

Town of Niagara, Marinette County
Special Town Meeting, Budget Hearing and Town Board Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2023 at Niagara Town Hall, W6889 US Hwy 8

Agenda of Special Town Meeting

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order.
 - a. The November 21, 2023, Special Town Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.
- 2) Verify Poll Listing Complete.
 - a. It was confirmed that there were 6 town electorate in attendance. See attached poll list.
- 3) Approval of Agenda by Town Residents.
 - a. M/S LaLiberte/Vilringer to approve the agenda as presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 4) Approve the 2023 Total Town Tax Levy to be collected in 2024, pursuant to S.60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Statutes.
 - a. M/S LaLiberte/Vilringer to approve the 2023 Total Town Tax Levy to be collected in 2024 of \$66,784, as allowed by the State of Wisconsin on the 2023 Municipal Levy Limit Worksheet. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 5) Adjourn Special Town Meeting.
 - a. M/S Sanicki/Neuens to adjourn the special town meeting at 6:07 PM. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.

Agenda of Budget Hearing

- 1) Call to order.
 - a. The November 21, 2023 Budget Hearing was called to order at 6:07 PM.
- 2) Verify Poll Listing Complete.
 - a. It was confirmed that 6 people signed the poll book. See attached poll list.
- 3) Discussion on the 2024 budget.
 - a. M/S Sanicki/Neuens to approve the 2024 budget as presented by Chairman Butler. With proposed expenses of \$401,792.00. The total highway expenses are \$289,800. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 4) Adjourn Budget Hearing.
 - a. M/S Neuens/Sanicki to adjourn the Budget Hearing at 6:26 PM. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.

Agenda of Regular Town Board Meeting

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call.
 - a. The November 21, 2023, Monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 6:27 PM. A quorum was met.
 - b. Present: Chairman Bob Butler, Supervisor David Sanicki, Supervisor Ron Neuens, Treasurer Debbie Emond, Clerk Sara Wentzel. Excused/Absent: None.
- 2) Approve / Amend agenda items for November 21, 2023.
 - a. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve the agenda for November 21, 2023. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 3) Approve / Amend minutes of October 17, 2023 Town Board Meeting.
 - a. M/S: Sanicki/Neuens to approve minutes of October 17, 2023, regular Town Board Meeting as presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 4) Treasurer's Report as submitted/presented by Debbie Emond.

- a. Income for October equaled \$117,301.21. Expenditures for October equaled \$90,838.46.
 - b. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve Treasurer's Report as submitted/presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 5) Public Comment; non-discussion from Board.
- a. None.
- 6) Discussion / Action Item: Codification of Town Ordinances.
- a. Discussion: Clerk Wentzel obtained a quote on November 21, 2023 from Municode. Board members received a copy of the proposal with all information, and are to review the details between now and next meeting. Clerk Wentzel will clarify any questions they may have about proposal and codification process with Municode.
 - b. M/S: None. Topic tabled for December's meeting agenda.
 - c. Status: In Progress.
- 7) Discussion / Action Item: Raising of Plow Drivers Wages.
- a. Discussion: Chairman Butler has researched plow drivers' compensation from other townships in the area; Township of Niagara currently offers the highest rate. With that in mind, Chairman Butler proposes increasing Timothy Coron's wage to \$22.50/hour effective 12/01/2023, and start newly-hired plow driver Randy Peterson at \$21.50/hour. Joe Geldmeyer and Jim Cater will remain at \$23.10/hour, and Tom Jonet will remain at \$18.90/hour.
 - b. M/S: Butler/Neuens to increase Timothy Coron's wage to \$22.50/hour effective 12/01/2023, and to start newly-hired plow driver Randy Peterson at \$21.50/hour. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
 - c. Status: Complete.
- 8) Discussion / Action Item: Approve 2024 Town Budget.
- a. Discussion: The electorate in attendance at Budget Hearing this evening approved the 2024 Proposed Town Budget as presented.
 - b. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve the 2024 Proposed Town Budget as presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
 - c. Status: Complete.
- 9) Discussion / Action Item: Increase to Road Chief Wages.
- a. Discussion: At this time Chairman Butler is reviewing the terms of Road Chief Romuald's compensation agreement with the Township.
 - b. M/S: None. Topic tabled for December's meeting agenda.
 - c. Status: In Progress.
- 10) Discussion / Action Item: Increase to Election Workers' Wages.
- a. Discussion: Supervisor Sanicki requested the date and amount of the last wage increase to Election Workers. Treasurer Emond's records show that a \$2.00/hour wage increase was passed in November 2022. The Board wishes to take the month and contemplate if another wage increase is needed at this time.
 - b. M/S: None. Topic tabled for December's meeting agenda.
 - c. Status: In Progress.
- 11) Discussion / Action Item: Increase to Zoning, Assessor and Treasurer's Wages.
- a. Discussion: A 5% increase to the wages of the Zoning Administrator, Assessor and Treasurer were figured into the 2024 Proposed Budget. Therefore, since the budget was approved by both the electorate and the Board, there is no further discussion required. The 5% increase equates to the following new annual wages effective January-December 2024: Zoning Administrator, \$2,809; Assessor, \$6,615; Treasurer, \$6,615.
 - b. M/S: None.

- c. Status: Complete.
- 12) Discussion / Action Item: Purchase and Installation of Beacon Light for New 1-Ton Truck.
 - a. Discussion: Chairman Butler obtained information that, by law, the Township's new truck is required to have a beacon light. Badger Auto is offering us a municipal rate for the light and installation for a total of \$625.40. The light can be installed November 29.
 - b. M/S: Sanicki/Neuens to approve purchase and November 29 installation of beacon light for \$625.40 through Badger Auto for new 1-ton truck. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
 - c. Status: Complete.
- 13) Discussion / Action: Sale of Old Salt Spreader (Equipment).
 - a. Discussion: This spreader has independent motor. Road Chief Romuald and Joe Geldmeyer say that there is no reason this spreader needs to be put on the new truck, and is not of additional benefit to be kept for future Township use.
 - b. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to publish the old Salt Spreader unit for sale with the Township accepting sealed bids (a minimum bid of \$3,000 is required, and Township can reject any/all bids) by December 11, 2023. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
 - c. Status: In Progress.
- 14) Road Chief's Report.
 - a. Road Chief Romuald absent from meeting.
 - b. Chairman Butler to meet next week with Randy Peterson, new plow driver, to go out into township and learn the plow routes.
- 15) Planning Commission Report as submitted/presented by Bruce LaLiberte.
 - a. No activity to report.
- 16) Zoning Administrator's Report as submitted/presented by Clerk Wentzel in Mr. Grandaw's absence.
 - a. 4 permits were issued in October.
- 17) Lake Shannon Report as presented by Bob Butler.
 - a. No activity to report.
- 18) Multi-Jurisdictional Court Report as presented by Bob Butler.
 - a. No activity to report.
- 19) Announce next meeting: Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Niagara Town Hall.
- 20) Adjourn
 - a. M/S Neuens/Sanicki to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Sara Wentzel, Clerk

Bob Butler, Chairman

Ron Neuens, Supervisor

Dave Sanicki, Supervisor