

December 18, 2019
Town of Brazeau Regular Board Meeting
Town of Brazeau Hall
10892 Parkway Road, Pound, WI 54161



i. Call to Order

Chairman Wendt called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ii. Roll Call

Present: D. Parmentier, R. Gretzon, J. Fetterly, R. Wendt, J. Grosse. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

iii. Agenda Approval

Motion by Parmentier/Gretzon to approve the agenda. The motion was voted on and carried.

iv. Approval of Previous Meetings Proceedings:

Motion by Grosse/Gretzon to approve minutes. Motion was voted on and carried.

v. REPORTS

1. Financial

The written financial report was presented by Clerk Gross. General Fund balance as of November 30, 2019, \$488,571.37; Donation Fund Savings \$479.85; Fire Department, Ambulance and Dive Account Funds \$86,406.06 for a grand total of \$575,457.28.

2. Ambulance

David Kussow presented the Ambulance Report. 2 people in EMT class now—Unit 2 fixed by Witt Ford with a DOT inspection also completed

3. Fire Department

Fire Chief Lavarda reported department had 54 calls total this year. Several fundraisers were held to include 100 bikes fundraiser, Rost Lake Assoc. picnic and a 5K Run. Strom brush pile is burnt. Lost a member of the team (Gerald Kempka) who will be missed tremendously. The Fire Dept. arranged a very nice tribute at the funeral to Gerald and his family. Chief Lavarda thanked John Fetterly for all his help. Banquet is set for January 10, 2019 at Romy's.

4. Dive Team – No report.

- vi. Public Comment** – During public comment Chair Wendt welcomed the new supervisor (John Fetterly) to replace Gerald Kempka. Supervisor Fetterly stated it is an honor to follow Gerald Kempka as replacement. Chair Wendt presented a reading that he put together for Gerald's funeral and wanted it to be made a part of minutes as an addendum.

vii. ACTION ITEMS

1. Safety Training Officer Position

Chief Lavarda recommended Tom Jones for this position. However, the previous officer is still in this position and proper channels need to be done to remove the current training officer. Tabled until next meeting.

2. Fire Dept. Brush Truck

Chief Lavarda stated the fire dept. is in need of a newer brush truck. Looking at a 2014 Ford Diesel 250 Crew Cab extended box for \$24,300. Board wanted to know dimensions to see if it would fit in the fire dept. garage. Motion by Grosse/Gretzon to table until Chief Lavarda went to measure the area. Motion was voted on and carried. Motion by Parmentier/Gretzon to reopen. Motion was voted on and carried. Chief Lavarda stated the measurements for the brush truck are 19 foot and the Rescue truck was 25 foot so it would fit. After further discussion no motion was made. Item was tabled.

3. ABMC Brazeau Ambulance EMS Director Agreement

Jamie Waller, a Rescue Squad member presented the Medical Agreement which is now a requirement for the squad to have. Areas of concern were the Insurance coverage needed and a few other minor changes

that needed to be made. Motion by Gretzon/Grosse to postpone until these details could be worked out. Motion was voted on and carried.

4. Consolidated Library Update

Supervisor Grosse gave an update to the process of the consolidated library. Consolidation of the Oconto Falls library is off the table. The Consolidated Library board has been dissolved. After further discussion motion was made by Gretzon/Fetterly to contact the Suring Public Library to see if an agreement could be reached with them. Supervisor Grosse will contact Suring Public Library. Motion was voted on and carried.

5. Length of Service Program – Proposed Contribution

Motion by Parmentier/Grosse to award the qualifying members \$385.00 this year as thier match. Motion was voted on and carried. Supervisor Fetterly and Supervisor Gretzon abstained.

6. EWP Park Plan

The plan for the new park was reviewed again with discussion on how to proceed. Areas that should be worked on include the dirt work for the landing pad, the ice rink and possibly the concrete work for the pavilion. Board members will look into how to proceed so work can begin in the Spring. Discussion only.

7. Public Deposit Security Agreement

Supervisor Grosse presented a public deposit security agreement from Associated Bank. The Town of Brazeau's funds will enter into a depository agreement to pledge collateral to secure all the Town's funds over and above amount guaranteed by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Wisconsin State Fund. Motion by Gretzon/Grosse to sign the agreement with Associated Bank. Motion was voted on and carried.

8. Treasurer's Bond

No action.

