

STILES TOWN BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Stiles Town Board held its monthly meeting Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in the Stiles Town Hall. Chairman Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and roll call done.

Present: Chairman Flynn, Supervisor Telford, Treasurer Gillum, and Clerk Babino. Absent: Supervisor Sonesen.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Telford led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Telford seconded by Flynn to defer items #8 and #9 to November's town board meeting due to the absence of Sonesen; motion carried.
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Telford seconded by Flynn to approve the September 13, 2023, and September 20, 2023, town board meeting minutes; motion carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Gillum reported balance of M&M Sweep Account is \$1,110,655.37, Equipment Fund is \$13,974.62, Cemetery Fund is \$26,118.38 and ARPA Fund is \$158,677.52.
5. **List of Bills for Payment** – Motion by Telford seconded by Flynn to pay the bills presented by Clerk Babino; motion carried.
6. **Culvert/Driveway Permits** – No culvert or driveway permits.
7. **Public Comment** – A towns person asked about the pulverizing on Meadowbrook Road as he saw a bid notice in the newspaper. Discussion held. Meadowbrook Road will be pulverized this year and plan on blacktopping next year.
Another question was asked when the railroad on Duame Road was going to be fixed. The Railroad was not able to complete this at the same time as Highway 22 due to a train derailment. The Railroad said they hope to fix this in a week or two.

Old Business

8. **Cemetery Management** – Deferred to November's meeting.
9. **Littering/Improper Garbage Disposal Ordinance/Fees** – Deferred to November's meeting.
10. **Changing Speed Limits Research** – Flynn had researched how the Town would go about changing the speed limits on roads. He reported that an engineering and traffic speed study is required to legally modify speed limits. Local governments take on liability when they make changes outside the outlined limitations without approval. Prior to 2009, a study was not needed. Flynn found in his research that Watercrest Road speed limit signs were placed in 2016 and incorrectly placed; these signs will be removed. If a road has shared jurisdiction, then all towns must agree on the speed limit. Crawford Road shares jurisdiction with the towns of Abrams and Pensaukee; and the Town of Pensaukee stated they would not pursue the engineering and traffic speed study.
11. **Replacing Fire Number Signs** – Telford reported an email was received from Tonia Becker, Physical Address Coordinator with Oconto County, asking the town to remind property owners to check their physical address signs. The sign needs to be visible and free from any obstructions. Check your fire number sign and get a replacement with Oconto County. Forms are available on the Oconto County and Town of Stiles websites. If you have any questions, please contact Tonia at 920-834-6827.
12. **Reassessment/Revaluation Meeting Recap** – Telford gave recap of reassessment/revaluation meeting on September 20th with Ryan Raatz from R&R Assessment. A market revaluation will be performed in 2024, as the town is out of compliance. See September 20, 2023, minutes for more information.

New Business

13. **Roads – LRIP Meeting** – Telford attended the LRIP meeting at Oconto County and is on the committee. Oconto County has \$250,000 that will be split across 10 projects. The towns will find out where the money will be awarded at the next meeting on November 1st. Telford said there is also supplemental money available as well. More information to come. Telford stated there is a new program, ARIP, which is agricultural road improvements. More information will be available in 2024.

14. **Wages/Compensation from the Town** – The Town Board collected plan commission wages from other towns in Oconto County. Discussion held. Motion by Telford seconded by Flynn to increase the town plan commission chair and board members to \$75 per meeting and the secretary to \$100 per meeting; motion carried.
15. **Oconto County Public Health – Fall/Winter Illness Guide** – Informational Only: Oconto County Public Health emailed a fall and winter illness guide for cold and flu season and provided to townspeople. You can find the guide at www.ocph.info.
16. **Grasse Court Extension – Discussion Only** – Telford noted in his initial research Grasse Court shows in the WISLR system as ending in the cul de sac as it exists today. It does appear the town still owns the property headed to the east at the end of the road. Telford will continue research as to whether the Town of Stiles does in fact still own the property, will consult with WTA and RL Holdings for the deed/title records.
17. **Landing Road Research** – Telford provided a briefing on his findings for Landing Road off of Machickanee Lane. The road is not found in the WISLR system, but does show in multiple resources that the Town of Stiles has ownership of the parcel making access from Machickanee Lane to the Oconto River. Telford will continue research as to whether the Town of Stiles does in fact still own the property, will consult with WTA and RL Holdings for the deed/title records.
18. **Oconto Falls Fire Department Contract** – Flynn reported that he and Babino met with Oconto Falls Fire Chief Tim Magnin and City Administrator Peter Wills to discuss the fire protection contract. The previous contracts have been year to year, however, the fire department would like to do contracts for multiple years. The Town of Stiles would start off with a 4-year contract and then it would be every 3 years after that. They had provided 2 different options. One contract would be like it is now; the Town of Stiles would get a bill for each fire call (minimum of \$500) and then the Town would have to try and recoup its money from the fire call. The second contract would be for an additional \$5,000 per year, however, the town would not get billed for each fire call and then would not need to recoup any money. Discussion was held as to how many fire calls the town billed out last year and how many were paid versus unpaid. Motion by Telford seconded by Flynn to sign and approve the second contract for the additional \$5,000 per year with Oconto Falls Fire Department with the stipulation that the fire department changes number 11 on the contract, that the town will not meet annually but will meet when contract is due; motion carried. Babino will reach out to Tim Magnin to have #11 changed before signing.

19. **Agenda items for next/future meeting (s)** – in no particular order

Agenda Creation Process & Town Bd Mtg Parliamentary Process Resolutions	ATV Updates
Sex Offender Residency Ordinance	Industrial Solar Farms
Fire Call Invoicing – Internal Procedures	Raze Order for garage at 5902 State Hwy 22
Equipment Discussions	Traffic Study on Highway 22 by Kwik Trip
Dog catching ordinance/fees	WTA Town Law Conference Recap (Nov)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

The next meeting is **November 8, 2023, at 5:00 PM**, which will include the Budget Hearing, Town Tax Levy and Town Board Meeting.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNAPPROVED UNTIL THE NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING.

Posted: Jill Babino, Stiles Town Clerk – 10/17/23

Town Hall (5718 Watercrest Rd, Lena) and Town Website (www.townofstiles.org)