

**Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, Town of Russell**  
**April 8th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

- Notice of this meeting was posted in 1 public place and on website.
- Chairman Kressel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present- Robert, Lori, Marty, Amy, Sue, Ronald, Brian, Angela Cummings, and 2 town residents.
- Chairman Kressel opened meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The minutes from the March Town Board meeting were reviewed. Minutes approved with motion by Supervisor Studinski, Second by Chairman Kressel. Motion carried.
- **Treasure Report** – Monthly financial reports handed out at the door.
- **Clerk** –
  - Voucher review; Clerk noted WTA price increase. Robert made a motion to pay bills as presented, second by Lori. Motion carried.
  - Election results. The Town Board will stay the same for next 2 years. Oaths signed.
  - ARPA report is due now. Lori said she will file before the deadline of 4/30/25. The clerk noted that we've received numerous emails regarding compliance and properly reporting expenses, and they will want money back if not completed by the deadline.
  - Open Book is 4/21/25 from 1-3 p.m.; Board of Review is 4/28/25 from 3-5 p.m. Clerk posted on website, FD bulletin box and Old Time General Mercantile.
  - Reminder the Annual meeting is 4/15/2025 at 6 p.m.
  - Insurance review: board reviewed email sent reviewing coverage. Accepted as such. Clerk with notify insurance to issue renewal as presented.
- **Sanitary District** –
  - Kitty had asked for an update on applications for the Sanitary position. The clerk replied that we have not received a resignation from Mr. Jackson and need that. Also, asked when their annual meeting was. Kitty didn't know exact day and said "in May". Amy will follow up for date and advise board.
- **Cemetery** –
  - Proposal from Mattson Lawn Care Services for Lawn Care Services. Three-year contract from 2025-2028. The price is the same as it was. Robert made a motion to accept the contract as proposed. Second by Marty. Motion carried
  - Tree removal – Robert has been in contact with tree removal service; when able they will take down trees as previously discussed on south-end driveway.
- **Park Committee** –
  - Mary Huhta present. Gave update on progress. Asked again that the board contact the neighbors to advise there will no longer be an access road via the town property or through the park. This was discussed with the WTA attorney who wondered why this was ever allowed to begin with. Park committee wants the town board to address it.
  - Clean-up Day for Echo Lake Park scheduled for Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers welcome.

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• **Road Issues/Report –**

- Old News- Street sweeper not needed this year. Brian will put brush on the tractor to do bridges, hall parking lot, where needed.
- Ronald stated grading on Axen done. Everything has been brushed back. Turtle Lake was done. Trees are still on side of roads and ditches that need to be picked up. Blew a hose on the grader and repaired that. Needs hydraulic fluid, will contact River Country to fill up tub.
- Will work on Bradley and Town Hall. Large chunks of black top need to be picked up. Lori said to clean up gravel in yards as well. Ronald and Brian to work on.
- Culverts on Bradley discussed; they can't find two of them. Will look again.
- Marty stated the bridge approaches R & H have terrible potholes. Dudley has terrible hole, Brian put sign up until necessary repairs can be made
- Grader cutting edges discussion. Marty had pricing from McCoy, they have six sets on hand. Lori will get a price on carbides by the next meeting. Tabled until May.
- Brian said there is a hole on Town Line Road that needs cold patch. Asked if we had any. Lori stated there is cold patch at Ronald's he can go get and use to fill.
- Due to the gas station closing, an inquiry from the Fire Department about getting access to the town's fuel tank. Brian stated there is a gauge on it where this could be monitored, and the fire department pay the town for used fuel. Motion by Marty to allow the Russell Fire Department to use the town fuel tank and the FD will reimburse the town for fuel the use. Second by Lori. Key is needed; FD will work with Robert on key access.
- Lori talked about Bradley Street. County saw-cutting and gravel. Lori stated she told Sanitary they need risers on manholes. Chip-seal on Bradley/Town Hall to begin second week of June. LRIP chip seal; needs to be Class 2 advertisement. She is to get clerk the ad to post in paper in accordance with proper postings.

• **Public Comment –**

- Angela Cummings noted that there is house in our township going up for Sheriff auction due to delinquent taxes.
- Tom Skaar asked how to go about getting "Farm Machinery" signs posted near his place on 17. Marty suggested this go to the DOT with a letter as he would like one as well near R & H.

7:35 p.m. Robert made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the matter of the Walker case and Town Employee Review. s. 19.85(1), Wis. Stat

- 7:50 p.m Returned to open session. Employee Review. Lori made a motion to increase Brian's wage from \$15.50 to \$18 an hour effective 4/15/2025. Second by Marty. Motion carried. Ronald currently at \$24.50; Lori made a motion to increase to \$26.50 effective 4/15/2025. Second by Marty. Motion carried.

8:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted: Amy Brown, Clerk