

**TOWN of RIVER FALLS ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 2023 River Falls Town Hall**  
**7:00 P.M.**

The following River Falls Town Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, beginning at 7:00 P.M. at the River Falls Town Hall, W9015 770th Ave.

**AGENDA**

Call to order

Consider for approval or other action:

1. Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
2. 2022 Income & Expenditures –Rita Kozak, Treasurer & Sarah Meyer, Clerk
3. Town Road Report – Diana Smith
4. Recycling Center Report – Rita Kozak
5. Zoning & Building Permit/Building Inspection Program – Jerome Rodewald
6. Cemetery Report – Jerome Rodewald
7. Parks & Recreation – John Galgowski
8. Rural Fire Association Report – Diana Smith
9. Other Information/Reports
10. Set 2024 Annual Meeting Date
11. Public Recommendations to the Board
12. Adjourn

Action may be taken on any agenda item. This agenda is subject to change. Some agenda items may be taken up earlier in the meeting, or in a different order than listed. The posted notice at the Town Hall is the primary notice. Meeting notice posted on the Town's website [www.townofriverfalls.com](http://www.townofriverfalls.com), at the River Falls Town Hall, W9015 770th Avenue, River Falls, WI and at the River Falls Town Shop, N7750 State Road 65, River Falls, WI.

Any person wishing to attend the meeting who requires special accommodations because of a disability should contact the clerk's office, at 715-629-8240 or [clerk@riverfallstown.com](mailto:clerk@riverfallstown.com), at least 72 hours before the meeting begins so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

Sarah Meyer, Clerk

**TOWN OF RIVER FALLS – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 19, 2022, River Falls Town Hall**

Elected officials and staff present: Diana Smith, Chair; Siri Smith, John Galgowski, Joe Mahoney, Brad Mogen, Supervisors; Sarah Meyer, Clerk. Others present: Tim Frey, Dean Bergseng, Terry Kusilek, Peter Stern, Greg Smith, Art Smith, Mary Foster, Maureen Ash, Don Rodewald

The meeting was called to order by Chair Diana Smith at 7:01pm.

Chair Smith read the minutes from the April 2021 Annual Meeting. Joe moved to approve the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes as read. Siri seconded. M.C.

**2021 Income and Expenditures:** Rita Kozak presented the revenues from 2021. Total revenues for 2021 were \$3969.11. Taxes were up about 5.4% from the previous year. Sarah presented the expenditures from 2021. Total expenditures were \$3,783,872.31 compared to \$3,596,635.34 in 2020.

**Town Road Report:** Diana Smith reported that work on 690th occurred from County Rd O west. She also explained that since money was not spent on a new Town Hall and Shop, money spent on a new grader. \$305,000 was spent on a new grader. For the 2022 year, work will be done on 770th Avenue from 810th Avenue to 850th Street. The highway department is looking into dust control.

**Recycling Center Report:** Rita Kozak shared the annual report for the Recycling Center. Electronics and tires are down. Some numbers look different for plastics and glass because reporting structures changed and there are fewer companies that accept the materials for recycling.

**Zoning & Building Permit/Building Inspection Program:** Zoning Administrator Jerome Rodewald presented the annual report for the Zoning and Building Permit/Building Inspection program. There was a new grain bin constructed, which is the largest the Town has ever had. Another highlight was the building permit issued to the Town for the Town Hall bathroom.

**Cemetery Report:** Jerome Rodewald, Cemetery Committee Chair shared a report for the Glass Valley Cemetery. Town and Country continues to mow the grass. They are also looking at replacing the sign.

**Parks and Recreation:** John Galgowski presented a report of the Parks Committee activities from 2021 and possible future activities. The group is looking at purchasing a wood chipper and at hiring an intern for approximately 10 hours per week. South Valley disc golf is in and Parks is hoping to create a more clear parking area. There will not be goats this year. Anderson Park has trails mowed and the bee habitat is established. In Rocky Branch, the Parks is looking to remove the damaged bridge. There are plans to have a tree planting party in Meents Meadow.

