

TOWN OF FIFIELD REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF October 19, 2017

The meeting was brought to order on October 19, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fifield Town Hall.

**ROLL CALL:** K. Balzar, J. Hintz present. Absent: J Wierzba. Also present were S. Putnam and 4 others.

**MINUTES:** Motion (Hintz, Balzar) to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2017 regular board meeting. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**NEGOTIATE THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL NO. 139 LABOR AGREEMENT:** Two Union Reps were present to negotiate the labor agreement. The January 1, 2018 consumer price index change limits the increase in wages to 1.84%. It was reported that the Union provided health insurance will increase to \$1,707 monthly per employee. The town pays 85% or \$1,450.95. The Union will draft an annual agreement incorporating these changes for the board's consideration.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Presented and accepted was the treasurer's report for September, 2017.

**TOWN CREW REPORT:** T. Fleming reported that Movrich Park has been closed for the season. The crew is back to working five eight hour days. Chada Road needs one more row of straw mat then the project will be complete. Olynick has a few driveway culverts to attend to then they will be done. It appears that some of the issues with the project stemmed from CenturyLink's utility work in the right of way. Also the landscaper made a mess but Olynick will fix it. The damage reported by G. Klinka to his garage does not appear to be caused by the road project but rather a lawnmower. Fleming will let Mr. Klinka know that there is nothing the town can do unless he can prove what did it. The crew is putting mailboxes up for residents along the project's route. Chair Balzar, D. Grande and T. Fleming will meet next week to complete the punch list for the project.

**DISCUSS HIRING PART-TIME CREW WORKER:** Motion (Balzar, Hintz) to add Dominic Kelnhofer and Richard Delach to the on-call part-time crew worker list at the applicable part-time crew worker rate. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**DISCUSS POLICY FOR DOGS AT THE WORKPLACE:** Motion (Balzar, Hintz) to have the clerk put together a policy and bring it back to the board for their consideration. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**DISCUSS DAMAGE ON THOROFARE ROAD AND POTENTIAL RECOURSE:** The Price County Sheriff's Department has informed the town that a criminal suit will not be pursued for the damage to Thorofare Road because it does not appear to have been done intentionally. Other recourse would be a civil suit. The clerk was instructed to send a second letter by certified mail to the parties involved asking them to contact the Chair to discuss a resolution to the matter. As to repairing the road, T. Fleming felt it could wait until next year.

**DISCUSS WAGES FOR PART-TIME WORKERS:** Motion (Hintz, Balzar) to increase wages for park maintenance to \$10.00 per hour, transfer site attendants to \$9.50 per hour and part-time crew to \$13.00 per hour effective 1-1-18. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**DISCUSS APPOINTED CLERK/TREASURER POSITION INCLUDING REPLACEMENT AND WAGES:** The appointed clerk/treasurer's term is up on April 16, 2018 at which time she will retire. The board's thought is to hire a replacement at \$15.00 per hour in February with the clerk continuing to receive her salary from February to April while training the replacement. In regard to the 2018 budget, it is thought that the current salary should cover the overlapping of employees to the appointed clerk/treasurer position. .

**UPDATE ON SQUAW CREEK CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT:** The Chair informed the board that M. Beuning, Forest Service is checking out how Title 23 rules apply to the Squaw Creek Culvert Replacement Project. It may result in revising the FLAP agreement and the Forest Service agreement for the project. The DNR rules prohibit work done between March 1<sup>st</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. The contract will be bid with a road closed scenario and with a one lane open scenario. The window for the project is June 15 to August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**2018 BUDGET REVIEW:** Motion (Hintz, Balzar) to take the proposed budget to the Town Budget Hearing on November 16, 2017 for approval. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**Page 2 Continued**  
**10-19-17 Regular Board Meeting**

**DRIVEWAY ACCESS PERMITS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** D. Lapp noted that the scrap metal dumpster at the transfer site is full. He wondered if and when Forest Home Cemetery funds are used to purchase equipment such as lawnmowers.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence included a timber sale notice for E. Fox, notice of WTA-Price County Chapter quarterly meeting and Pikettes thank you and notice of last official meeting for the Pikettes Quilting group.

**REVIEW INVOICES:** Motion (Balzar, Hintz) to accept invoices for payment. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

**Adjourn:** Motion at 8:05 p.m. (Hintz, Balzar) to adjourn. Motion approved, voice vote (2, 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Sally L. Putnam, Clerk