

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

**MINUTES OF PHELPS TOWN BOARD  
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011  
PHELPS FIRE STATION**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Albrecht at 7.00 PM. Also present were Supervisors Waier, McCaslin, Brand and Clerk/Treasurer Hiller. Excused absence: Kimmerling. Also in attendance were 14 citizens. The meeting was posted at the Phelps Community Center, First National Bank-Phelps Branch, Phelps Trustworthy Hardware Store and emailed to the Vilas County News Review.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Waier moved to accept the December 13, 2010 minutes. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence: None.

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

Library Report: June Franzen reported that they will have their Book Sale the week of February 14<sup>th</sup> during normal Library hours. The Library will be presenting the movie "Secretariat" on Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. The Library Board will be meeting at 4 PM on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Library. She reported that our library circulation is over 26,000 which is the highest that it's ever been. They will be getting a new computer and offered her old XP Professional to any town official/department in need of a computer. The Board said the the Town might have some interest it.

Constable's Report: Rick Brown said everything is quiet. He had a couple calls on dogs but took care of it with no cost to the town.

Park Commission's Report: Todd Bierman presented a written report stating that all the Christmas decorations on the Town Hall & Park are unplugged for the year. The Town will need at least 2 more exterior outlets for next year at the Town Hall for the Christmas lights. There is only one outlet now, but that is on the same circuit as the Library microwave and paper shredder. When they are used, the circuit breaker pops off. Also the tree out front is getting pretty big to decorate and he had to purchase three more light strands this past year.

He mentioned that he worked out a price estimate for a new Bulletin Board for the Town Hall. It would be approximately \$320.00. Most of the cost (\$275.00) is in the glass and Bulletin Board material. The new size would be 4' x 5' (width-height). Please let me know if this something you want done.

There is a broken wheel on the rotary broom so that's why the sidewalks are not as clean as they usually are. The part was ordered last Tuesday and due to a mistake with the John Deere Dealer, it's not due to arrive until this Wednesday. I will be looking into a different dealer to get parts sent to us.

The Park Commission will be reviewing their by-laws and be making changes if necessary about attendance and other issues. All the dugouts are roofed and pretty much completed. Just some minor things and landscaping left for spring.

He has also been working on ideas for the cemetery sign and thinking of making it look like the old one but with different post ad storage beam going across. We'll probably build the new one and transfer the letters from the old one when we take the old one down. If anyone has any other ideas, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Sanitary District:** No report, however, discussed possibly having a meeting with J. Barron in February finalizing STH17 project. Musson has to fulfill their final duties.

**Town Crew Foreman's Report:** Not present.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Steve Waier mentioned that they had a couple of runs. He was happy to mention that he received an e-mail stating that the grant that he applied for radio equipment has a great chance of coming thru for \$79,000. That makes three successes in applying for grants in the last six years.

**Ambulance Supervisor's Report:** Not present.

**County Supervisors' Report:** Sig Hjemvick reported that the Forest service (Federal) Logging money of \$59,000.00 should be coming to the Phelps school. He mentioned that there are two different funds and the County did \$315,000 worth of logging.

Bob Egan presented to the Board the 2010 Economic Development annual report. They have hired Ken Stubbe as the new full-time executive director of the Economic Development Corporation as of December 1, 2010. He reported that Frontier is putting in an internet service possibly this summer that will provide service for those that live within a distance of less than 3.8 miles from Town. It was explained that zoning for towers presents a real problem. Anything under 99 feet does not have to have a special permit. Zoning is thinking of expanding this to 199 feet. If this was to happen, 13 to 15 towers would then be needed. He mentioned that the Stimulus money went to everywhere else but the small rural areas. He also mentioned that on December 29<sup>th</sup>, there was an Angels Investors meeting in the County and had people interested in investing in this area.

**Phelps Chamber of Commerce:** No report, however it was mentioned that the winter carnival and radar run is coming up on February 5, 2011.

**Phelps Town Lakes Committee:** Nothing new to report other than having locked in speakers for the educational meeting in June.

**Phelps Town Building Committee:** John Huza mentioned that the Building Committee is looking into logging of 60 acres on Strong Road and are checking if it can be done. He also said that the Town Garage is still in the pipe line and are looking at a loan with Rural Development.

**Phelps Signage Committee:** Peggy Lambert reported that they received the 1<sup>st</sup> set of signs and poles and is almost done with the 2<sup>nd</sup> set. \$15,000 was budgeted. A determination must be made on how they are going to be put up and who will be doing it. There are regulations on how far from street and house, etc. that must be followed.

**Phelps Planning Commission:** Lorin Johnson mentioned that there was nothing to report at this time.

**Food Pantry Report:** No report

**Museum Report:** Pauleyn Nystrom reported that the Museum is closed until May – probably opening fishing weekend. They are getting the office ready for the new year and mentioned that if the school or anyone would like to go down and use their records for reports etc., they should contact her.

**Discussion/Action: Approve Picnic License for Radar Run-Chamber of Commerce:** Motion by Supervisor Waier to approve the picnic license for the Chamber of Commerce Radar Run on February 5, 2011. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Action: Great Wisconsin Trail Bike Committee:** Tuck Daniels presented an update on the Great Wisconsin Headwaters Trail System Corporation. Funding came thru for the western end of the Conover-Phelps Trail this Fall and we cannot apply for another grant for the east end of the bike trail until 2012. The system will eventually connect five municipalities and three established trail systems. Trail surfaces will be suitable for all types of bicycles and will vary depending on topography, location and use. Portions of the system used by snowmobilers in the

winter will have a crushed limestone surface. We would need approximately \$160,000 for the east end of the bike trail to make that work. There was discussion on avenues for us in possibly raising up some funds to contribute to help tourism in the summer months.

Discussion/Action: Expansion of Outside Bulletin Board: Todd Bierman previously reported that the cost of a new bulletin board would be \$320.00. Motion by Supervisor McCaslin to approve putting up a new bulletin board at a cost of \$320.00 and have this be paid out of the community center repairs budget line item. Supervisor Waier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Citizen Input: June Franzen mentioned that the Women's Club will be hosting a brunch on February 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 AM to 12 Noon. Pauleyn Nystrom questioned if the Town will be working on a nuisance ordinance. Chair Albrecht mentioned that Steve Garbowicz is working on this already and hopefully will be passed early summer 2011.

Monthly vouchers were signed and approved by Town Supervisors.

Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor McCaslin. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Brand. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

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Marjorie Hiller, Clerk/Treasurer