

The Ellsworth Town Board met Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The meeting notice had been posted April 24, 2024 at the town hall, website, Kenny’s Lawton Bar, and published in the May 1st issue of the Pierce County Journal. All Town Board members (Chair Billeter, Supervisors Ristow and Borner, Treasurer Hines, Clerk Beastrom) were present as well as Maintenance Don Jakes and town resident Tim Lorenz..

**MAY
BOARD
MEETING**

Chair Billeter called the meeting to order.

**CALL TO
ORDER
MINUTES**

The minutes of the April meeting had been distributed prior to this meeting and were available at the meeting.

MSC to accept the minutes.

(Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow)

Clerk presented current financial report: checking \$10,295.59; LGIP General \$69,463.81; LGIP Machinery \$123,572.55; LGIP town Hall Fund \$107,461.83; Cash on hand \$25. Money Market \$164,360.53. In April the town received 2nd quarterly transportation aid \$31,338.47, town’s share of lottery credit \$14,254.46, personal property aid payment of \$1,189.05 and remainder of delinquent personal property taxes. MSC to accept the financial report.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner).

No public comment.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Maintenance Don Jakes reported they have been patching, brushing, shouldering, new furnace is installed, and will seed on 450th Avenue where extensive brushing took place.

**ROAD
WORK**

On May 2nd the town received a signed LRIP State/Municipal Project Agreement (SMA) between the Town of Ellsworth and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of 490th Ave from Highway 10 to County C , cost of \$960,000, with reimbursement of \$477,126 in LRIP funds, said agreement having a sunset date of June 30, 2029.

**490th AVE ROAD
PROJECT**

MSC the town investigate obtaining a line of credit for 1 million dollars in order to have funds as needed.

**LINE OF
CREDIT**

(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)

MSC that Mark Peterson at Ayres and Associates start the design and bid process for the 490th Avenue project.

**START DESIGN
& BID PROCESS**

(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)

Don Schroeder completed the AGRIP application and submitted documentation for use of 570th Avenue and 530th Street for selling and moving grain their own grains as well as stored grains of other farmers in a more timely manner. Chair will contact other farmers along these roads to get their input for the AGRIP application. Supervisor Ristow will take pictures of the roads and Schroeder’s operation to submit with application.

**AGRIP
PROGRAM**

Discussion on the “No Thru Trucks” Ordinance for all of 450th Avenue in the Town of Ellsworth. The capacity limit of 6000 pounds was questioned. Statute 349.17(2), from which this ordinance is based specifically limits to 6000 pounds. To exceed this weight,

DISCUSSION

<p>the town would have to designate roads in the Town as Class B Highways (WI Stat. 348.16) which limits capacity to 60% of Class “A” highway of 80,000 lb. Supervisor Ristow endorses adding additional roads to this ordinance as the need arises. MSC to adopt “No Thru Trucks” Ordinance 2024-2 for 450th Avenue in the Town of Ellsworth. (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner) Maintenance will get the signs from the county and post.</p>	<p>ORDINANCE 2024-2 NO THRU TRUCKS</p>
<p>Supervisor Ristow questioned why the intersection of 450th Avenue and 710th Street , which the town paid to have cleared a couple of years ago is growing with brush. Maintenance replied it would be mowed this summer.</p>	<p>450th AVE & 710th ST INTERSECTION</p>
<p>Maintenance will check the night reflectivity of the town road signs and report. Chair believes the town should budget for this yearly.</p>	<p>SIGN REFLECTIVITY</p>
<p>MSC to approve field driveway access for Phil Hakari to the south of 480th Avenue in Section 25. Chair stated it does not need a culvert. (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)</p>	<p>HAKARI DRIVEWAY</p>
<p>The Town has received 5 applicants for town road patrolman position. The board set Wednesday, May 8 at 6:30 p.m. to meet, move into closed session to review applications and set up interviews.</p>	<p>MAINTENANCE APPLICATIONS</p>
<p>Chair appointed Jackson Hager and Gordon Borner to the Plan Commission for 3 year terms expiring April 2027.</p>	<p>PLAN COMMISSION</p>
<p>There were no operator license applications. Town Board will consider beer and liquor licensing as well as operator licenses at June meeting. There are new applications forms and they were delivered to three of the four establishments on April 24th. Josh Rhy has not returned the clerk’s phone call.</p>	<p>LICENSES</p>
<p>Posting Boards information: 1 – from Displays2Go same company our current board is from – 42” x 32” posts 9 pages \$462.99 (39 lbs) plus shipping of \$182.50 2 – from Displays4Sale an extreme weather outdoor enclosed board 30”x40” \$995. Perhaps there are other options – no action taken.</p>	<p>POSTING BOARDS</p>
<p>Clerk was asked to add Appointing Clerk vs. electing clerk to the June agenda.</p>	<p>CLERK POSITION</p>
<p>The following bills were reviewed for payment: Ag Partners \$369,00 (grass seed); Consumer Cooperative \$119.81 (gasoline); GFL \$283.36 (refuse hauling); Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services \$128.00 (electricity); Swift Current \$74.31 (phone and internet); Owen Assessing \$660.00 (assessing contract); Pierce County Journal \$712.00 (publishing maintenance position \$497.50; BOR 214.50); Pierce County Highway \$398.33 (miscellaneous); Waltz Ace Hardware \$30.60 (supplies); Wisconsin Towns Association \$1085.45 (membership dues); WI DNR \$165 (burn license). (MSC to pay the bills). (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)</p>	<p>BILLS</p>
<p>Correspondence: 1 – Building permits were issued for Phil Deiss (electrical); Robert Mercord (home alteration); Mark Ineichen (home alteration). 2 – Pierce County Land</p>	<p>CORRE- SPONDENCE</p>

Use – additional address for Jason and Karen Bignell off 480th Ave to the north parcel;
3 – information from County Clerk on election Badger Books which are an electronic
poll list - \$2011 each plus \$300 for supplies and each municipality should have at least
2. County has not yet allocated any assistance in purchasing these.

Animal issues: None

ANIMALS

Next meeting will be Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7 p.m.

NEXT MTG

Clerk was asked to put on the agenda:

1 – scanning all town records so everything is available electronically; advantages and
disadvantages; town e-mails for all town personnel; 2 – do we move forward again on
building a town hall or rent if a place can be found.

MSC to adjourn

ADJOURN

(Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow).

Phyllis J Beastrom, Clerk