

Town of Sand Lake
Tuesday, April 18, 2023– 6 pm
Minutes – Annual Town Meeting

- The 2023 Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Sand Lake, Burnett County was called to order by Chair Amy Bruss at 6:00 pm. Roll call of town officials – Chair Amy Bruss, Supervisor Ken Pardun, Supervisor Karolyn Kroll, Deputy Clerk Peggy Tolbert and Treasurer Melanie Connor Johnson were present. Public notice of the meeting was confirmed. A list of attendees is on file.
- Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were reviewed. One correction was noted by Susan Shutt regarding charitable donations. Motion to accept the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting with one chance was made by Jim Tolbert, seconded by Dave Deal. Motion carried, voice vote.
- Chair Amy Bruss welcomed town residents to the annual meeting and recapped road projects completed in 2022 and other highlights. Resident Paul Thompson prepared a report on the exterior condition of the town hall. A new contract for the jointly owned mower was completed with the Towns of Meenon and Lincoln. The town signed a contract with new legal counsel. ARPA funds were used to provide election inspectors Covid bonuses and to purchase and install a new furnace in the town hall. Traffic study done on Austin Lake Road was submitted but no response has been received from the state. The Town of Sand Lake Comprehensive Plan update 2023-2043 has been completed. Viola Lake dock grant was awarded. The old loader was sold and proceeds will be used to purchase a grapple. Financial audit is underway. The LRIP project on Gaslyn Road was completed. Road restriction exceptions were made for Mallard Lake Family Resort and to Jerry and Pat Tjader. The 2023 Board of Review will be postponed until the fall as the tax roll is not yet complete.
- Melanie Johnson presented the 2022/2023 Treasurer's Report and answered questions from town residents. General account balance as of March 31, 2023 was \$98,746.60 and the Equipment fund balance was \$15,807.96. Total property tax roll was \$1,368,237.61. Total property tax receipts prior to February 6, 2023 were \$825,390.26. Burnett County Treasurer will collect the remaining property taxes. Tax settlements were made to Siren School District (\$99,187.27); Webster School District (\$278,294.82); Northwoods Technical College (\$23,059.98); Burnett County (\$284,372.31). Town of Sand Lake retained \$140,476.14. Remaining ARPA funds is estimated at \$15,000. Dog licenses are due April 1, 2023.
- Peggy Tolbert reported on town finances and answered questions from town residents. A financial audit is being conducted by Clifton Allen Larson, CPAs.

Matters for discussion and possible actions

1. The current liquor and operator licenses in the Town were reviewed. Motion to keep liquor license fees as they have been – (liquor \$250; beer \$75; operator \$5; cigarette \$5) was made by Jim Tolbert, seconded by Dick Shutt. Motion carried, voice vote.
2. Motion to give town board authorization to borrow up to \$20,000 without elector approval was made by Jim Tolbert, seconded by Barbara Johnson. Motion carried, voice vote.
3. Publication and posting requirements for legal notices were reviewed. Currently the Town Shop and Town Hall have posting boards. Notices are also published in the Advertiser and

posted on the town website. Although the Advertiser is not considered a legal newspaper, posting notices in two physical locations plus the town website satisfies the legal posting requirement. A motion to continue to publish notices as a courtesy in the Advertiser, to post notices at the Town Shop and Town Hall and on the town website was made by Susan Shutt, seconded by Laura Jensen. Motion carried, voice vote.

4. Following discussion of the gopher bounty, a motion to keep the gopher bounty at \$5.00 per tail was made by Dick Shutt, seconded by Melanie Johnson. Motion carried, voice vote.
5. Elector comments: Melanie Johnson made a motion to donate the 2022 surplus dog license refund received from Burnett County to the Humane Society of Burnett County. Motion was seconded by Laura Jensen. Motion carried, voice vote. Melanie Johnson presented outgoing Chair Amy Bruss with a card and gift certificate and thanked her for her years of service. Jim Tolbert encouraged the town board to work on repairing the exterior of the town hall.
6. The 2024 Annual Meeting date will be the third Tuesday of the month, April 16, 2024.
7. Motion to adjourn the 2023 Annual Town meeting was made by Melanie Johnson, seconded by Karolyn Kroll. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Tolbert, Deputy Town Clerk