9. 2019 Budget Amendment/Resolution

Motion by Gretzon/Parmentier to amend the 2019 budget of \$792,299 to increase revenues by \$8,400 for a total amended 2019 Budget of \$800,699 (Revenues) and Inc/Dec Expenditures by \$73,400 for a total amended 2019 budget of \$865,699 (Expenditures). There was a roll call vote. 5-0. Motion carried.

10. Closed Session under Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: Hwy. Maintenance Dept. Position

Motion by Parmentier/Gretzon to go into closed session. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

11. Reconvene Open Session

Motion by Gretzon/Grosse to reconvene to open session. Motion was voted on and carried.

12. Possible Action on Hwy. Maintenance Position

No Action taken.

viii. December 2019 Wage and General Vouchers

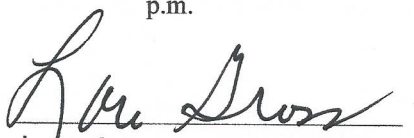
Motion by Parmentier/Grosse to approve the December 2019 wage and vouchers. The motion was voted on and carried.

ix. Next Meeting

x. January 21, 2020 will be the next regular board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

xi. Adjournment

Motion by Grosse/Parmentier to adjourn. The motion was voted on and carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.


Lori Gross, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Addendum

About 25 years ago I was helping my grandpa and my uncle on a farm they owned on County Z. my grandpa was working on the kick baler, and for some reason or another he went behind the baler and grabbed the bale that was on the thrower and pulled. I remember seeing the kicker go off and my grandpa flying backwards to the ground. My uncle in a panic yelled for me to get help and of course at that time no one had cell phones so I literally had to run and get help. The closest neighbor was a few hundred yards away and when your in a panic it always seems like where you need to go is further than what it actually is. I remember coming up to the door and pounding on the door and yelling for help. A man came to the door and calmly asked what was wrong, and I told him what had happened and that we needed help. I will never forget how calm he was, but he didn't waste any time to call the ambulance, than grab his gear and run over to help. By the time we got back by my grandpa he was sitting up and somewhat alert but not in good shape. I remember him, Jerry was his name, caring for my grandpa until the ambulance arrived. I will never forget the calm and caring way he took care of my grandpa that day.

Jerry served the Brazeau Ambulance for 41 years. He served^{ed} the Fire Department for 41 years. He served on the town board for 33 years, he was a plan commissioner and the town sexton. Jerry lived to serve and he always wanted to

help. If Jerry said he was going to take care of something – which he often did- it was always a sense of relief because you knew it would get done. Jerry was the guy that would buy the burgers, buns and soda for the many fundraisers he helped run throughout the year. He would often brag about picking things up when they were on sale to save a couple cents. Jerry would build bird feeders for door prizes at the annual picnic. I was lucky enough to have won two of them over the years.

Jerry's devotion to Sylvia was absolutely inspiring. Not once did he complain about the many doctor visits that were necessary to keep you with him. Those doctor visits were the only non-negotiable events on his calendar and he always enjoyed his time with you.

Jerry was always full of good stories, whether it was his childhood by Rost Lake, his time working at Graetz's sawmill, or his job at Fleet Farm. He loved to fish, every once and a while I would see him at one of our favorite spots for ice fishing. He would get set up and sit on his bucket and you could see he was catching fish but he was always so quick at putting them in the bucket he was sitting on that you couldn't tell what he caught. I guess he was trying to be sneaky, and it worked.

Jerry was a very simple man in most regards. He never asked for fame or attention, he didn't care who received the credit for something, as long as it got done. I was fortunate to get to know Jerry very well serving with him on the town board. He was a great mentor to me and many others. He had a wealth of knowledge and experience that he shared with the people around him. We shared a vision for our town parks, and we looked forward to any progress that was made. He was always so confident that things would work out, and he was determined to make the town a better place. Jerry always looked to the future with promise and he knew we could overcome any obstacle that might come our way.

Three weeks ago when Jerry called me to talk, like he often did through out the week, he told me that he had been diagnosed with cancer, but he assured me not to worry, everything was going to be fine. It's funny how it takes a moment like that, to realize how silly so many of our problems are.

Jerry made the people around him, including myself, better, not just because he served his community but how he served his community. Thank you Jerry for your dedication to your family and your community, your humbleness and your leadership, our town is better, because of you. It's sad to know that you are gone

but comforting to know that you are not suffering. The Town of Brazeau thanks
you for your service, and I thank you for your friendship.