

**Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
Annual Meeting Minutes Saturday, April 23, 2022**

Chairman Breunig called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Leo Lisko made a motion to use a voice vote; Marilyn Zastrow seconded, all were in favor with no opposition.

The Annual Meeting Minutes taken April 24, 2021 were read by Clerk Herdt. Rick Stine made a motion to accept the minutes; Leo Lisko seconded, all were in favor with no opposition.

Clerk Herdt went over the 2021 Financial Summary. John Uttech made a motion to accept the report; Rick Stine seconded, all were in favor with no opposition.

Chairman Breunig gave highlights of 2021 and updates for 2022.

- ARPA funds of \$92,998.01 have yet to be spent; the same amount is coming in May 2022
- Road projects completed in 2021: paved 1 mile of Deer Run Avenue with a 4" paving lift; cost was approximately \$179,000; chip-sealed Rangeline Road and Cain Creek Road (both to north of 64) with a cost of \$28,178; also, between 6 and 7 thousand yards gravel was crushed
- A Claas mower was purchased for \$10,800 and also a new MorBark wood chipper for \$35,000
- The July 28th storm that came through caused approximately \$35,000 worth of road cleanup and damage; \$31,000 of that will be reimbursed through a State Emergency Grant
- Projected roadwork for 2022: grind and pave one mile of Lone Oak (from P to County Line Road) and two cut-off roads (64 & Spring Brook Ave. and 64 & Mile Square Road)
- An estimate of 5 to 7 thousand yards of gravel will be crushed and a large amount of ditching will be done in 2022
- Research on a new Western Star plow truck is underway, with a projected delivery date of 2024

Attorney Frokjer summarized the status of the zoning ordinances; the board will be reworking the old version and incorporating some of the new verbiage for items that had not been in the prior ordinances.

Leo Lisko stated that visibility on Big Eddy (where it meets Center Road) is poor. Discussion followed; no real solution is available because of gas lines and land layout.

Leo Lisko made a motion to increase wages of the chairman, supervisors, clerk, and treasurer by \$100.00 per month; David Herdt seconded, all were in favor with no opposition. Leo Lisko also made a motion for the constable rate to go from \$9.50 per hour to \$15.00 per hour and to remove the uniform allowance for the position; Greg Metz seconded, all were in favor with no opposition. Mileage will still be reimbursed. All rate increases will go into effect with the new election terms in April of 2023.

Chief Uttech gave the Fire Department report for 2021:

- There are currently 25 fire fighters and 7 first responders protecting our township
- There were 95 EMS calls and 44 fire related calls
- The fire department provided time, manpower, equipment, and facilities for the July storm
- Pine River had their first fatal fire in which Bill Ohlmann was lost
- The department provided their first silo rescue in February of 2022
- 42 people were certified in CPR classes taught by Marilyn Zastrow and Chief Uttech
- Personnel training is ongoing, as well as equipment testing
- The open house for 2021 was a huge success netting approximately \$28,000; past use of fundraising monies include: buying a 6-wheeler trailer, paying ½ of the rescue and tender one purchases, contributing \$30,000 to the new engine purchases, buying SCBA bottles, and helping with day-to-day operations as well as providing food for trainings, etc.

- WPS gave a grant which helped purchase accident safety equipment including signs, cones, & vests
- \$5,600 was received from the Lincoln County HAZMAT grant which was used to upgrade radios
- Nicolet Bank donated \$1,100 for new equipment on the engine
- The department again applied for the AFG federal grant which they are hopeful about receiving; it would allow them to update outdated turnout gear, SCBAs and the truck's cascade system—if received, the grant would cover approximately \$250,000 worth of equipment

Jeff Zettler reported that he performed 29 fire inspections in June and then again in December. Fire safety was taught to the students at Pine River School for Young Learners as well as providing monthly fire drills.

The clean sweep event will be June 11, 2022 from 8 AM to noon.

Dave Breunig announced the retirement of Brian Opper. Because of the many faithful years of commitment to Pine River, the town purchased a 2022 Merrill Golf Club season pass as a retirement gift. Brian will still be working about 10 hours per week and Greg Metz will be filling in until we can find a qualified applicant.

The town elected officials have had numerous residents stating concern over the past year, that if we keep our taxes at the same rate, we will not be able to have a budget big enough to upkeep our town.

Dave Breunig made a motion to hold our next annual meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the Town Hall; Brian Opper seconded, all were in favor with no opposition.

A motion was made by Rick Stine to adjourn; seconded by Leo Lisko, all were in favor with no opposition.

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Herdt