

TOWN OF HOLLAND BOARD MEETING

November 13, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Bob Stupi, Supervisors Rick Hauser, Jeff Herlitzke, Michael Hoffman and David Weber
STAFF PRESENT	Town Crew Supervisor John Frauenkron, Clerk Marilyn Pedretti

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stupi called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Notices were properly posted.

MINUTES

Motion by Weber/Hoffman to approve the meeting minutes of October 8 and 9, 2024.

MOTION carried.

CITIZENS’ CONCERNS: None given.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: None given.

CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP: POTARACKE

Shane Potaracke o/b/o David & Kelly Potaracke, N8397 Amundson Coulee Road, requested approval of a Certified Survey Map for a future single family home. Steve Horton, Surveyor, reported there was some discussion with the County zoning personnel. Shane Potaracke noted not much difference when he presented previously but they did change the frontage access point to 44 feet as required by County zoning. Horton reported they made some other minor changes and all county departments have approved. Motion by Hoffman/Hauser to approve the Certified Survey Map for Shane Potaracke, N8397 Amundson Coulee Road. **MOTION** carried.

CASBERG BRIDGE UPDATE

Stupi reported the Department of Transportation (DOT) and contractor held their weekly meeting this morning and he provided a picture of the current construction site. Weber also provided some pictures of the work. Stupi reported the following:

- Deck pour is tomorrow, 11/14/24.
- West side earthwork and road preparation is complete to within 20’ of the bridge deck.
- There is a 6 calendar day delay to rework engineering on east abutment and rain. This will result in 1 day of damages assessed on contractor for not completing the work on time.
- Completion date moved to 11/21/24 to reflect the 6 day delay.
- An asphalt approach of 20-50 feet will be applied, unless the asphalt plant closes. If that happens, cold mix will be installed at the approach.

Jerry Heintz, N7318 Casberg Coulee Road, asked for clarification on when traffic will be allowed and commented on some of the work delays. Stupi reported the bridge should be traversable either November 21st or 22nd, barring any weather or engineering delays. He noted the Town will notify Jill Sherry, the neighborhood facebook administrator, of the bridge opening.

Stupi noted that next week’s meeting will discuss winter maintenance. He explained that, due to concrete curing, no sand or salt may be applied to the bridge deck and the crew has been

instructed to use granite chips if needed. He and the crew are working on winter plowing strategies.

RESOLUTION: SOLAR RATE STRUCTURE

Stupi explained that he attended a Riverland Energy meeting to discuss the rate changes to solar generators effective January 1, 2024 and felt it important for the Town to voice objections. He reported there are 320 solar generators in the county and the Town of Holland has 39 installed between 2016 and 2023. He noted the rate change will have a big effect on payback (from average 15 years to 50-60 years) and argued that there should be a process to grandfather those installed previous to the rate change. Discussion followed.

RESOLUTION #2024-3

Opposing Riverland Energy

rate structure change for solar generators

WHEREAS, the Town of Holland has been a leader in promoting solar production and installed a roof top system at the Town Hall on August 26, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Holland promoted a group buy to encourage residents to install private solar production systems and to date 39 systems have been installed in the Town; and

WHEREAS, those systems were designed utilizing an existing rate structure that would allow pay-off in a reasonable timeframe;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Town Board of the Town of Holland, does hereby oppose the change in rate structure now in affect which will cause the pay-off to be decades for affected property owners and requests those installed before 2024 be grandfathered with the rate structure in place when those systems were constructed.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

Motion by Hauser/Hoffman to adopt Resolution 2024-3 to oppose Riverland Energy rate structure change for solar generators. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Equipment: Stupi reported on the quote from Hotsy for a hot water pressure washer and the quote for installing the gas line. He reported the crew also asked for approval for a tractor broom and a brine tank for truck #2. John Frauenkron, Town Crew Supervisor, reported the new truck chase is scheduled to arrive in May but will take another year to install the equipment so truck #2 will be used another two seasons. Discussion followed concerning the items, the budget and possible options.

Motion by Herlitzke/Weber to approve purchasing the Hotsy water pressure system not to exceed \$14,000. **MOTION** carried 4 years/1 no (Hauser).

Motion by Herlitzke/Weber to purchase the broom in the amount of \$3,700 from St. Joseph's Equipment. **MOTION** carried

It was the consensus not to act on the brine tank.

Salt Wise Workshop: Frauenkron reported on the Salt Wise workshop held on October 28th. He noted a lot of towns are not even close to our Town in being proactive using brine. David Carlson, Town crew, reported 30% of salt bounces into the ditch but with the pre-wet system it adheres to the road and works faster and that salt has a huge environmental affect.

Town crew report: Frauenkron read the crew report and answered Board member questions.

Stupi thanked Frauenkron for working with the Town of Onalaska to sweep some of the roads which still had granite chips from the summer seal-coating.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Herlitzke reviewed the minutes from the October 15th meeting. He noted they are having issues with engine #1 and are working to document the times it has been inoperable.

2025 BUDGET, FEES AND NEWSLETTER

2025 budget draft: Pedretti reviewed several line item adjustments and changes were approved.

2025 fee schedule: Members reviewed the fee schedule and no additional changes suggested.

2025 newsletter: Pedretti reviewed the draft newsletter and asked for input. She noted final edits will be made the last week of November and sent to the printer by December 1st.

WTA TOWN LAW CONFERENCE

Pedretti reviewed some items from the conference and provided a document concerning handling contentious board meetings.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILLS

The Treasurer's report and invoices were reviewed. Motion by Herlitzke/Hauser to accept the Treasurer's report and approve the bills in the amount of \$85,794.67. **MOTION** carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stupi noted the notice will be published concerning the board spring election. Pedretti reported the election went well but the absentee voting will need to be adjusted to meet future needs.

Stupi noted there was a snag to the bike trail paving project and three land owners will need to be approached concerning easements. Stupi thanked Doug Klenke for fixing the ceiling tiles.

ADJOURN

Motion by Herlitzke/Weber to adjourn. **MOTION** carried. Adjourned 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn J. Pedretti
Town Clerk