

MINUTES

TOWN OF YORKVILLE ANNUAL TOWN ELECTOR MEETING TOWN BOARD ROOM UNION GROVE MUNICIPAL CENTER TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2014

Call to Order

Town Board Chair Peter Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed the electors to the annual meeting.

The following electors were present:

1. Tim Allen, 18503 Durand Avenue (Lieutenant, Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department)
2. James Fox, 17707 58th Road
3. Chuck Gehrand, 15625 Durand Avenue
4. Alan Geschke, 1616 63rd Drive
5. Barb Geschke, 1616 63rd Drive (Plan Commissioner)
6. Sherry Gruhn, 17201 Old Yorkville Road (Town Board Supervisor)
7. Peter Hansen, 4728 57th Drive (Town Board Chair)
8. Gerald Karwowski, 704 South Colony Avenue (Collection and Recycling Site Manager)
9. Terry McMahan, 18114 52nd Road (Town Board Supervisor)
10. Jim Miller, 13914 50th Road
11. James Moyer, 216 North Colony Avenue
12. Steve Nelson, 2401 59th Drive (Yorkville Stormwater Utility Commission Chair)
13. Roger Nuernberg, 18401 65th Court
14. Jon Olson, 1708 North Colony Avenue
15. Al Wilks, 17629 Durand Avenue

Also present were Chief Thomas Czerniak representing the Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department, Karen Hall representing CPA Patrick W. Romenesko, Building Inspector James DeLuca, Constable Terrence O'Brien and Clerk-Treasurer Michael McKinney.

Approval of Minutes

McKinney read the meeting minutes from the April 17, 2013, Annual Town Elector Meeting.

Motion (Fox, Barb Geschke) to approve the April 17, 2013, Annual Town Elector Meeting minutes as read, Motion Carried (MC).

Annual Reports

2013 Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department Report

Chief Czerniak and Assistant Chief Allen of the Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department presented their 2013 annual report. Allen noted that there was a decrease in calls in 2013, adding that Yorkville made up 252, or 51%, of the fire calls responded to. He added that they are working to improve response times, which currently stand at 4.5 minutes for

personnel to leave the station and 9 minutes for personnel to arrive on-scene. He added that response times have remained steady over the last 22 years. He noted that the Department works with neighboring departments in Raymond and Kansasville and added that the Department has signed a new mutual aid agreement with the South Shore Fire Department in 2013, which will result in improved fire insurance ratings and response times for properties along I-94. He provided a summary of the December 8, 2013, accident on I-94, which led to 67 patients being transported to four local hospitals. He noted that the Department is working with other departments to improve their responsiveness to major accidents and natural disasters. He also noted that the accidents reported in 2014 already match the number of accidents reported in the first half of 2013. He added that grass fires should not be a major issue in 2014. He addressed questions regarding transfer options for patients, including to where patients can be transferred. He noted that the Department is only the second volunteer department in the state to offer paramedic service, adding that paramedics can provide better care for patients en route to the hospital.

Czerniak provided his report, noting that half of the Department's members are professional Emergency Medical Technicians or firefighters. He discussed a proposal requiring that members participate in physical and strength evaluations that will identify any potential issues. He noted that the Department has paramedic students on staff that each work 10 hours per week. He discussed a proposal that would allow the Department to charge callers that require assistance but not medical care. He noted that the upcoming work on I-94 will increase transport times, as transport options are limited. He added that there have been some cosmetic improvements made at the station and added that he would like to purchase some physical fitness equipment for the station in the future.

2013 Audit Report

Hall appeared on behalf of CPA Patrick W. Romenesko to present the results of the 2013 Town Audit. She noted that the Town's General Fund showed a fund balance increase in 2013 of \$219,843, adding that this has resulted in a very strong fund balance that exceeds the recommended fund balance. She provided a summary of some of the findings of the audit, including the following: that tax revenues were below budget, due to lower collections of mobile home parking fees; that intergovernmental revenues were above budget, due to 2012 Bridge Aids that were collected in 2013; that building permit revenues were above budget; that building inspector expenditures were above budget; that road plowing and salting, as well as road construction, were below budget. Electors discussed several issues, including whether funds set aside in the Local Government Investment Pool's Town Hall Fund can be used for any purpose, whether the Town currently maintains any outstanding debt and if any Town funds will be used for the CTH C bridge replacement.

