

# TOWN OF FARMINGTON MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING  
October 1, 2024  
7:00pm  
FARMINGTON TOWN HALL  
N8309 County Road C, Mindoro WI, 54644

Attendees: Mike Hesse, Paul Lash, Jodi Anderson  
SD: Mitch Fenske, Cindy Storandt  
Minutes Prepared By: Crystal Sbraggia  
Absent: Greg Kastenschmidt

Other Attendees: Larry Craig, Wilfred Berg, Carson Hackett, Gayle Monicken, Dennis Konze, Joe Nickles

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mike Hesse called the regular Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to approve the minutes from September 3, 2024 regular meeting and September 18, 2024 and September 25, 2024 special meetings. **2/0/0 PASSED**

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** No concerns

## **Joe Nickles | Variance Request | State Road 108**

Mr. Nickles was in attendance to request a variance that will allow for the construction of an accessory building onto parcel 5-63-5 that exceeds the square footage allowed by La Crosse County Chapter 17 Zoning Ordinance.

Sbraggia shared notes from the prior month's plan commission meeting in which the committee recommended approving a variance request for an accessory building with dimensions up to 1800 square feet.

**Mmsp: Hesse / Lash** – Motion to recommend approval of a variance to be granted for the construction of a single 1,800 square foot accessory building onto parcel 5-63-5. **2/0/0 Passed**

## **MINDORO PARK**

Mitch Fenske provided the board with an update on the Mindoro parks.

- Mowing, filling in ruts and trail work continues. Mitch plans to measure the trail after mowing has taken place and report his measurements back to the Mel-Min cross country coach.

## **SANITARY DISTRICT**

Mitch Fenske provided the board with an update on the Farmington Sanitary District.

- **Main Lift Station Project:**

Carson Hackett, representative from Davey Engineering, was in attendance to provide an update on the lift station project. The project start date has been pushed back from Fall 2024 to Spring 2025. A more specific timeline should be available in November.

Because this delay was in no part caused by the sanitary district, Davey will secure a written confirmation that Winona Mechanical and / or Rupp be held accountable for repair costs that result from this delay.

- **AMS product:** Sludge judging has been postponed. A report should be available in November.
- **Trailer Park Sewer Line Project:** No Further updates.
- **Water Rates:** No update.
- **Well #2:** Work has been completed. Final invoices are yet to be received.
- **Certification:** Taylor is studying to obtain the same SD certifications as Mitch. He is scheduled to take the phosphorus exam in October. Timeframe for full certification is 2025.

## **CEMETERY**

- Crews continue to spend many hours mowing and filling in ruts.
- No further work has been completed in regard to stone repairs.

## **ROADS & EQUIPMENT**

- **2024 Chip Seal and Resurfacing:**

Struck and Irwin are coming back to fix Dave Foster's driveway that they damaged during installation.

**Herman Coulee Road:** Beavers are blocking culverts on the south side of DE near the snowmobile bridge. Private land owners have given permission to the town to seek out assistance in trapping the beavers.

Mike is working with Jewell to ensure that the final design is complete and invoices are submitted to the county before the November 30, 2024 reimbursement deadline.

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse** – Motion to appoint Mike Hesse as the contact person to approve and authorize work regarding beaver removal. **2/0/0 Passed**

Mitch shared a bid that he collected for Amundson and Christianson Road to build up the base and apply 2 coats of chip seal. Total amount is \$222,725. This is for information only. No decisions regarding 2025 road repairs have been finalized.

- **M. Olson Road:** No further updates. Bids will not be distributed until further funding is identified. The board plans to hold a public hearing in January 2025 for the purpose of gathering feedback from residents pertaining to the future of M. Olson Road. The board plans to set a specific date at the November meeting.
- **Baker Road ARIP Application**  
The ARIP funding application was modified and resubmitted.
- **Hanson Road Update:** No updates.
- **Wenzel Road:** Culverts will be installed the week of October 14, 2024.
- **Cox Hill Road –** Crews will be inspecting culverts that are reportedly plugged.

## EQUIPMENT

- **Dodge ram –**The board requested that u-joint and brake repairs be completed in-house rather than by an outside vendor.

Bids to replace tires on the Dodge Ram were reviewed.

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to go through Degenhardt Tires for the purchase of Firestone tires for the front end and Falcon tires for the rear. **2/0/0 PASS**

Board approved for Randy Hanson to be hired for a flatbed and v box salter welding project.

Discussion took place regarding various suggestions shared by Mitch regarding future equipment purchases. Mitch noted that the road crew believes that an F600 4wd would be a solid replacement for the Freightliner, when budget allows. No decision made.

Kuhn mower repairs will likely total near \$1,000. Fenske recommends selling the unit to purchase a wider disc mower. He also suggested selling the Ferris 800 and using that profit to go towards that purchase. No decision made.

The board agreed that new battery powered weed trimmers could be purchased in 2025.

Hesse noted that one of the toilets in the town hall was not functioning properly. He requested that a new toilet be purchased and installed.

Bids were collected to replace both furnaces at the town hall. The originals were installed in 1998. Per budget restraints only the units for the main portion of the hall will be replaced in 2025.

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to replace the furnace and air conditioning unit for the

main portion of the town hall with a Runtru Two-Stage for \$4,195 and AC for \$5,100. Units will be purchased in 2025. **2/0/0 PASSED**

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Hesse formally thanked the John Cain Foundation for their donation of \$3,000 to the First Responders.

Hesse noted that he is donating a 50-year lease on a portion of his land to allow for the installation of the weather siren on top of County Road Vv. He feels this a viable location as it already has a 3-phase hook-up available and will allow for siren signal to reach all sides. He plans to discuss this offer with neighboring property owners before making final arrangements.

### **RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE**

No updates

### **TREASURER REPORT AND CHECKS**

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to approve the September Treasurer Report including receipts 632302-632309. **2/0/0 Passed**

**Correction:** August Treasurer's Report had incorrect numbers listed at the top. The actual final receipt number should have been 632301 rather than 632300. All transactions were included on the bottom portion, just the numbers listed at the top were incorrect.

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to approve town checks 23929 to 23972 and previously approved EFT. **2/0/0 Passed**

**Mmsp: Hesse / Lash:** Motion to approve Fire Department check 4781-4782. **2/0/0 Passed**

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to approve SD August EFT transactions and checks numbered 5845-5861. **2/0/0 Passed**

### **Reimbursement:**

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion made to reimburse Mike Hesse \$191.31 and Crystal Sbraggia \$1,136 for purchases made on behalf of the town.

**Passed 2/0/0**

**Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to adjourn at 9:00pm.