

**Town of Grant  
9011 County Road WW  
Annual Town Meeting  
April 12, 2011**

Present: Schwab, Kertis, Goska, Raasch, Zimmerman, new members: Dale Winkler, James Yetter, Diana Luecht.

Chairperson Schwab called meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Powers of Annual Meeting:** Schwab explained that this is a special meeting of Electors where the electors have a say of what they would like done by the following three powers: Direct powers, Directive or grant authority to town board and Authorization to town board to appropriate money. At this meeting everyone has equal rights.

**Swearing in of Town Officers:** The following Board Member were elected for a two year term starting April 13th, 2011 through Annual Meeting 2013 and recited the Oath of Office at Annual Meeting.

- Town Board Chairperson: Sharon Schwab
- Town Board Supervisor: James Yetter
- Town Board Supervisor: Dale Winkler
- Town Board Clerk: Vicky Zimmerman
- Town Board Treasurer: Diana Luecht

Schwab Welcomed new Board Members James Yetter, Dale Winkler and Diana Luecht. A Thank You went out to Dick Kertis, Jay Goska and Dorothy Raasch for their years of service to the Town of Grant.

**Motion: (Nathan Wolosek, Dave Cook) Move to dispense of the reading of minutes from Annual Meeting April 13, 2010. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.**

**Motion: (Mary Kiedrowski, Chris Becker) Move to accept the minutes from Annual Meeting April 13, 2010 as written. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.**

**Audit, Budget, Financial Reports:**

- Audit Report was completed by Schenck & Associates and reported by Jon Trautman at Monthly Board Meeting on April 6, 2011. The Town General Fund had an Undesignated fund balance of \$130,536.00 which is 21% of total general fund expenditures. Schwab indicated this is a very healthy balance and the Town is in a good position to handle Budget cuts for now.
- Financial Report it was pointed out that the year was wrong on Budget Sheet page 15. The date needs to be corrected from 2009 to 2010. It was questioned why the budget report showed a short fall of \$9,210 for the Levy? Raasch indicated that was chargeback amount not received.

**Motion: (Chris Becker, Nathan Wolosek) Move to accept 2010 Annual Report as corrected. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.**

**Guest Reports:**

- **Fire Protection-Grand Rapids Volunteer Fire Dept.** Fire Chief Scott Bernette reported for 1st Quarter 2011 that the department is fully staffed with 54 fire/ems members and 4 ems only members. There has been only one call in Town of Grant for CO in the first quarter. A number of training sessions including blood pressure and blood pathogens. Attended a number of meetings and had 2 fire prevention classes w/station tours, 1 fire extinguisher class and participated in Special Olympics Polar Plunge. Resident asked about burning down an old building and Chief Bernette indicated that the property owner has to remove anything in the building and have building certified that it is free of asbestos.
- **United Emergency Medical Response:** Kathy Larsen reported that the ambulance service is now paid for by all of Portage County, part of Portage County Emergency Services and are dispatched by Portage County Dispatch instead of Wood County. Number of runs for 2010 were 990-1234 including 911 calls and transfers, in which 56 of the 911 calls from Town of Grant. The ambulance service has 2 full time crews and a 3rd crew for long distance transports. They now have a contract with Riverview Hospital to transfer patients that are serviced by United Emergency Medical Response, so if you are waiting to be transferred to another hospital let them know you are in their service area instead of waiting for City of Wis. Rapids ambulance to be available. Portage County Safety Day is May 24, 2011.
- **Design Tech, LLC:** Brian Knutson talked about Municipal Designs that his company has done, including six municipal garages in the area and the design of United Emergency Medical Response new building. If the Town decides to put up a new garage on the property on 90th St. they could help with the design. For now, they could document and analysis the current garage, which does have some safety concerns including open oil storage.
- **Gremmer & Associates:** David Glodowski reported that the design phase of the HSIP Grant project is already done for the 3 locations of Oak St/curve; Oak St/110th St. and Mill/110th St. HSIP Grant is federal money which will pay 90% of project by DOT and 10% will be paid by Town. Gremmer & Associates will assist in construction, but all work will be done by Town employees. The design work is due by April 25, 2011 to be approved and work won't get started until June 2011.

#### Resident Reports:

- **County Board/Aging & Disability:** Schwab read report from Kelley Steinke indicating that the County Board is working on the Strategic Plan for the whole County according to State Statues and have had a number of resolutions to pass. When that is done business as usual and because of heavy flow of the Wis River the County Executive has been very busy with highways being closed and preparing sand bags. Aging and Disability department will be taking one County Board Member off and the Mental Health representative from their committee per changes in number of committee persons by the State. They will also need to add one older adult according to the Older American's Act.
- **Adams/Columbia Cooperative:** Darcy Held is town member on Advisory Committee that meets two times a year. Coop purchases all power and therefore cost are going up. To help hold down cost some services will be cut back, such as service center hours, and not replacing retired workers. Adams/Columbia will not be installing any internet services at this time or in the near future.
- **First Responders:** Lisa Ross reported a total of 56 runs for 2010. Mallory Villineauve has resigned from First Responders because she is attending school out of town and doesn't get home much. They are always looking for new members. 2011 has had 12-14 runs , which is good. There are a total of six members with four holding EMT status.

