chupp moved to approve the Clerk's Report . Supervisor Sebranek seconded. Motion passed.

Road Supervisor's Report: Road Supervisor Paasch presented the Road Supervisor's Report.

The grader has leaks in some hydraulic cylinders. He will make repairs. The grader also has a gash in one tire sidewall that is leaking and dangerous. A used replacement may be in order. No decision was made.

There is a broken window on the mower tractor. He would like to replace it with plexiglass since it is not used for viewing.

After discussion about increased gravel costs, Supervisor Sebranek moved to increase the fee for one load of gravel delivered by the Town from \$60 to \$75. Residents will still be limited to one delivered load per year. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Motion passed.

He continues to work on patching to prepare for sealcoat. Roads to be resealed include: English Ridge, .7 miles, Gillingham Drive, 1 mile, Spring Hill east, 1.3 miles, Patch Hill, 1.3 miles, Kepler Lane, .2 miles, Coulter Hill, .6 miles, Woods Lane, .5 miles, Scenic Valley, 1.4 miles and the remainder of Berry Hill that is not part of the LRIP project, .3 miles. The lower portion of Berry Hill will be double sealed as part of an LRIP project.

Furnace and overhead door pricing were presented. Decisions were deferred to the May meeting.

Supervisor Sebranek reported that some very heavy equipment used to install drain tile was hauled and unloaded on Cribben Hill Road near Danz Road while the 10-ton load limit was still posted. Chairman Durst moved that we bill the violator \$2,000 for damages. Supervisor Sebranek seconded. Passed.

Richland County Fire/EMT/Ambulance/911: There is still confusion about if, when and where a new facility may happen.

Correspondence: Current correspondence was not reviewed.

Payment of Bills: Monthly bills were reviewed. Supervisor Sebranek moved to approve the payment of all bills. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Motion passed.

Supervisor Sebranek moved to adjourn. Supervisor Chupp seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Don Hubbs, Clerk