**Rural Fire Association Report:** Diana Smith is the representative for the Rural Fire Association. She reported that the Fire Department has purchased a new water truck in 2021.

**Town Hall Renovation:** Brad Mogen shared that cleaning and painting was completed in the Town Hall. The Board also used a portion of the American Rescue Plan Act grant funding to put in a holding tank and indoor bathroom in the Town Hall. The Town worked with Lund Builders to build out the bathroom but the labor for the cleaning and painting in the rest of the Town Hall was donated by Town Board and staff.

**Other Information/Reports:** Sarah announced that the Town has created a facebook page and has started the process of revamping the Town website.

Diana shared that the Town has contracted with Companion Animal Control Services for animal control. All efforts will be made to reunite dogs with their owners but Companion Animal Control will be called if this isn't possible.

Coming in 2022 is a revaluation of all properties in the Town. Associated Appraisal will be re-assessing every property in the Town. More information will be coming as the process continues. The Open Book meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2022 and the Board of Review is scheduled for October 27, 2022.

**Set 2023 Annual Meeting Date:** John Galgowski moved that the 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:00pm the River Falls Town Hall.

**Public Recommendations to the Board:** Tim Frey requested that something be done with the cat tails at Hwy 29 and 850th Ave. Diana responded that Pierce County has done work there and has now declared it normal wetland and no more work will be completed. Mary Foster, Dean Bergseng and Terry Kusilek all agreed that something needs to be done there for better sight lines. Terry Kusilek also brought up concern about the water eroding the road base.

Maureen Ash requests that residents mow less to increase bird and insect populations. She also requests that the Board consider planting pollinator plants as ditch projects are done.

Joe moved to adjourn. John seconded. M.C. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

## **TOWN OF RIVER FALLS 2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

Diana G. Smith	Chair
John Galgowski	Supervisor I
Siri Smith	Supervisor II
Joe Mahoney	Supervisor III
Brad Mogen	Supervisor IV
Sarah K. Meyer	Town Clerk
Rita Kozak	Town Treasurer

### **Report of the Clerk & Treasurer**

1/1/2022 Beginning Balance	\$	573,606.27
Revenues During the Year	\$	4,292,452.97
Expenses During the Year	\$	(4,139,915.21)
12/31/22 Ending Account Balances	\$	<b>726,144.03</b>

### **Account Balances as of December 31, 2022**

Checking Account	\$	11,440.34
Money Market Account	\$	686,372.59
Savings Accounts	\$	10.00
Recycling CD	\$	8,111.86
Building Fund CD	\$	20,209.24
	\$	<b>726,144.03</b>

