

**Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 7pm**

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by Chairman O'Connell and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisors Devens and Frakes, Clerk/Treasurer Brazee, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Starr, and 9 others.

First Responder Minutes: **Accepted as submitted by Devens/seconded by Frakes.**

Approval of Town Board Minutes:

Board Mtg minutes of 3/11: Frakes asked that the minutes reflect that the 3 books that the Winchester Historical Society is donating are books on the towns of Clayton, Wolf River, and Winchester to the Town of Vinland. Frakes also wanted it added that the minutes should say homeowner who feels he shouldn't have to pay his omitted back taxes that every year he came in to pay the taxes and told "them" he hasn't been appraised. Devens requested that under sharing of correspondence that it be known Woodenshoe brushwork estimate is done not that the work has been complete. **Motion to approve with revisions made by Devens/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

County Supervisor Report: Cty Supervisor Farrey reported that the newly elected county board will be sworn in on April 16. At that meeting they will take the oath and then they will elect the chair, the vice chair, go over committee rules, etc. There will be a meet and greet on April 9 at the Cty Admin Bldg to meet new supervisors, explain the statutes, discuss duties.

The only other thing was an issue with the fire dept radios, but tonight's agenda is addressing that so he didn't go into it.

Devens asked Farrey about a call he received from the Winnebago Cty Sheriff Deputy on Wed. night. Farrey called Devens regarding a running urinal at the town hall. Davens thanked Farrey for the phone call and went up to the hall to turn the water off. Farrey said the deputy must have an old county book and he was grateful that Devens answered his call.

Public Input:

State Representative Michael Shraa was in attendance and introduced himself. He spoke about the redistricting and what that means for the Town of Vinland. He currently represents the 53<sup>rd</sup> district but after the new mapping he will represent the 55<sup>th</sup> district which includes Town of Vinland. Lori Palmeri will represent the town in the 54<sup>th</sup> district. Being a small business owner has served him well down in Madison. He is the chair for the corrections committee and fought hard to get the officers a substantial raise. He believes it is important to have people with experience in Madison. He encourages everyone to get out and vote on August 13.

Andrea Aurigue with Greater Oshkosh reported the unemployment rate is softening. Gr Osh participated in the Rural Summit webinar which included presentations from the Dept of Rural Prosperity. They are participating in a site selection guild study to see what industries support our area, businesses, education, and the people who live here. Some of the staff is at MRO in Chicago which is for aviation professionals. They are still looking for a fit for the aviation park.

Financial Report: **Motion to approve the financial report as submitted made by Devens/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

Discussion/Take Action Items:

1. Invoices and payroll: **Motion made by Frakes to approve/seconded by Devens. Motion carried.**

2. 2024 road projects: The board is in the planning phase of identifying which roads are in need of repair. Decisions will be made once they receive estimates from the city. An estimate has been received for the tree/brush removal on Woodenshoe Rd in the amount of \$22,800. **Motion made by Devens to approve the tree/brush removal completed on Woodenshoe Rd. in the amount of \$22,800/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

There are some projects that are carryover from last year. There is an excess of chips on Thornberry Trail from chip sealing done last year. Also on Kellett Rd there is a hole in the ROW from where a tree was removed. **Motion was made to approve the Kellett Rd hole and Thornberry Trail chip sweeping/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

Devens reported that roads that don't have painted lines would need to be engineered to paint which is estimated to cost \$1,000-\$1,500/mile. The city will repaint lines if they are faded. Devens suggested that if lines were once there and now faded or worn away that they should get redone. O'Connell added that the city told him that they should be done around every 3 years and agreed that they need to be done. Devens informed that the RR flashing signs are up on Sherman Rd. O'Connell added that once we receive the bill we should submit an invoice to the RR company for reimbursement.

Devens said the Atlas road study only reflected how it would impact Indian Point Rd not State Road 76. O'Connell agreed that the 70-80 page study looked at what the impact would be on Indian Point Rd at the school and Dixie Court.

Devens received a call that the culvert on County Rd A at Barkshire Kennels is plugged. The water is almost to the top of the road. Last year the city told the owner she had to fix her culvert and pay for it. Nothing has been done. The complainant thinks the plugged culvert is causing his sump pump to continually run.

3. 2024 road mowing: Winnebago City Hwy Dept estimated our ditch mowing to be roughly \$18,000-20,000 in comparison to the towns of Utica and Wolf River which have roughly the same miles of road. The city hwy supervisor said this is just an estimate and the cost is based on time and material and conditions. Last year the town paid Turf Works \$12,175. Devens said we don't really have any other options. **Devens made a motion to approve Winnebago County Highway Department do the road mowing/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

4. Resolution 001-2024; Updated Fee Schedule: The cost of garbage and recycle bins increased to \$110 each which in turn increases the New Resident Building Refuse/Sign Fee to \$270. Short term rental fee was added in the amount of \$100 for a new permit and \$50 for renewal. **Devens made a motion to approve the updated fee schedule/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

5. Resolution 002-2024; Zoning Coordination/Collaboration w/Winnebago County: O'Connell explained that this resolution is to try to get Winnebago City Zoning Dept to be more communicative and collaborative with the towns. **Devens made a motion to adopt resolution 002-2024/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

6. WisDOT Culvert inventory and assessment program: Brazee needs to let the county know if the town is going to do their own inventory, hire a sub-contractor or go with the county. O'Connell responded that the county is going to do the inventory.
7. Winnebago County Spirit Funds Resolution 281-112023: This resolution is for appropriation of Spirit funds by the Winnebago County Fire Department Association for the purchasing of radios and radio equipment for the fire dept. The new radios cost roughly \$150,845. Brazee needs a motion from the board to give Chris Anderson, Town of Vinland Fire Chief, authority to sign the MOA once received from the county. **Devens made a motion to give Chris Anderson authority to sign approval of radio dollars from the Spirit funds/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

Sharing of correspondence:

**Devens:** The fire truck chassis is painted. Over the past few weeks Devens has collected junk out of the town's ditches including but not limited to beer bottles, tires, and a dishwasher.

**Frakes:** Asked if there anything we need to do about the landfill. O'Connell said nothing yet as the contract expires in 2025 or 2026. Currently it is not being used and they need to let the town know if/when they will open it. As of now, the town has not heard anything.

**McNamee:** As the weather gets nicer people are going to start doing projects. Make sure to contact him before starting work to avoid double fees.

**Motion to adjourn made by Devens/seconded by Frakes. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Starr  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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Don O'Connell/Chairman