

**Town of Pine River
Lincoln County, Wisconsin
2015 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2015**

Chairman Zeitz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Zeitz explained that the annual meeting needed to be moved from the original scheduled date of April 18, 2015 because of law changes, making the earliest date to hold annual meetings the 3rd Tuesday of the month and within 10 days thereafter.

Chairman Zeitz went through the 2014 Annual Report including the 2014 Financial Statement. He added that the year was a challenge financially due to high costs of grinding and paving, a grader breaking down, high cost of LP, extra overtime, and sand and salt do to the extremely cold winter. To make it through, he stated they took \$50,000 out of the equipment fund and applied it to the gaps. The money has since been returned to the original fund. There are less ambitious road projects planned for this year.

The 2014 Annual Meeting minutes were read by Clerk Herdt.

A motion was made by John Hagedorn to approve the Financial Report; seconded by Ruth Buck, passed unanimously. It was decided to use a Voice Vote if one was needed for the meeting. Dave Renken made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Greg Metz, passed unanimously.

Chairman Zeitz gave an update of what happened in 2014:

- Ordinance passed regarding prohibiting placement of snow on town roads
- Established Fire Department Officers' Salaries (John Uttech reported that monthly salaries are: Chief, \$200; Assistant Chief, \$75; Secretary, \$75 and Treasurer, \$75.)
- Maintained Building Inspection Program with Northwinds Inspection (Darin Pagel)
- Continuing public depositories through Lincoln Community Bank
- Posting moved from Pine Ridge Restaurant to Bill's Bar
- Audit of Town and Fire Department books for 2013 (done Feb. 2014; all in order)
- Reviewed insurance coverage for Town and Fire Department with Rural Mutual Inc. Co.'s agent Shayne Courneya
- Road projects: ground and paved 1 mile of High Ridge Road, .7 mile of Center Road and paved .3 mile of Oak Ridge Road
- Town survey and open meeting regarding garbage collection and recycling; contracted with Baumgart to have dumpsters at Town Hall for collecting recyclables
- Town Hall rental increase from \$35 to \$50; rentable to Pine River residents only
- Ongoing discussions with Nortrax to show advantages of staying in township vs. annexing to the city
- New town employee Jim Lord (Pat Sadowski resigned)

John Uttech gave a report on the Fire Department for 2014:

- 28 fire calls (3 township structures, 7 mutual aid; the remainder were good intent and car accidents)
- 57 EMS calls
- Currently have 25 Fire fighters and 11 First Responders (six are crossover firefighters)

- Marilyn Zastrow and John Uttech maintain certification for teaching CPR; 67 CPR cards and 46 First-Aid cards were given out
- First Responders helped at Hodag, Special Olympics and Dog Sled Races
- 2015 Open House is September 26th with mortgage burning
- 2014 Open House netted approximately \$21,000
- Purchased hose testing unit for \$400
- Sold old Tanker 1 for \$3,000
- Continue training (minimum of 24 hours per year)
- 2nd year of the Wisconsin Length of Service Retirement Program
- Fire Prevention classes were taught at Pine River School for Young Learners and at Hewitt Texas School using Sparky (dog suit) and Freddie (radio controlled fire truck)
- Participated in training exercise on Mass Casualties (held by Lincoln County)
- Jeff Zettler performed 27 fire inspections (11 businesses, 3 churches, 2 seasonal businesses, 4 public buildings, 1 restaurant, 2 apartment complexes, 2 bars, 2 storage units and 1 home for foster care)
- Jeff Zettler attended a week-long Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors Conference in Green Bay and also a two-day ALICE training session
- Maintenance on trucks done by the Town Shop and an independent shop
- Testing on ladders, hoses, pump, and face mask fit were all done in 2014
- SCBA flow testing and hydro testing on all bottles have been done this year
- Received \$4,000 last December/January from the Al Remington Foundation that helps Emergency Medical and Emergency Response personnel; this last week received another \$3,000
- Fire Fighter response time has been excellent (mutual aid has never been called in because of lack of firefighter turnout)
- Acknowledgement to Betty Uttech for her donations of handmade quilts given to every family member of those who have lost their homes to fire

Chairman Zeitz listed the upcoming 2015 road projects. Sealcoating 5 miles: .6 mile Rangeline Rd. (north of 64), 1.6 miles Center Rd. (from Mathis east), 1.1 miles Shady Lane (south of P), .6 mile Lone Oak (south of P), 1.1 miles Center Rd. (from Big Eddy to Peterson Ln.). Culvert work and maintenance scheduled as well.

The meeting was opened to the electors:

- Dave Renken stated that he appreciated getting calcium chloride on his road and praised the work of the road crew.
- Leo Leiskau said he wants to see all town roads opened to ATVs. Chairman Zeitz stated that our town policy has been to open up roads (or keep them closed) with petitions of residents living on those roads. Discussion followed. Darlene Herdt stated that people move to the country to have peace, not to listen to ATVs humming up and down the roads.
- Darlene Herdt asked if the town website would continue to stay open. Chairman Zeitz confirmed that it would. Amy Duley added that anyone who likes the website should contact Senator Tiffany because he has a bill that is going to move forward to the State Assembly stating that the website be the official posting place of the township and that only one other posting be required. Duley also stated that the website keeps becoming more popular. Last year the average monthly hits were 105; since the first of this year it is now at 198.
- Amy Duley thanked all those who supported her position (of clerk) over the last six years. She especially thanked the poll workers (five of which are now certified as chief inspectors) saying that they have done a phenomenal job—Ruth Buck was mentioned by name. She said that she appreciated the Town Board supporting the poll workers' meals. She made a formal request that the poll worker

salaries be addressed—they are paid less than any of the other surrounding townships. Chairman Zeitz stated that it would be looked into at budget time.

Chairman Zeitz then thanked the Town Board: Supervisors Dave Breunig and Larry Langbecker; Treasurer Donna Opper and prior clerk Amy Duley for her years of service and for the help given to Amanda Herdt. He welcomed new clerk, Amanda Herdt. He thanked Attorney Randy Frokjer for all his time and commitment to the town; the road crew: Brian Opper, Pat Sadowski, Jim Lord and Dean Lemke. He thanked Becky Schleif, the poll workers, the ladies on the Plan Commission, Constable Phil Sadowski, the Fire Department and First Responders and the donors listed in the Annual Report printout.

A motion was made by John Hagedorn to hold the next annual meeting Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall; seconded by Greg Metz, passed unopposed.

Motion to adjourn made by Leo Leiskau; seconded by Bud Schumacher, passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda J. Herdt