## 2022 TOWN REVENUES

	<u>2022 Amount</u>	<u>2021 Amount</u>	<u>2020 Amount</u>
<b>TAXES</b>			
Property Tax Collections	\$3,195,800.91	\$ 3,075,825.79	\$ 3,014,902.16
Personal Property Taxes Collected by Pierce County	\$2,420.61	\$ 2,926.37	\$ 2,424.20
Forest Crop/MFL Taxes collected by Pierce County	\$12,919.24	\$ 11,739.19	\$ 11,890.63
Special Charges collected by Pierce Co.	\$0.00		\$ 800.00
Personal Property collected after tax settlement	\$280.98	\$ 568.06	\$ 708.29
August Settlement	\$264,278.64	\$ 269,415.09	\$ 259,657.68
Lottery Credit	\$25,328.00	\$ 16,687.97	\$ 19,590.16
DNR-In Lieu of Taxes	\$17,187.59	\$ 22,379.45	\$ 20,937.72
Other MFL/FC Payments After Tax Collection	\$820.77	\$ 4,269.38	\$ 1,687.18
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$0.00		\$ 0.58
Prior Year Special Charges & Interest	\$0.00	\$ 525.63	\$ 100.00
Tax Chargeback (Cranston Property)	\$1,898.25	\$ 1,212.66	\$ -
	<b>\$3,520,934.99</b>	<b>\$ 3,405,549.59</b>	<b>\$ 3,332,698.60</b>
<b>Intergovernmental Revenue</b>			
State Shared Revenue	\$27,946.55	\$ 27,945.92	\$ 27,947.24
State Shared Revenue - Utility Aid	\$1,227.23	\$ 1,259.64	\$ 1,252.34
Personal Property Aid Payment from State	\$1,068.73	\$ 1,068.73	\$ 1,068.73
Fire Insurance Dues (2% payment)	\$11,612.12	\$ 11,232.20	\$ 10,522.23
State Highway Aids	\$160,913.62	\$ 157,732.56	\$ 157,732.56
TRIP Transportation Aids	\$0.00		\$ -
Shared Bridge Revenue	\$0.00		\$ -
Recycling Grant	\$6,361.83	\$ 6,373.70	\$ 6,305.37
State Computer Aids	\$51.97	\$ 51.97	\$ 51.97
Soldiers Graves	\$15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
Municipal Services Payment	\$46.85	\$ 40.38	\$ 39.88
Routes to Recovery Grant	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 26,254.99
ARPA Grant Funds	\$124,189.24	\$ 124,189.24	
Annexation Payments	\$9,631.98	\$ 9,631.98	\$ -
	<b>\$343,065.12</b>	<b>\$ 339,541.32</b>	<b>\$ 231,190.31</b>

**Licenses & Permits**

Dog Licenses	\$1,550.00	\$ 1,527.00	\$ 1,587.00
Dog License Refund from Pierce County	\$694.31	\$ 497.84	\$ 619.09
Driveway Inspection Fees	\$550.00	\$ 539.00	\$ 682.00
Building Inspection Fees	\$0.00	\$ 385.00	\$ -
Building Permit Fees	\$10,045.00	\$ 8,520.00	\$ 9,360.00
Impact Fees Collected	\$3,896.10	\$ 6,493.50	\$ 6,493.50
Board of Appeals Fees	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -
Rezoning Requests	\$2,850.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 660.00
CSM Fees	\$1,550.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 990.00
Conditional Use Permits	\$600.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 260.00
Other Licenses & Permits	\$1,540.00	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,285.00
Cable Franchise Fees	\$870.93	\$ 919.60	\$ 932.23
Transfer of Dwelling Site Permit	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 385.00
	<b>\$24,146.34</b>	<b>\$ 21,941.94</b>	<b>\$ 23,253.82</b>

**Forfeitures & Fines**

Building Permit Fines	\$0.00		-
Other Fines (Dog Violations)	\$0.00	\$ 125.00	-
		<b>\$ 125.00</b>	-

**Public Charges for Services**

Machine Hire/Culverts	\$3,297.52	\$ -	\$ -
Salt/Sand Sales	\$1,821.95	\$ 650.00	\$ 702.00
Tax collected on private work	\$115.13	\$ 35.75	\$ -
Fire Calls	\$12,340.24	\$ 8,866.58	\$ 8,257.18
Fire Inspection Fees	\$950.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 40.00
Recycling Center Income	\$58,611.55	\$ 64,129.15	\$ 53,868.01
Fence Reviews	\$0.00	\$ -	
Cemetery Plots	\$700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,000.00
Land Rental Payment	\$1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	<b>\$79,036.39</b>	<b>\$ 76,461.48</b>	<b>\$ 65,067.19</b>

**Overpayments & Refunds**

Gas Tax Refund	\$0.00	\$ 422.40	\$ 434.15
Insurance/Workman's Compensation Refunds	\$9,925.41	\$ 3,347.85	\$ 769.00
Capital Coop Credits	\$122.73		\$ 72.70
Payroll Adjustments	\$1,877.88	\$ 499.93	\$ 621.35
Miscellaneous Refunds	\$819.24		\$ 470.33
	<b>\$12,745.26</b>	<b>\$ 4,270.18</b>	<b>\$ 2,367.53</b>

