

Town of Phelps, Vilas County, Wisconsin  
PO Box 157  
Phelps, WI 54554

**MINUTES OF PHELPS TOWN BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010  
PHELPS FIRE STATION**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Albrecht at 7.00 PM. Present were Supervisors Waier, Kimmerling, McCaslin and Clerk/Treasurer Hiller. Excused absence: Brand. Also in attendance were 31 citizens. The meeting was posted at the Phelps Community Center, First National Bank-Phelps Branch and Phelps Trustworthy Hardware Store and emailed to the Vilas County News Review.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Waier moved to accept the August 9, 12, 25, 2010 and September 8 and 9, 2010 minutes. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence: A letter was received from the Wis. Dept. of Administration mentioning that there is a preliminary increased estimate of 181 persons in the town as of January 1, 2010 census; also received a letter that the town will receive \$4,700 for the chasis rebate from Life Line Emergency Vehicles because of purchasing the new ambulance. Received a donation of \$200 to the Phelps Beautification committee from Spence Heating & Plumbing.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Clerk Treasurer/Hiller presented the August monthly financial report as of August 31, 2010. Supervisor McCaslin moved to accept the monthly financial report. Supervisor Waier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Library Report: June Franzen reported that she received two checks for the erate discount payment. She stated that the library is doing well and that she will be attending a County Library meeting regarding the 2011 County Library Budget Appropriation on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Constable's Report: Constable Rick Brown mentioned that so far all is pretty quiet.

Park Commission's Report: Todd Bierman mentioned that mowing is finally slowing down. They will be tearing down dugouts at the park and late October will be removing piers from the boat landing. They are also working on their 2011 budget.

Town Crew Foreman's Report: Gerald Niemisto reported that everything is going good. They are finally caught up on storm damage. NW Tuttle is holding up well and hopefully will get done yet this month.

Sanitary District Report: John Barron said that everything is going well. He mentioned that Jim Adams would like to resign as treasurer due to medical reasons. An ad should be put in the paper. John Barron mentioned that he took care of the catch basin in the Town hall parking lot. Paving should take place sometime this week. He mentioned that they were also having a problem with the internet connection at the station. When it crashes, it causes a lot of problems. Also the Town should keep in mind that the Sanitary District receives \$11,000 of revenue from Aspirus annually, therefore there closing would affect the Sanitary District funding.

Fire Chief's Report: Chief Waier mentioned that it's been fairly quiet. He will be applying for a radio grant thru the State of Wisconsin. State would pay 55% and the Town 45%. Also a reminder that the prime rib dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ambulance Supervisor's Report: Carole Selin said that it has been pretty quiet. In August they had 30 runs and had six so far this month. They have received donations of \$5000 which will be used for the tom tom helmets and possibly a fax/scanner/printer/copier since theirs is not working.

**County Supervisors' Report:** Bob Egan reported that the County expanded the Code Red service. You can sign up by contacting the County by phone or go on the County's website. He also mentioned that they have been working with the Economic Development Committee and Wisconsin Housing regarding Aspirus.

**Phelps Chamber of Commerce:** Mary Ann Bickler mentioned about their Town open house, the 5K walk/run this Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8am with a brunch at 9 am. They are in need of help with registration, in the kitchen at school and distributing water for the runners.

**Phelps Town Lakes Committee:** Rollie Alger mentioned that the next Town Lakes Committee meeting is set for this Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center.

**Phelps Town Building Committee:** John Huza said that they had a joint meeting with the Community Development Committee tonight at 6 pm. The Community Development committee will be concentrating on the community development part of Aspirus and the Building committee will be working on things regarding the building structure, soil, water, etc. They divided up the list of those people that signed up at the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to be on those committees. The Community Development will be meeting on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Fire Hall and the Building Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.

He also mentioned that the Town Shop grant has been approved on the State level and has now been forwarded onto the Federal level. He also mentioned that the new salt shed is done and is already to put salt in.

**Phelps Signage Committee:** Richard & Peggy Lambert reported that they have almost completed the first phase of signs from the State 17 to Cozy Corner. The next area will be from Cozy Corner up to Coveyville to Hwy 17. It was mentioned that the signs will be green and white.

**Phelps Planning Commission:** Eugene McCaslin reported that the next meeting will be after January 1<sup>st</sup>, and is looking for someone to take the chairmanship due to wanting to step down. The plan is all done; therefore, it's basically keeping up with the maps.

**Food Pantry Report:** Debbie Vold reported that in July and August they had about 40 families from this area and that they will be meeting on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Museum:** Pauleyn Nystrom mentioned that they have received a donation of a TV for the museum. They also have received other monetary donations toward a camera. They are still looking for volunteers to greet people on Fridays and Saturdays. Their plans are to stay open thru Christmas.

**Discussion/Action: Award Bid for Chip Sealing NW Tuttle Road Project:** Chairman Albrecht mentioned that there were questions regarding the bid from Pitlik regarding the prevailing wage law. He checked with Pitlik and this falls under maintenance, which is ok with the prevailing wage law. A motion was made by Supervisor McCaslin to award this project to Pitlik with their bid of \$51,477.75. Supervisor Waier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Action: Frankenthal Lane, (off from Grosser Lane) Request to Chip Seal Town Portion:** Gerald Niemisto reported the cost would be around \$11,000.00 and that he has enough money in the budget for chip sealing this. He will need lots of gravel, approximately 3 culverts, will have extensive work with the ditching and may have to order another culvert. He will need to get it done this fall so it sits over winter. Supervisor McCaslin moved to approve this project. Supervisor Waier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Action: Driveway Permit and Fire Number Ordinance:** Gerald Niemisto mentioned that he is working on this. Once everything is taken care of and passed, this would be sent to the Vilas County Zoning and would just go thru the regular permit process. This item is tabled for right now and will be brought up at a later date.

