

Town of Grant  
9011 County Road WW  
Annual Town Meeting  
April 17, 2018

Present: Schwab, Yetter, Winkler, Luecht and Zimmerman.  
Chairperson Schwab called meeting to order at 7:05pm.

**Powers of Annual Meeting:** Chairperson Schwab explained that the Annual Town Meeting is a meeting of Electors, where all residents have a say by the following three powers: Direct powers – compensation of officers, designate supervisor, hourly wages; In-direct powers – advisory or directive to Town Board and Authorization to town board to appropriate money. At this meeting all Town of Grant residents have equal rights. Schwab indicated that copy of Powers of Annual Meeting were available.

**Motion: (Mary Kiedrowski, Ron Becker) Move to dispense of the reading of minutes from Annual Town Meeting on April 18, 2017. Unanimous Ayes. Motion Carried.**

**Motion: (Sharon Schwab, Mary Kiedrowski) Move to approve Annual Town Meeting minutes from April 18, 2017 as written. Unanimous Ayes. Motion Carried.**

Annual Meeting Minutes are to be available to review within five business days and posted within 30 days of meeting.

**Annual Report:** Clerk Zimmerman reported the net income for 2017 was \$121,697.00 with a Fund Balance of \$48,060 January 1, 2017 for a total of \$169,757.00 of which \$23,330.00 is committed to replace Park Fund Account when property across from Town Hall was purchased in 2003; the Unassigned Fund Balance December 31, 2017 is \$146,427.00. The Annual Report followed the same format from previous years with an additional page from Schenck with Fund Balance explanation. There were no questions concerning Annual Report from residents in attendance.

**Motion: (Jeremy Baker, Kathy Lee) Move to accept 2017 Annual Report as presented. Unanimous Ayes. Carried.**

**Guest Reports:**

- **Fire Protection: Plainfield VFD:** no report
- **Grand Rapids VFD:** Fire Chief, Don Bohn reported they have 38 Firefighters and 5 EMS First Responders, along with 10 honorary members who help out with duties around the station. There were a total of 74 calls in which 11 calls were in Town of Grant, and were called 13 times to provide mutual aid to surrounding municipalities. The First Responders group responded to 242 calls for service in the year 2017. GRVFD is currently starting a campaign to recruit more members; as members are slowly diminishing as the crew gets older. They have made changes to the requirements for membership that allows people to perform non-structural activities with a reduced training requirement and not have to be resident of Grand Rapids. The yearly activities are about 90 percent of the calls would not require that all members be structural firefighters. This would eliminate the 120 hours of initial training. Unfortunately they have not had any interest from the public in performing this role. This is a very alarming trend affecting departments all over the country are struggling to find help. Fundraiser- Picnic June 9, 2018. Chief Bohn can be reached at 715-424-1815 for non-emergency calls.

- **United Emergency Medical Response (UEMR):** Gary Johnson “Thank You for signing 10 year contract with UEMR Ambulance Services”. Gary presented his 2017 Annual Report with responding to 1,700 calls, 4 ambulances with 2 manned around the clock. Continue to see major increase in Drug Overdoses especially with Heroin, and Heroin spiked with Fentanyl is what is getting the drug user in trouble. Meth has also raised its ugly head once again. Today we average 3-4 calls per month and 4-5 deaths per year. UEMR emphasis has shifted to education stressing to addicts to have Narcan on hand, clean new needles, and to administer their injections in the presence of someone for safety reasons. Meth & Heroin Addictions are a True Illness just like alcoholism. UEMR has the Highest Certified Paramedics and listed in report all areas certified. UEMR continues to support Towns with training MRF & EMT’s including Town of Grant 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. Gary indicated that they do training CPR & EPI Pens and provides Blood Pressure checks and Blood Sugar test at the Station. Gary Johnson can be reached at 715-423-7777.
- **Rigleman Appraisal Service:** Claude Riglemon, Assessor reported that values are stabilizing and trending upward, numbers look good. Claude explained changes made to Open Book/Board of Review (BOR) in Act 68. At municipal level the big change is that **Open Book and Board of Review will not be held on the same day.** State law requires BOR to meet annually during a 45-day period, starting the fourth Monday of April; no sooner than seven days after the last day the assessment rolls is open for examination. Example: Open Book occurs on a Tuesday. The earliest the BOR can be scheduled is the following Tuesday. As for Assessors this Act 68 has little to do with value, has required more Administrative notices and costs and has nothing to do to uniformity, which Assessors rely on uniformity. Act 68 was tagged on to Assembly Bill 468 with no Public Hearing and past by 8 people as an addendum. Claude Riglemon can be reached at 1-888-345-2914.

#### Resident Reports:

- **County Board:** Charles Gussel, County Board Supervisor, was asked what went on at County Board meetings and responded by asking what do we want to know? We have a new County Executive, Chris Holmen. County Supervisor, Charles Gussel can be reached at 715-424-2680.
- **First Responders:** Jerry Reinwand, “Thank you for letting us serve you”. We have a 5 member team: Jerry Reinwand, Jim Yetter, Robin Mateer, Rob Mateer and Keith Kardash. We responded to 66 calls in 2017. We offer CPR Training: Bad CPR is better than no CPR. Jim Yetter reported that 90% of people who know CPR use it on family members or friends. Always looking for new members and allow shadows to see if this is for you. Meetings are held 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month @ 6:30pm. Contact Jerry Reinwand @ 715-570-8720, Jim Yetter @ 715-213-2000.
- **Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC):** Sharon Schwab reported that the Portage County Well Water Report is on Portage County Website. A quarter of the county’s wells were high in nitrates. Contact Cecile Stelzer-Johnson @ 715-325-1930.
- **Historical/Sesquicentennial Committee:** Documents from the Town @ State Historical Society, Madison will be relocated to UWSP archives when room is available. Contact Kathy Lee 715-423-3891.
- **Website:** address is: [townofgrantportageco.com](http://townofgrantportageco.com) Contact Kathy Lee @ 715-423-3891

