

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Municipal Complex - Assembly Room - 2000 Municipal Drive
Tuesday, April 14, 2009 - 6:00 pm

Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Town Chair Arden Tews called the Annual Town Meeting of the townspeople to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked that Clerk Backman take roll call and all board members were present.

TOWN OF MENASHA ELECTORS PRESENT - (35)

Dale Youngquist, Annette Look, Mike Lettier, William Ottow, Arden Tews, Linda Wise, Jim Wise, Joe Nemecek, Melvin Schultz, Roger Clark, Martha Andrew, Anthony Betters, Jeffrey Sturgell, Clarence Peterson, Len Kachinsky, Gerald Voigt, Alvin Bellmer, Dale McNamee, Maury Cox, Greg Ziegler, Rod McCants, Melissa Liedl, Bob Liedl, Mike Lynch, Dennis Gerhart, Randy Gallow, Paul Eisen, Josh Woodside, Keith Kiesow, Dina Sturgell, Gary Kaye, Barb Hanson, Barb Knaack, Dale Knaack, and Kris Koeppel.

NON-RESIDENTS PRESENT - (13)

Karen Backman, George Dearborn, Steve Laabs, Myra Piergrossi, Tom Scheidegger, Richard Eiberger, Jeff Roth, Mike Kading, Lucas Telfer, Dean Kaufert, Roger Roth, Tim Plagenz, and Joan Burrill.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF TOWN BOARD AND TOWN STAFF**

Chairman Tews introduced the Town Board members present to the townspeople. He also announced State Representatives Dean Kaufert and Roger Roth were invited and were present. Senator Mike Ellis was also invited but was unable to attend. Chairman Tews then introduced all department heads, and Police, Park and Planning Commission members present.

3. **SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Clerk Backman reaffirmed the swearing in of the re-elected Town officials by administering the Oath of Office to Town Chair Arden Tews, Supervisor #2 Barbara Hanson, Supervisor #4 Dale Youngquist and Municipal Judge Len Kachinsky.

4. **AWARDS / PRESENTATIONS**

5. **ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT - FISCAL YEAR 2008**

a) **Virchow Krause and Company, LLP**

Certified Public Accountant Tom Scheidegger of Virchow Krause and Co. reviewed the Utility District's 2008 audit including financial statements of the water and sewer utilities, the Rate of Return and Debt Coverage, unrestricted funds on hand, and other General Fund information for the Town.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) **Annual Town Meeting - April 14, 2008**

b) **Special Town Meeting of the Electors - November 17, 2008**

MOTION: Resident Greg Ziegler, seconded by resident Joe Nemecek to approve the above minutes. On the motion, by a count of hands, motion carried 33-0.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

8. **NEW BUSINESS & DISCUSSION**

a) **Legislative Update**

State Representative Roger Roth gave the following updates of the state's budget bill as presented right now:

- Provision to raise auto insurance premiums 30 to 40% next year

- Provision regarding gas tax; tax profits on oil companies, and a provision that you can't pass it down to consumers (unconstitutional); the automatic gas tax would raise gas prices in Wisconsin 5-7 cents

Rep. Roth is also introducing a change to the Do Not Call List which adds language to not receive telephone calls from political candidates.

Resident Clarence Peterson, Lakeshore Drive, asked when we're raising the beer tax, and Rep. Roth answered that there is a proposal now however is doubtful it would pass.

Resident Dale McNamee, Whippletree Lane, asked for an update on the stimulus money given and asked why more of the funding is not being directed toward the Fox Valley, referring to the completion of the Hwy. 10/441 interchange, which he stated was a project "shovel ready" to go.

Rep. Roth agreed and stated less than 10% of the money was going toward infrastructure and improvement; he felt bridges and roads should have benefited. He further stated the project is top priority however the Transportation Projects Commission still had not yet met.

Resident William Ottow, Dunning Street, commented that he felt auto insurance should be mandatory for everyone.

State Representative Dean Kaufert stated Senator Ellis had intentions of attending this evening, and gave his regards. Rep. Kaufert gave these legislative updates:

- We have a \$5.2 billion dollar structural deficit
- Names 5 programs wherein 70% of the budget is already spent
- Concerns with shared revenue
- General transportation aid cut back to the Town
- \$3.2 billion in new taxes/fees proposed, paid by corporations
- \$4 billion in stimulus money; is one-time money, be careful how we spend it
- His good intentions of the democratic and republic parties working together in the future
- Hwy 441 bridge is 100% engineered and project is ready to go
- Believes State smoking ban may pass this year
- Raise prevailing wages for government projects, TIFS- worry about this; drives up cost of project
- Working on the Ignition Interlock bill; devices in vehicles of certain drunken drivers

Resident Martha Andrew, Pages Point, asked how we can help our community and state. Rep. Kaufert stated residents should get to the right people, and encouraged everyone to e-mail or write personalized letters to their state representatives and governor. Chairman Tews mentioned attending a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting and stated he was moved by the fact that all local and state representatives had collectively put a letter together encouraging completion of the interchange on Hwy. 10/441; it's in the Town, but is shared by the entire community.

After State Representatives Roth and Kaufert gave their updates, Chairman Tews asked them for a photograph to include all of the Town Board members in front of the assembly table. Chairman Tews then thanked Representatives Roth and Kaufert for their attendance this evening.

b) Announcements

Winnebago County Supervisor Paul Eisen announced an important Winnebago County Board meeting in Oshkosh next Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 pm. A resolution will be presented to create Lakeland Long Term Care District, between the counties of Winnebago, Fond du Lac and Manitowoc, to administer long-term managed care for the frail, elderly, and developmentally disabled. He encouraged Town Board members to contact County Board members and attend this meeting to learn more.

Park Commissioner Lynch announced two planned CB Park cleanups and encouraged residents to donate their time. The first will be this Saturday, April 18 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. The next cleanup date is scheduled for Saturday, May 9 also at 8:00 am.

Plan Commission Chair Bellmer announced that the Town's own zoning authority is coming soon. Comm. Dev. Dir. Dearborn described the process as coming sooner than planned. After 17 years at the Town of Menasha, he stated it's finally coming to fruition for the Town.

In conclusion, Chairman Tews gave complimentary remarks for using good internal financial control to Finance Director Piergrossi, Administrator Sturgell, and to all of the employees in the Finance Dept. He announced that the Town of Menasha is the first Town in the State to complete the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and thanked our auditors and staff.

c) *Any Other Business Permitted by Law to be Discussed*

There was no other business.

9. SET 2010 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MOTION: Resident Martha Andrew, seconded by resident Maury Cox to set the next Annual Town Meeting for Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex Assembly Room.

On the motion to set the Annual Town Meeting, motion carried on voice vote.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:57 p.m., MOTION: Resident Mike Lynch, seconded by resident Clarence Peterson to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Backman, Town Clerk