

The Ellsworth Town Board met Monday, October 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The meeting notice had been posted September 24, 2024 at the town hall, website, Kenny’s Lawton Bar, and updated at the town hall on October 2, 2024, published in the October 2, 2024 issue of the Pierce County Journal. All Town Board members Chair Billeter, Supervisors Ristow and Borner, Treasurer Hines, Clerk Beastrom were present. Also present were Gary Zielske, Brad Holmstrom, Steve Thayer, George Grajkowski, Barry Foy, Tim Lorenz, RJ Duden from Town of Hartland, and maintenance Tim Westerberg.

**OCTOBER
BOARD
MEETING**

Chair Billeter called the meeting to order.
The minutes of the September 9th board meeting had been distributed prior to this meeting and were available at the meeting.
MSC to accept the September minutes.
(Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow)

**CALL TO
ORDER**

MINUTES

Clerk presented current financial report: checking \$35,919.55; LGIP General \$156,250.16; LGIP Machinery \$126,373.38; LGIP town Hall Fund \$109,897.49; Cash on hand \$25, Money Market \$117,000.58.
MSC to accept the financial report.
(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner).

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

Public Comments: Steve Thayer addressed the “wash boarding and extremely dusty conditions“ of 610th Avenue since crushed rock had been applied. He suggested the town resurface this road as two projects – from Hwy 65 and east a half mile and the second beginning at 670th St and go west. Mr. Thayer also requested the town’s assistance in having the brush cut at the corner of 610th Avenue and Highway 65 as it’s difficult to see traffic on highway 65. It’s county right of way and he spoke with the county but didn’t appear they were going to deal with it.
Chair Billeter said he would check the corner and contact the county highway department.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Maintenance Tim Westerberg reported: 1- they have been patching, brushing, applied blacktop to smooth the bridge approaches. He has been mowing but the JD tractor has a bad sensor and needs repairing.

**ROAD
WORK**

Haas Brothers started the reconstruction of 490th Avenue October 1st and the project will take 3 weeks. Clerk has spoken with Mark Servi about the project and stated this LRIP project has to be paid in full before we will get reimbursement. Clerk has supplied multiple reports to Raynee Farrell at CCF Bank regarding the town’s finances. Will check with her again on Tuesday regarding the status of loan.

**490th AVE LRIP
RD PROJECT**

Mark Peterson submitted the ARIP project for 570th Avenue and 530th Street by September 30th.

**ARIP
PROJECT**

RJ Duden, patrolman at Town of Hartland shared road information he has been adding to a free mapping program on his computer, so he now has an inventory of culverts, bridges, signs, on each road and he has also started adding patching and maintenance information. This mapping demonstration was very informative.

**MAPPING
DEMO**

Supervisor Ristow and Clerk Beastrom will proceed with rezoning the town property to commercial and obtaining permit for the storage unit office. Chair Billeter will contact Ironclad regarding contract and delivery of the storage unit office.

**TEMP
STORAGE UNIT
OFFICE**

MSC to approve operator license for Mary Prissel. (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)	OPERATOR LICENSE
Clerk met with Trey Vavra from E O Johnson regarding scanning the town records. The clerk will send some documents to be placed on the Global Search program and he will demonstrate how the program works with our data at our December meeting.	SCAN RECORDS
The following bills were reviewed for payment: Consumer Cooperative \$ 189.27 (gas); Column \$38.63 (meeting notice in Pierce County Journal); Ellsworth Parts City \$169.74 (parts); ; GFL \$304.24 (refuse hauling); Johnson Tractor \$106.00 (parts); J H Larson \$182.58 (electrical wire); Marko Septic \$315 (pumping); Owen Assessing \$660.00 (assessing contract); Pierce County Journal \$24.77 (absentee voting notice); Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services \$105.00 (electricity); Swift Current \$76.94 (internet & phone); Pierce County Highway \$104,743.38 (pavement overlay, crushed blacktop, crushed rock); Pierce County Highway \$13,860.53 (patching blacktop); Tractor Central \$243.55 (tractor part); and Waltz Ace Hardware \$231.50 (parts and supplies). (MSC to pay the bills. (Motion by Gordon Borner, seconded by Brad Ristow).	BILLS
MSC the town board adopt Resolution 2024-1 Resolution of the Town Board proposing to exceed levy limit via town meeting by 18% which would increase the town levy by \$75,297.42 for a total tax levy of \$493,616.42. (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)	LEVY INCREASE
Clerk distributed 2025 budget information received thus far for the 2025 town budget.	2025 BUDGET
Correspondence: 1 –Notice from Pierce County Land Management that the hearing for the conditional use permit for Hannah Ninneman was October 2 nd . Supervisor Ristow suggest the town adopt an utility accommodation policy so utilities would have to follow the town’s policy for setbacks and depths. Chair agreed this would be a good resource.	CORRES- PONDENCE
No animal issues.	ANIMALS
Next board meeting will be Monday, November 4 with the public hearing on the proposed 2025 budget at 7 p.m. followed by the special town meeting for two purposes: 1 - the town electors consider the adoption of the resolution endorsing the town board resolution proposing to exceed the allowable town tax levy by 18% for a dollar increase of \$75,297.42 and 2 – approve the total 2024own tax levy to be collected in 2025 of \$493,616. The regular board meeting will follow the special town meeting.	NEXT MTG
MSC to adjourn (Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner).	ADJOURN

Phyllis Beastrom, Clerk