- **Plan Commission:** Jim Wendel's year- end report includes information on: Comprehensive Plan updates, Chapters 1-8 complete out of 9 chapters, Zoning Ordinance updates, with definition of Home Business. New Zoning Ordinances: Farmland Preservation Overlay District Amended ATV/UTV Ordinance for Town of Grant with additional routes. List of Conditional Use Permits issued and a number of future items for 2018, which includes Nuisance Ordinance and Unlicensed Vehicle Ordinance and completion of 10 year Comprehensive Plan and 10 year Zoning Ordinance Update. Plan Commission meets on monthly basis, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday or Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 9:30 pm. Jim Wendels, PC Chairperson 715-323-0321
- **Zoning:** Marty Rutz , Zoning Administrator provided list of 39 permits issued in 2017 for a total of \$3,750.00, which included 6 new residences, 21 accessory buildings, 7 driveway permits, 1 addition, 1 deck, 1 porch, 8 addresses, 3 ponds, 1 gazebo, 1 raze, 1 OWB, 2 signs, 1 Class 2 Collocations, 2 CSM reviews and 7 UAP. Marty Rutz, Zoning Administrator @ 715-421-9200.

#### **ATV/UTV Discussion/Directives to Town Board:**

- **Motion: (Pat Barten, Charles Rickman) I make a motion that on the April 2019 ballot we have a referendum to either open up all the Town of Grant roads to ATV/UTV's or close all the Town of Grant roads to ATV/UTV's. Ballot Vote Ayes-11; Nays-9. Carried.**
- Paper ballots counted by: Pat Barten, Charles Rickman and Diana Luecht.
- During discussion Sheriff Lucas cautioned Board Members about conducting a referendum.
- Darcy Held suggested advisory committee for ATV/UTV's
- Charles Gussel indicated you need to get going early enough to meet Election deadline dates if you have a referendum.
- Pat Barten said get it out, let people decide if they want ATV/UTV routes on town roads.
- **Motion: (Darcy Held, Mary Kiedrowski) Impose a moratorium on any future changes for ATV/UTV's until the advisory committee has submitted their final recommendations to the Board. Hand Count: Ayes-16; Nays-3. Carried.**

#### **Officers Reports:**

- **Ambulance Services:** Town of Grant took Portage County to Court and lost, and then the Town moved to Appellate Court in Madison and lost. The result of court action by Town of Grant has opened up Ambulance Services for discussion at County Level. Town of Grant is dedicated to UEMR for **Saving Lives**. Donna Wagner appreciates what Town is doing for residents. Any questions call Sharon Schwab at 715-325-3827.
- **Choose to ReUse & Tire Day:** Hold Choose to ReUse and Tire Day on the same date.  
**Motion: (Sharon Schwab, Dale Winkler) Move to have Choose to Reuse & Tire Day on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and a 2nd Choose to Reuse on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Unanimous Ayes. Carried.**
- **Outreach – Newsletter & Website:** Newsletters are sent to residents 2-3 times a year, along with postcard for Tire Day and Choose to ReUse dates. Town of Grant website address is: [www.townofgrantportageco.com](http://www.townofgrantportageco.com) . Contact Kathy Lee at [k.lee.rn@charter.net](mailto:k.lee.rn@charter.net) with information to put on website.
- **Motion: (Heather Grys-Luecht, Jeremy Baker) Move that Town Board makes sure meeting minutes are on Town Website. Unanimous Ayes. Carried.**

- **Roads: 2018-2019 Road Plan** was available for residents listing recommendations for Road Construction Projects and Road Maintenance/Materials Projects. Evergreen Ave. regraded by Synagro and will provide materials also. Farhner Asphalt cost for chip-sealing one mile of road could cost \$18,000-\$27,000. Chip-sealing needs to be done on dry area roads, doesn't hold up on wet area roads. Struck & Irwin provided information on micro-seal vs chip-sealing. Dale Winkler can be reached at 715-213-5438.
- **Motion: (Charles Rickman, Dale Winkler) Move to have Town purchase 2 new plow trucks/w sanders and have Dale Winkler co-ordinate with Portage & Wood County on specifications. Motion rescinded.**
- **Discussion: Jeremy Baker**-contract out for snowplowing; **Wayne Brody**-Buy tandem truck to haul own sand and gravel. **Dale Winkler**-cost for one truck roughly \$150,000.00; contract work could be \$150.00 per hour times 116 miles; 2000 Sterling has 62,000 miles on it.
- **Motion: (Charles Rickman, Kitty Gross) Town Board take 60 days to look into 2 new quality plow trucks & sanders. Unanimous Ayes. Carried.**
- **Motion: (Heather Grye-Luecht, Kitty Gross) Amendment: Town Board take 60 days to look into 1-2 new plow trucks and quality used plow trucks. Unanimous Ayes. Amendment carried.**
- **Surplus – outdated or non-functional equipment for sale:** Town has been putting old street signs on Wis Surplus Online Auction, other items to consider: defibrillators, copier in office.

**Other Directive to Town Board:**

- Darcy Held suggested looking at different kind of road material at Transfer Station, something other than granite that keeps breaking down.

**Next Annual Meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of April.**

**Motion: (Jeremy Baker, Kitty Gross) Move to adjourn @ 9:35pm. Unanimous Ayes. Carried.**

Respectfully submitted by,

*Vicky Zimmerman*

Vicky Zimmerman, Clerk Town of Grant