October 13th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, Town of Russell

Call to Order - Chairman Robert Kressel called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting notice verified. Posted on town website and bulletin box at Fire Department.

Board members present: Robert Kressel, Marty Sosnovske, and Eddi Zimmerman. Clerk Amy Brown and Treasurer Sue Fisher were present.

Others recorded as present: Tim, T.P., Brian, Mike Williams, Tom, Mary Huhta, Elise Schuler, and Nancy Stevens, who arrived later.

Approval of Prior Minutes - Marty Sosnovske moved to approve the minutes of 9/8/2026. Robert seconded. Motion Carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented at door.

Vouchers: Marty asked about the amount listed for County Concrete. Verified this was amount over the Park Committee's delegated $1,000 for concrete for the basketball court. Chairman Kressel moved to pay the vouchers as presented. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded. Motion carried.

Election Business - Clerk presented updated list of approved election works for stand-by/back-up for upcoming election on November 3rd and the need to provide training to workers, with 1 hour pay. Chairman Kressel moved to approve the updated election workers, worker-training and desk/table for the Express Vote machine requested by clerk. Supervisor Eddi Zimmerman seconded. Motion carried.

Budget Hearing and Budget Review - The Board discussed the upcoming November budget hearing and the need to add approximately $85,620 in indebtedness for lawsuit. The budget will be reviewed by the board prior to budget hearing. Marty later noted that the diesel budget needs to be increased by $5,000 at least.

Resolutions or Ordinances - Chairman Robert Kressel moved to approve items numbered 2026-05, 2026-02, 2026-06, and 2026-07 as presented last month. Marty Sosnovske seconded. Motion carried.

Road Discussion - Chairman Kressel reported that he drove roads over the weekend and believed they were in good condition. He also reported favorable comments from the mail carrier. Concerns were raised about hills near the end of Dudley Road.

Tim stated that he had driven every road in the township and considered R & H the best. He reported undercut shoulders and potholes on some roads and said road conditions had been better three to four weeks earlier. Tim stated that Ronald was not completing the work and has previously told the Town to hire someone else. He questioned the town's continued approach.

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Eddi Zimmerman reported a resident's concern about the road conditions on Tarin Lane. T.P. stated that some intersections had improved within the past week and a half. Grader blades had been changed during the prior two weeks which is probable reason for improvement, and it was stated that roads should firm up and improve in the fall.

Work to be completed by Musson for the storm outlet was discussed; work was to be done in April. Marty stated that the work should be placed on the list and referred to having about a three-week time period to get completed.

Mike Williams requested granite rather than gravel and asked that his request be recorded. He expressed dissatisfaction with the gravel and road conditions in both directions (Axen and Prairie Forks Dr). He questioned why conditions were declining. If granite would not be used, he requested better-quality gravel, describing the existing material as sand, dirt, and not good. He stated that, in his approximately 50 years there, the roads are the worst he had seen, improved only briefly after work, and needed a reasonable surface. Feels we are going backwards.

Park- The Board discussed cameras and signage at the park and recycling site. The park request was described as an effort to prevent vandalism problems and contact parents when appropriate. Costs noted were $380, an additional $60 for security boxes, and $10 per month ($120 a year).

Tom described his experience with cameras and the work involved in reviewing recordings. Questions were raised about who would monitor the cameras. Mike Williams raised child safety concerns. Further discussion. Board did not approve camera installation, Chairman stated to post signs.

The Park Committee brought up that there was recent vehicle traffic through the park again. Asked for verification that letters were sent to neighbors. Clerk Confirmed that a letter was sent on June 10, 2026 advising neighbors of NO TRAFFIC beyond parking lot. Chairman Kressel suggested a couple of signs. Mary and Elise noted that bushes and shrubs were discussed as a possible barrier. They are working on.

The Clerk asked for Board approval of a sign related to farm machinery and purchase of a "Watch for Farm Machinery", to be placed near the pine trees. Approved.

Appreciation was expressed for the residents who helped with the basketball court. (Jeremy Dorgan, Lucas Dorgan, Ivan Dorgan, Nick Schram, Tom Skaar and dirtwork was completed by Ronald). The Park Committee asked about finishing work (landscaping, etc), Chairman Kressel indicated that it would be completed.

Park fundraising was reported at approximately $18,000, with additional funds expected from a golf scramble, a grant, and donations. Someone generously reached out to Park Committee offering use of a court stencil for painting.

Recycling - Carl Bergman was identified as the new recycling attendant and had been at the site on Saturday.

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Cemetery - Robert Kressel reported speaking with a person about tree work, but that person was busy throughout the fall. Kevin Koss suggested trimming live trees rather than removing them because they may have been planted in memory of individuals. Marty Sosnovske reported that he did stop at the cemetery and the spruce tree near front was dying. Robert suggested use of a pole saw for trimming of choke tree was discussed.

Hay Meadow Bridge- The Hay Meadow bridge plan was received that day. The matter was deferred until November.

Discussed the Lincoln County Unit meeting this week in Corning. All board members indicated that they planned to attend. Clerk notice that quorum notice already posted.

Additional Road Staffing Comments- Mike Williams noted that the agenda stated the town was seeking a new part-time operator for snowplowing and grading. Robert stated that the board would be going into closed session to discuss applicants.

Tim asked about Ronald's prior statements noted in minutes; at the August 12th, 2026 meeting regarding resigning and finding someone else and the September 8, 2026 statement that Ronald would continue helping after resignation of Supervisor. Tim asked where the Board stood if there would be no vote or discussion by residents in attendance and urged the Board to do what was best for the Town and get back on track.

Closed Session

At 7:08 p.m., the Board entered closed session.

Return to Open Session - At 7:47 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session. Chairman Kressel reported that the Board wanted to conduct additional investigation and checking before making a decision on road staffing.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. by Chairman Kressel.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Brown, Clerk