**Miscellaneous Income**

Interest on CD's	\$105.45	\$437.16	\$ 1,077.68
Interest on Money Markets	\$6,719.42		
Prairie Enthusiast Donations	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$ 250.00
Copy Charges	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$ 20.00
CD Transfer into Money Market	\$0.00		\$ 6,593.74
Sale of Town Property/Trade Ins	\$200.00	\$16,700.00	\$ -
	<b>\$7,524.87</b>	<b>\$17,447.16</b>	<b>\$ 7,941.42</b>

**Loan Income**

Highway Loan	<b>\$305,000.00</b>
--------------	---------------------

**TOTAL 2022 REVENUE**

<b>\$4,292,452.97</b>	<b>\$ 3,865,336.67</b>	<b>\$ 3,662,518.87</b>
-----------------------	------------------------	------------------------

## 2022 TOWN EXPENSES

	<u>2022 Amount</u>	<u>2021 Amount</u>	<u>2020 Amount</u>
<b>Tax Settlements/Payments to Other Taxing Entities</b>			
State & County Tax Settlements	\$1,001,958.67	\$ 973,201.62	\$ 958,015.61
Ellsworth School District	\$30,548.10	\$ 29,382.93	\$ 28,925.91
River Falls School District	\$1,490,785.78	\$ 1,443,801.80	\$ 1,452,275.54
Chippewa Valley Technical College	\$156,739.16	\$ 160,570.65	\$ 134,212.46
Tax Paybacks to Pierce County	\$0.00	\$ 9,713.30	
DNR - Lieu Tax Paid Out	\$14,386.97	\$ 19,201.89	\$ 17,839.62
State Forestry Programs (20% to Pierce County)	\$88.95	\$ 715.14	\$ 281.12
Sales Tax - to DOR	\$25.75	\$ 28.61	\$ 199.08
Dog Licensing Payments to Pierce County	\$1,034.00	\$ 903.00	\$ 948.00
Assessment on Manufacturing Property	\$0.00	\$ 44.78	\$ 45.44
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$0.00		\$ -
DOR Business Tax Registration	\$10.00		\$ 10.00
Personal Property Tax Refund	\$0.00	\$ 3.20	
	<b>\$2,695,577.38</b>	<b>\$ 2,637,566.92</b>	<b>\$ 2,592,752.78</b>
<b>General Government</b>			
Board - Salary, Mileage, Training	\$40,488.43	\$ 39,423.53	\$ 38,111.14
Association Dues	\$2,403.50	\$ 1,205.00	\$ 1,633.50
Printing & Publication Fees	\$2,665.29	\$ 2,262.64	\$ 2,050.02
Insurance	\$15,323.00	\$ 15,811.00	\$ 11,513.00
Town Legal Fees	\$1,526.00	\$ 296.00	\$ -
Town Engineering Fees	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -
Clerk Salary & Payroll Expense	\$35,615.07	\$ 39,003.06	\$ 33,946.29
Office Supplies/Phone/Fax/Website/Postage	\$10,331.18	\$ 8,128.11	\$ 8,827.52
Elections	\$5,953.50	\$ 1,920.37	\$ 7,754.76
Treasurer Salary & Payroll Expense	\$14,103.81	\$ 13,285.07	\$ 12,584.68
Pierce Co. Tax Collections	\$2,880.56	\$ 2,131.25	\$ 2,150.00
Assessing Expenses	\$75,326.50	\$ 8,108.85	\$ 8,007.85
Town Hall Utilities & Maintenance	\$4,612.66	\$ 13,365.41	\$ 4,316.50
Meents Land Purchase (Loan Repayment - Principal)	\$0.00	\$ 9,802.45	\$ 21,059.01



