

TOWN OF STILES ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday April 18, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
Stiles Town Hall – 5718 Watercrest Rd., Lena WI

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Flynn at 6:00 P.M.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. A motion was made by Sonesen 2nd by Bruce Jeske to amend agenda item #10 for the date of the Annual Meeting in 2024.
A motion to approve the agenda after amendment by Sonesen 2nd by Bruce Jeske; motion carried.
4. There were 6 townspeople present at the meeting.
5. Sonesen made a motion to approve the 2021 Annual Town Meeting Minutes 2nd by Bruce Jeske; motion carried.
6. Financial Report reviewed and Usiak went over some of the details. Financial report missing 2021/2022 comparison expense and revenue. Usiak will get that information added and available by next meeting. It was discussed about having the Annual Financial Report ready for people to take at the April 2024 election. A motion to approve by Don Van Larrhoven 2nd by Bruce Jeske; 10 yes, no nays; motion carried.
7. Supervisor Telford gave a brief review of 2022 and what improvements the town has made in the past year and some of the things we are hoping to be done this year. He went over road repairs, culverts, snow plowing, and clean-up that was done and that is in progress. There is a new fence that was put up around the town hall for safety and security reasons. Someone having to get into the yard no longer must open the gate out by the road which makes it much easier and safer for anyone needing access to the building or to get into the yard.
8. Concerns of the Townspeople.
 - a. Road construction to be done on what roads as far as pavement or other alternatives.
 - b. Grating of Thompson Lane and Olson Rd.
 - c. Keeping the ditches and roads cleared of debris and brush for safer travel and make sure the water keeps flowing through.
 - d. Purchase a brush cutter or contract the job out cost analysis.
 - e. Possibly purchasing a new mower
 - f. Getting an appointed treasurer and the legal technicalities that are involved with this. Sonesen went into detail explaining how this process works and how appointing a person outside the town is a long process and that it wouldn't be able to be in effect until April of 2025 at the earliest. The other thing that can happen is to combine the clerk/treasurer in to one position. This would have to be brought up at a special meeting.
 - g. Follow-up with the poll workers and the Chief Election Officer on the time spent waiting to vote because they were working on absentee ballots.
 - h. Why are the election results always so much later than other townships? Clerk Usiak explained that she asked about this after the last election and found out that the election canvassers can take the number off the ICE machine for the total votes and call that in. Earlier procedures were to get all the canvassing done before they called in the results. They don't have to do this before they call in the results. This is considered a preliminary count, so it is fine to use those numbers. They will finish up with the paperwork and essential forms after that and results won't be delayed. It has already been noted by Usiak for the next election that this procedure will be used to avoid delays with the results.

- i. That all board members get prior approval on credit card expenses. Motion made by Bruce Jeske 2nd by Don Van Larrhoven; 1 yes, 7 opposed.
 - j. Who is responsible for the signage and parking lot by the trail off Military Rd. South? There is a big problem with people bringing horses to ride the trails and then cleaning out their trailers right there. Telford is going to contact the county to see who is responsible for the cleanup and maintenance of this.
 - k. Wade Jeske, (non-resident of Stiles), proprietor Lena Swamp Archery requested to be put on the agenda in May so that he may **bypass the clerk** with obtaining his Class B Liquor License. He is going to be sending the chairman and supervisor paperwork from the open records at the county as to why he wants to do this. All liquor license renewals were sent out the second week in April and due back to the clerk by May 15th. They are then put on the agenda in June for approval by the board before they are issued by clerk Usiak. All licenses expire June 30, 2023. The new licenses are good from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. He will be notified if he is on the agenda or not.
9. Motion made by Larry McGray 2nd by Bruce Jeske to approve the following contributions.
 - a. Lena Library - \$300
 - b. Community Memorial Library Oconto Falls - \$300
 - c. Oconto Area Humane Society - \$200
 - d. Pay 50% off the registration fee per child for kids participating in Lena and Oconto Falls Recreational Programs. Vote by a show of hands 5 yes, 4 opposed; motion carried.
 10. Next Annual Board Meeting. A motion was made by Don Van Larrhoven, 2nd by Larry McGray; to have the meeting at the set date of Tuesday, April 16, 2024. 3 yes, 6 opposed
 11. Sonesen made a motion 2nd by Bruce Jeske to set the next Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. The meeting would follow the regular monthly meeting. 5 yes 4 opposed; motion carried. The next Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. It will **not** be held at the standard state of Wisconsin guidelines to have it Tuesday, April 16, 2024. A notice will be posted in the paper as required by the Wisconsin State Association.
 12. Motion made by Don Van Larrhoven 2nd by Sonesen to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 P.M. motion carried.

**THESE MINUTES ARE UNAPPROVED UNTIL ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday APRIL 17, 2024**

Jo Ann Usiak - Clerk