- **Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee:** Mary Kiedrowski reported that it is the end of long drought period, water needs to be conserved and kept clean by using less contaminants. The current Chairperson is a potato grower who offers a lot of information.
- **Historical/Sesquicentennial:** Dorothy Raasch had copies of March 30th meeting minutes on the table. The main topic at this time is the Celebration Event for 2014. The next meeting will be held on May 25th @ 6:30pm at the Town Hall with local businesses to try and get them involved, but any one is welcome to attend. Keep collecting pictures and stories and get the information to Dorothy Raasch @ 715-423-6589.
- **Plan Commission:** Jim Wendels' reported that he has been on Plan Commission Committee for 10 years and chair for 6 years. Other members are Ron Becker, Darcy Held, Lori Ruess, Sharon Schwab. Julie Kramer is secretary and Zoning Administrator, Marty Rutz also attends meetings. The Plan Commission works on updating existing ordinances, write new ordinances and issue Conditional Use Permits. The main focus is to protect the quality of life for town residents. In review a number of CUP's were reviewed, updated Dog Ordinance, created Outdoor Wood Burner Ordinance. This ordinance was written to resolve some serious health issues and had a Public Hearing on April 6, 2011 with a lot of good feedback. These comments will be taken back to the April 20th Plan Commission meeting for review. The OWB is intended for High Density Residential Zoning districts and doesn't eliminate the use of wood burners, just puts some limited restrictions to adhere to. Another item on the burner is an Utility Accommodation Policy, which sets standard where utilities should be installed. Jim Wendels' can be reached at 715-423-3496.
- **Advisory Motion: (Mary Kiedrowski, Chris Becker) Outdoor Wood Burner Ordinance should only be restricted to High Density Residential Zoning districts. Carried. Hand Vote 12-Ayes; 11Nays.**
- **Zoning:** Marty Rutz, Zoning Administrator sent in report that 44 permits were issued in 2010 for a total of \$4,455.00, which included 7 new residents and 6 Certified Surveyors Maps approved.

#### Officer Reports:

- Suggestion for a Tire Day in May, fall tire day didn't pan out. Choose to ReUse program for 2010 had 5 Saturdays; 2011 will have Saturday in May, June, July and August. The Choose to ReUse program is manned by volunteers. Since we started with Choose to ReUse program Town of Grand Rapids and Town of Rome have also started their programs.
- **Roads:** Major problems on some gravel roads due to the moisture in the ground including: 100th St S (Quarry-Cty W), Quarry Rd (90th St-100th), Deer Rd (100th-110th), others.
- Recommendation to spend most of Road Construction and Maintenance Budget on gravel roads.
- Nathan Wolosek- do road inspections sooner than later, clean out ditches, streams -5 mile creek, road side ditches-look for help to get ditches clean
- Darcy Held- 2 mile in Grand Rapids was cleaned out
- Dave Cook- water not flowing in Camel Creek (80th St - 64th St.)
- Jim Wendels- awhile back Marv Bramsteadt had information about ditch digger equipment
- Kitty Gross- need to do road inspection soon, to see where water is sitting and water in ditches
- Charles Gussel-keep records on road work; wondering about Lake Rd (90th-100th)
- Kitty Gross-replied to Gussel indicating no records would of been kept prior to 1990-2000
- Deb Becker-would like to know when 100th St is going to be fixed, would like it passable- Schwab indicated it may need sand lift, granite, gravel, reconstruction in spots will need to

bid out materials. Kertis commented that spot has unstable soil, muck out, dollar amount issue.

- Chris Becker-commented that roads have to be maintained to get emergency vehicles in and out no matter what the dollar amount is.
- Ron Becker-money is budgeted need to prioritize
- Deb Becker-just asking for reasonable repairs, for safe access to main road
- Dorothy Raasch-Stream Ditch System not working, ground water is stagnant and not flowing
- Jim Wendels- 100th St is like Washington St was, need to muck out/backfill/gravel
- Kertis talked to Tom Bohn and he indicated still have a foot of frost in ground, also had a wet fall and couldn't grade all roads before winter.

**Road Inspections/Other dates:**

- April 19th, 2011 @ 11am - 3pm
- April 20th, 2011 @ 7:30am - 11:30am
- Meet at town hall; take snow plow route; transportation provided
- Roads Meeting April 27th, 2011 @ 7:00pm
- Monthly Board Meeting May 11, 2011 @ 6:30pm

**Outreach-Newsletter/Website:**

- Newsletter out this Spring
- Website not published yet, putting minutes, ordinances, need Town Logo for home page

**Other Directive to Town Board:**

- Readers for Annual Meeting Minutes: Mary Kiedrowski, Deb Becker, Darcy Held
- Jim Orth- more demolition material allowed at Transfer Station, Wendels indicate you can bring in 2 large garbage cans of construction materials
- Charles Gussel- if find garbage in ditches, roads to call Jon Scharbarth @ 715-344-3694
- Kitty Gross-send out letter/ brochure to real estate agency to pass out to new residents that purchase homes

**Motion: (Charles Gussel, Mary Kiedrowski) Move to hold 2012 Annual Meeting the 2nd Tuesday of April on 10th. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.**

**Motion: (Lisa Ross, Dave Cook) Move to adjourn @ 9:15pm. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.**

Respectfully submitted by,



Vicky Zimmerman, Clerk Town of Grant