

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
6:30 pm

PRESENT: Councilman Higgins, President Newburn, Vice President Mayo, Clerk/Treasurer Ebert & Attorney Shoffner.

ABSENT: Councilman LaFoone

GUESTS: Chuck Mack

Call To Order:

- President Newburn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

Roll Call:

- Councilman LaFoone-Absent, President Newburn –Here, Councilman Higgins - Here, Vice President Mayo-Here, A quorum is present.

Appointments Needed

- None

Correspondence

- President Newburn announced the resignation of Councilman Oehmen and asked Clerk Treasurer Ebert to read his letter. Clerk Treasurer Ebert added that Circuit Court Clerk Heather Stevens stated that since there was no history of his political party registration, the town council would be responsible for his replacement as long as he is a registered voter from Ward #2 in Cass Township. She also mentioned that it wouldn't matter if they were Republican, Democratic or Independent. She reminded the council that an email was sent on 7.31.24 with an attachment of that ward listing to help find Councilman Oehmen's replacement.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to approve the minutes of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting. Vote was taken. All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.

Officer's Reports

- Plan Commission – No Report
- BZA – No Report
- Traffic Commission – No Report
- Park Board – President Newburn reported that they will meet in September.
- Animal Control – No Report.
- Building Commissioner –Councilman Mayo reported 1 Fence, 1 Contractor Registration, 1 Remodel, 1 Accessory Building, 1 Deck and 2 Signs for a total amount of 7 permits and \$824.15.

Clerk's Office Reports

- Personnel Committee –No Report
- Facilities Coordinator – No Report
- NIRPC –No Report

- Other –Clerk Treasurer Ebert reported the following:
  - Bakertilly came to the Town Hall on Monday July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to look over and help critique her 2025 Budget.
  - She reminded that our next Council meeting will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we will have a Public Hearing at 6:15 PM to have our 1<sup>st</sup> reading for the 2025 Budget. Please make sure that everyone is in attendance. She will send out a reminder for that meeting.
  - She spoke with a sales representative from Buchertech about the equipment needed to begin Live Streaming for next year and he said to expect somewhere between \$6,000-\$7,000 for that purchase. Councilman Higgins offered to help with this project.

#### Public Works

- Chuck Mack reported the following:
  - He had two quotes to replace our furnace from Jorgensen in the amount of \$10,195.00 with a \$500.00 for a system shield warranty totaling \$10,695. The other quote was from Bernelco LLC for \$9,756.74 with no warranty. However if the bill was paid off in 20 days, there would be a 7% discount in the amount of \$682.97. Chuck recommended Bernelco since Larry Cook would be doing the installation and knows that he would replace or repair the parts for free for that first year. Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to hire Bernelco to purchase and install our furnace and to pay off in 20 days to get the discount.
  - Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to hire High Star to do the striping for the roads in the amount of \$7,670.20.
  - Chuck also reported that the Water Analysis was completed and that they were still working on the lead service line.
  - Regarding the Wastewater treatment project, Chuck said that Bakertilly was still working on the rate study. He also received an email from Lou with Traid stating that they went ahead and filed for a Preliminary Effluent Limits to IDEM to be safe. Lou is convinced that going open market borrowing is the way to go.
  - He has still not gotten any response from Gluth Brothers Roofing regarding the replacement of the roof in the REMC building.

#### New Business

- Councilman Mayo recommended that we increase our sewer rates \$5.00 per the minimum and 0.25 cents per 1,000 gallons after that. Attorney Shoffner stated that he would work on getting a resolution established to present at the next meeting.

#### Unfinished Business

- None

#### Financial Report and Claims Approval

- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to approve the claims as presented. Vote was taken. All Ayes.

#### Any Other Business to come before the Council

- None

#### Public Comment

- None
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Adjournment

President Newburn asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins. A vote was taken.

All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm

ATTEST:



Denise Ebert  
Clerk-Treasurer

