

August 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, Town of Russell

- Notice of this meeting was posted in 1 public place and on website.
- Chairman Kressel called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present- Robert, Lori, Marty, Amy, Sue, Brian, Ronald, 7 town residents and 1 guest.
- Chairman Kressel opened meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The minutes from the July Town Board meeting were reviewed. Minutes approved with motion by Supervisor Sosnovske. Second by Supervisor Studinski Motion carried.
- **Treasure Report** – Monthly financial reports handed out at the door.
- **Clerk** –
 - Voucher review; Lori asked if River Country bill for fuel. Yes. Robert thanked the town on behalf of the fire department for allowing them to purchase fuel. Robert made a motion to pay bills as presented. Second by Marty. Motion carried.
 - Bayer Street property that burnt. Request from neighbor to put up fence. It is private property and the town not responsible for. Property will be demo'd soon.
 - County zoning; request from County to sign amendments to change wording, etc.. Lori made a motion to sign amendments. Marty second. Motion carried.
 - Zoning issues with neighboring town property. The County will not meet in person due to attorneys. Letter drafted to County Board so they are aware of issues. Lori made a motion to sign and send letter to the County board and appropriate land services committees. Marty seconded. Motion carried.
 - Jim Hext with By Request, guest, present at meeting. He has completed the new website for the town and it will be activated. He presented the need for the town board to have town emails separate from their personal; due to liability. Cost is \$2 per month, per email. Board asked the clerk to work with Jim to set up.
- **Road**
 - Lori advised that Bradley Street work would now start on September 6th.
 - Hire back-up town operator. Robert made a motion to hire Jim Forster as back-up operator. Second by Lori. Motion carried. Lori made a motion to start him at \$24.50 an hour with a review in 6 months. Second by Marty. Motion carried.
 - Bridge grant for First Ave bridge. Robert stated that plans are due by 8/1/2027. Construction to begin in 2028. Robert will work with the Highway Commissioner to look for bridge design consultant.
 - Ronald stated there is ½ mile of Beaver Trail that needs bulldozing and equipment work and this should be discussed in the future.
 - Lori stated all the roads need to be graded. They are all wash boarded and need to stay on them. Ronald stated Echo was done yesterday.
- **Cemetery**
 - The guy that Robert talked to about cutting tree has not returned calls. Ison Tree service is now local. Robert will call to get a price. Lori made a motion to get an estimate for tree removal and if less than original quote, hire them to get work completed. Marty second. Motion carried.

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- **First Responders**

- Chief Tim Steinfest handed out updated roster. Andrew Headings will be moving and a new treasurer will be assigned.
- As mentioned in June; the First Responders will be upgrading from EMS to EMT non-transport service. Requested letter of support from the town. Will be Town of Russell EMS. A new operational plan needs to be completed. They have taken courses for extra education which they have paid for out of pocket. Motion by Lori to approve First Responder upgrade to EMT non-transport service. Marty second. Motion carried. Robert publicly thanked for their services.

- **Park**

- August meeting was postponed due to schedule conflicts of park committee.
- Early July they received necessary permits and an address. They had worked with Ronald Forster and contacted to start excavation. They never heard back from Ronald after numerous attempts. They have been in contact with another local contractor, which will leave them with less money for “seed money” and will have to work extra hard on fundraising to get the pavilion going next year. Tim Steinfest asked Marty if there was time-line for generous matching donation from Sosnovske family. Marty was not sure and would discuss with family.
- Discussion about tree removal and who would pay for that? Park funds or town?

- **Sanitary District**

- Meeting held 8/11/2025 regarding annexing new Prairie Pines property. Robert attended said-meeting, and stated it was well informed. The annexation would be at no cost to current Sanitary District customers. Sanitary signed resolution and presented to the board. Robert made a motion to accept resolution. Lori second. Motion carried

- **Recycling**

- Proposal received to offer Electronics Recycling; at no cost. Robert stated we could consolidate with Spring Clean-up. Tabled until next year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Next Meeting 9/9/2025 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Amy Brown, Clerk