Meents Land Purchase (Loan Repayment - Interest)	\$0.00	\$	392.10	\$	1,173.58
Town Facility Planning Expense	\$0.00			\$	2,500.00
Town Hall Upgrades (R2R Grant Funding)	\$0.00			\$	13,656.15
Town Hall Upgrades (ARPA Grant Funding)	\$27,154.44	\$	24,390.50		
Broadband Donation (ARPA Funds)	\$200,000.00	\$	179,525.34	\$	169,284.00
	<b>\$438,383.94</b>				

#### Public Safety

Law Enforcement	\$0.00			\$	-
Fire Protection Base Fee	\$58,680.00	\$	56,820.00	\$	56,520.00
Fire Calls	\$17,093.60	\$	11,779.90	\$	15,655.92
Fire Inspections	\$1,355.95	\$	728.00	\$	730.00
Fire Insurance Dues (2% payment)	\$11,612.12	\$	11,232.20	\$	10,522.23
Ambulance	\$25,652.00	\$	25,454.00	\$	25,498.00
Building Inspection Check	\$0.00			\$	110.00
	<b>\$114,393.67</b>	\$	<b>106,014.10</b>	\$	109,036.15

#### Public Works - Roads

Road Materials	\$179,591.14	\$	529,292.82	\$	359,408.50
Roads - Tree Removal	\$5,600.00				
Culverts	\$0.00			\$	1,550.28
Salt/Sand	\$6,394.10	\$	10,156.58	\$	13,448.20
Bridges	\$0.00			\$	1,900.02
Signs	\$500.48	\$	510.88	\$	3,482.54
Fuel & Oil	\$30,361.61	\$	16,958.58	\$	15,272.11
Supplies & Repairs	\$44,876.44	\$	15,168.68	\$	14,084.87
Labor & Uniforms	\$154,769.75	\$	133,827.29	\$	131,871.01
Town Shop Expense	\$4,065.53	\$	3,856.67	\$	4,505.88
Highway Equipment	\$317,645.55	\$	82,911.97	\$	95,501.50
Miscellaneous Highway	\$238.00	\$	196.00	\$	70.00
	<b>\$744,042.60</b>	\$	<b>792,879.47</b>	\$	641,094.91

#### Public Works - Recycling

Recycling Container Rental	\$386.28	\$	409.71	\$	300.00
Solid Waste Pick-ups	\$33,420.28	\$	24,794.73	\$	19,198.53
Recycling Center Labor	\$25,222.34	\$	23,374.29	\$	15,544.42
Recycling Center General Expense	\$942.24	\$	7,263.46	\$	7,642.50
	<b>\$59,971.14</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>55,842.19</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>42,685.45</b>
<b>Health &amp; Human Services</b>					
Animal Control	\$895.14			\$	-
Cemeteries	\$358.63	\$	200.00	\$	-
	<b>\$1,253.77</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>					
Parks Maintenance & Development	<b>\$6,284.44</b>	\$	2,888.47	\$	14,441.68
		<b>\$</b>	<b>2,888.47</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,441.68</b>
<b>Conservation &amp; Development</b>					
Zoning Administrator Salary	\$5,185.03	\$	5,231.17	\$	5,033.57
Zoning Administrator Expense	\$1,795.75	\$	2,082.15	\$	2,546.87
Town Code Book Project/Minutes	\$1,070.00			\$	-
Payments to Committee Members/Notices	\$6,957.49	\$	1,642.50	\$	5,460.00
	<b>\$15,008.27</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,955.82</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>13,040.44</b>
Road Loan Repayment	<b>\$63,663.01</b>				
Road Loan Interest	<b>\$1,336.99</b>				
<b>Capital Equipment (Computers) (R2R Grant Funding)</b>				\$	10,449.93
<b>Transfers out to CD</b>	\$0.00			\$	3,850.00
<b>TOTAL 2022 EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$4,139,915.21</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,783,872.31</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,596,635.34</b>

\* Note - Not all 2022 roadwork bills were in at the time of the Annual Report.