2013 Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector DeLuca presented his 2013 annual report. He noted that 2013 was an exceptional year for building permits, adding that 231 permits were issued last year. He also noted that he received applications for 8 new homes, 3 new commercial buildings and 3 new commercial additions in 2013. He added that high-value building permits issued in 2013 included a new residence valued at \$575,000 and a new commercial building valued at \$2.2 million. He noted that there were no condemnations in 2013. He added that 2014 has been much slower so far, with the only major projects being a pair of CNG refueling stations.

2013 Constable's Report

Constable O'Brien presented his 2013 annual report. He noted that his title has been changed from Constable to Law Enforcement Officer by the Town Board and added that he plans to renew his law enforcement officer certification. He provided a summary of how he typically handles complaints that he receives.

2013 Stormwater Utility Report

Yorkville Stormwater Utility Chair Nelson presented his 2013 annual report. He noted that the Stormwater Utility is now in its third year of working with the Racine County Drainage Board on the West Branch of the Root River Canal and added that they are in their second year of working on the East Branch of the Root River Canal. He noted that work on the East Branch has been hampered by bad weather.

2014 Road Tour Report

McMahon presented the results of the 2014 annual road tour. He noted that 20 percent of the roads in the Town were downgraded this year. He added that the road ratings for 2014 were as follows: 25% Excellent; 16% Very Good; 18% Good; 16% Fair; 15% Poor; 10% Very Poor. He noted that Braun Road and 50th Road will be reconstructed this year and provided a list of roads that need seal coating or crack filling in the near future. He added that seal coating costs about \$47,000 per mile and would extend the life of the road by another five to seven years. Electors discussed several issues related to the road report, including the poor condition of 10th Avenue, violations of weight limits on Town roads by local trucking firms and concerns about Racine County's snow removal operations. Discussion regarding snow removal focused on plows only coming through at the beginning or the end of a snow event, plows not clearing roads to the shoulder and requests to consider hiring a private contractor to come in and plow the Town's roads. McMahon noted that the Town met with Racine County regarding snow removal in December and added that the County has been very responsive since. McMahon also discussed new legislation that allows for an increase in weight limits on local roadways for farming equipment. McMahon asked that anyone who sees a semi-truck driving on a Class "B" road to report it to the local authorities.

2013 Collection and Recycling Center Report

McKinney read the annual 2013 Collection and Recycling Center Report on behalf of Collection and Recycling Center Manager Karwowski. The report noted that issues with non-compliance have diminished in 2013. Gehrand asked if the Town receives any money for recyclables collected at the site. Hansen noted that the Town does not receive revenue from this. Karwowski added that there is not a lot of iron brought in for recycling.

New and Unfinished Business – Discussion and possible action on all of the following

Resolution 04-2014 Permitting 2014 highway expenditures to exceed those allowed by Wisconsin Statutes 82.03(2) and those authorized by Resolution 01-2013

McKinney provided a summary of this resolution to the electors. He noted that this resolution is before the electors due to proposed expenditure increases for highway construction, snow removal, bridge inspections and street lighting. Hansen noted that the

funds to cover this increase will come from the end-of-year 2013 increase in the Town's fund balance as well as from funds maintained in the Local Government Investment Pool's Town Hall Fund.

Motion (Moyer, Nelson) to approve Resolution 04-2014 as presented, MC.

Any other business to be brought before the Annual Town Elector Meeting as permitted within the scope of State Statutes 60.10

Fox addressed several issues related to snow removal, including the frequency of salting, the plowing of gravel into ditches, and the need to reduce expenditures for snow removal. He requested that the Town Board meet with Racine County to make them aware of the issues the electors have discussed tonight. Several residents voiced concerns about pedestrians walking in the roadway that fail to yield to vehicular traffic and are walking with the flow of traffic. They requested that an article be included in the next newsletter this fall regarding this issue. Hansen also suggested that the Town could contact the Village of Union Grove and local schools to make them aware of this problem. Karwowski spoke in favor of converting the existing railroad right-of-way into a recreational trail.

No formal action was taken by the electors on this agenda item.

Schedule the 2015 Annual Town Elector Meeting on the statutory date of April 21, 2015 or within ten days following that date

Motion (Alan Geschke, Fox) to schedule the 2015 Annual Town Elector Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., MC.

Other – Comments, questions and suggestions

Nuernberg asked when the elector meeting is held to approve the budget. Hansen noted that the meeting is normally held in November.

Adjournment

Motion (Moyer, Fox) to adjourn, MC. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Annual Town Elector Meeting is Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

Michael McKinney
Clerk-Treasurer