

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

**MINUTES OF PHELPS TOWN BOARD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011
PHELPS FIRE STATION**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

(The Citizen Participation Meeting was called to order and the CDBG Grant funding was discussed; Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.) The Town Board meeting continued at 7:05 PM.

Supervisor Waier moved to accept the January 10, 18, 26, and February 2 and 9, 2011 minutes. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence: Received a letter from the Director of the Vilas County Humane Society informing the Town that they are reducing the fee for town constables and animal control officers' intakes from \$90.00 to \$40.00 for each adult cat. Also received a letter informing us that Verizon Wireless has dissolved UC/PTC Wisconsin LLC with all assets and liabilities flowing to its parent Alltel Communications Wireless of Louisiana, Inc., which will assume all responsibilities and obligations as tenant under the Town Space Lease Agreement between Northwoods Hospital Association Inc., and Wisconsin RSA #3 Limited Partnership.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Clerk/Treasurer Hiller presented the January monthly financial report as of January 31, 2011. Supervisor McCaslin moved to accept the monthly financial report. Supervisor Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Library Report: June Franzen presented her annual and State reports to the Town. She mentioned that in 2010 the Library had a total circulation of 26,706 items which is about a 15% increase. Items loaned out were 4,143 Items, received 2,293; the number of registered cards were 1145. She also mentioned that the Library Book sale is this week and that they received their new computer. The old computer has been cleaned out and XP Professional is back on it.

Constable's Report: Rick Brown said it has been really quiet except for the eagle incident found on CTH E.

Park Commission's Report: Todd Bierman reported that the Park Commission met last week and will be going over the by-laws in making changes regarding the attendance/quorum. He mentioned that the Commission has a concern that they were not involved in all the work down by the lake last summer and the Commission believes that they should be part of that. Narrowing up the approach on Town land in front of Aspirus, which is a snowmobile trail, was discussed. The Dredging project will be ready in spring. He also mentioned that the new Bulletin board will be up this week and the Cemetery sign will be the next project. Supervisor Kimmerling mentioned that the flower boxes are too high by the cemetery sign and should be lowered.

Sanitary District: Colin Snook reported that the Sanitary district are getting complaints that the sewer meters are only read once a quarter and are complaining the bills are too high. They are working on changing that to monthly billing.

Town Crew Foreman's Report: Not present.

Fire Chief's Report: Steve Waier mentioned that the Fire Station Office has been painted and re-done. He also reported that they did receive the FEMA grant at \$27,000 from the Fed's for new radios. Also the ballasts in the Fire Hall need to be replaced but is very expensive and will probably just replace the lights as needed.

Ambulance Supervisor's Report: Carole Selin mentioned that they had a total of 168 runs in 2010. In January 2011 they had 9 runs and 7 runs already in February. They had a Refresher course at the Fire Hall on Saturday, February 12 for their workers as well as people from Conover and Land O'Lakes. She mentioned that they are looking for a new ambulance billing company. EMS Medical Billing Associates out of Milwaukee came in with a 5 year contract with a billing fee of 7% of net payments or a 3 year contract at 8%. She has not heard a lot of positive comments regarding Lifequest and heard that they are not real friendly or easy to work with. This will be discussed at the next special board meeting. She was directed to contact Iron River to see what company they are working with.

County Supervisors' Report: Sig Hjemvick and Bob Egan were present and mentioned that the County is working with zoning to try and make ordinances internet friendly in regard to size of tower and distance from any structure.

Phelps Chamber of Commerce: Mary Ann Bicker reported that the Radar Run had a good turnout, however raffles were down considerably. They received a check of \$500 from the Rennes Group for a corporate sponsorship for the radar run. She mentioned that the new visitor guides were available. Also, there membership was at 12 at the end of the year. She is now looking at new banners for springtime and talked about a photo contest in spring or summer.

Phelps Town Lakes Committee: It was reported that there is nothing new to report other than their next meeting will be in April.

Phelps Town Building Committee: John Huza mentioned that half of the timber sale project will be done before breakup. They are still proceeding on funding for the Town Shop project and moving forward regarding other projects

Phelps Signage Committee: Not present.

Planning Commission: Lorin Johnson mentioned about the properties that are listed as R1, you cannot rent out by the week. He is also looking for some direction from the board as to any updates to the maps or to be involved with any planning regarding transportation, utilities, etc. It was also mentioned that Todd Bierman has a list of properties that are owned by the Town and that he could get that information from him.

Food Pantry Report: Not present.

Community Development: Not present.

Museum Report: Pauleyn Nystrom reported the Museum Committee met on February 10th. They will be sending out brochures for membership and raffle tickets. They have taken the memories book over from the Women's Club and are working on updating this book. They now have been recognized as a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization by the State.

Discussion/Action: Library Board Trustee/Member Reappointments: Motion by Supervisor Waier to appoint Angela Kummerow & Laura Myszka for 3 year appointments to the Library Board. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion/Action: Signing of Timber Sale Contract: Supervisor McCaslin moved to approve the timber sale contract with Ed Holtorp for tract #01-11 on Strong Road. Supervisor Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Citizen Input: It was mentioned that the market analysis meeting is set for February 16 at 6 p.m. at the fire station. The downtown problems were briefly discussed and a meeting was set for Thursday February 24th at 6 p.m. for discussing implementing a new nuisance ordinance and deciding on a new ambulance billing company.

Monthly vouchers were signed and approved by Town Supervisors.

Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Waier. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Mccaslin. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Marjorie Hiller, Clerk/Treasurer