**Discussion/Action: Aspirus Lillian Kerr Healthcare Center Building/Set Up Committee:** The Building and Community Development Committees set up the committees at their meeting earlier this evening. It was mentioned that the Town should get a cost estimate on the demolition of that building. It was mentioned to look up the company who demolished the Sportsman building and possibly get an estimate from that company.

Discussion/Action: Nicolet Shores Home Owners – Road: no one was present regarding this.

Discussion/Action: Phelps Address and Road Sign Project: It was mentioned that the Town is getting complaints from residents that had their road name changed and signs are not put up yet. The Town usually orders their signs from Lange. The cost of this project will be very expensive and have approximately seven years left to complete this project. Steve Doyen mentioned that the Town should contact Dale Mayo at the County Forestry office regarding where they receive their snowmobile signs, etc. for price comparison.

Discussion/Action: Permission to put a Museum Link on Towns Website: Pauleyn Nystrom mentioned that she contacted Tuckey Requa if they could have a link on the Town Website. Requa said they could do that but would need permission from the Town Board. Motion by Supervisor McCaslin moved to give permission for the Town Website to have a museum link. Supervisor Waier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion/Action: Permission for the Museum Committee to Receive \$500.00 for Museum Expense Account from the Town Museum Account: Pauleyn Nystrom mentioned that they are receiving donations towards equipment for the museum; however they would like \$500 to put in the museum's checking account for incidental expenses which come up and then would not have to be reimbursed by the town. A motion was made by Supervisor McCaslin to approve. Supervisor Kimmerling seconded the motion. Motion passed. Ms. Nystrom mentioned that they need one signature for expenses up to \$500 and two signatures for anything above that. It was also mentioned that the account will have to be audited with the Towns audit.

Discussion/Action: North and South Twin Lakes Association – Jerry Parker Bench Memorial: Joseph Wallace Jr., President of the North and South Twin Lakes Association, along with President Elect Roger Ganser read and presented a letter to the Board requesting approval for the NSTRLA to establish a memorial, in honor of Jerry Parker, to be placed at the head of the Twin Lakes. They propose a bench similar to those located in Land O'Lakes with an inscription of: "In Memory of Jerry Parker" NSTRLA, and have it securely placed in the newly established North Twin lakefront park. The members of the NSTRLA will purchase the bench with engraving and have it moved to the area that Shelly Ray designates. A motion was made by Supervisor Kimmerling to approve. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Waier. Motion passed.

Discussion/Action: Approve Cemetery Deed Block D, Lot 45, Section 7 – Barbara Rottier: A motion was made by Supervisor McCaslin to approve the Cemetery Deed for Barbara Rottier. Supervisor Kimmerling seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion/Action: Approve Operator's License for Mary C Grady: A motion was made by Supervisor Waier to approve the Operator license for Mary C. Grady. Supervisor Kimmerling seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Reminder: Budget Workshops – October 4, 6 & 7 starting at 6.

Reminder: Fall Community Cleanup – Saturday, October 9, 2010 8 -11 am:

Citizen Input: Steve Doyen mentioned about the bench down by the lakefront and that we need to keep snowmobiles out of that area. A snow fence should be considered to block that area off. It was mentioned that the Town now owns that lakefront. It was suggested to remove the guard rail and put more landscaping around that area. Also to keep keep them off that bank. This would be a good project for the Park Commission.

Jan Petrick mentioned that the land up to the store is still blacktopped. Steve Doyen asked if they could take that blacktop out of there. It was mentioned that the parking lot is still being used and there are people using the bench. John Barron mentioned that the Sanitary District needs to get at that pump for servicing.

Rollie Algaer and Norm Mesum mentioned that the Catholic Church lost parking by not putting a strip of blacktop along the curb in the parking lot. They were requesting if the Town could possibly budget something for this next year. Chair Albrecht mentioned that the Town possibly could share the cost, but will take a look at it next year.

Pauleyn Nystrom mentioned that the flags in town were not half mass on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Lights at the park and library were also discussed. It is a matter of just running a wire for these lights.

Ditto's situation was brought up. Chairman Albrecht mentioned the ordinances has been rectified. The town did everything correct, but ran into a snag at the courthouse – we needed cooperation of Vilas County Courthouse and Bill Anderson handled everything gracefully. Ditto will be fined for not cleaning up the sidewalk \$313.50 and \$50.00 per day, thereafter. This ordinance does not cover his parking lot. Vilas County Zoning is helping with that. The County and State has been contacted regarding the inside of his store. Fire hazards was also brought up.

The constable will be meeting with the town's attorney Tuesday or Wednesday. Rick Brown will get familiarized in writing citations again. After that takes place, the Town will be back citing citations regarding this ordinance.

Co-op situation was brought up. They have received names of the board members in Bruce Crossing, MI and will be looking into this.

Steve Doyen asked if the Constable can address any other ordinances such as park ordinances. Chairman Albrecht said absolutely.

Norm Mesum talked about the Aspirus building. He thinks they are pushing this on us and that if the Town owns it, the Town can't let it get out of hand and must be really careful on this. The question is does the town really want to become a commercial landlord.

A visitor from Maine attended the meeting and mentioned that her community was offered the same type of deal. Their community tore down the building but had problems with asbestos, lead and soil issues. It costed them 1.2 million dollars to get rid of that building. An air quality test should be done as well as the water should be tested. DEP might also give you problems with digging.

Monthly vouchers were signed and approved by Town Supervisors.

Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Kimmerling. Motion was seconded by Supervisor McCaslin . Meeting was adjourned at 8:20m.

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Marjorie Hiller, Clerk/Treasurer