

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Albrecht at 7.00 PM. Also present were Supervisors Waier, McCaslin, Kimmerling and Clerk/Treasurer Hiller. Excused absence - Supervisor Brand. 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.

Supervisor Waier moved to accept the February 14, 14-CDBG, 16, and the 24, 2011 minutes. Supervisor McCaslin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence: None

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Clerk/Treasurer Hiller presented the February monthly financial report as of February 28, 2011. Supervisor McCaslin moved to accept the monthly financial report. Supervisor Kimmerling seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Library Report: June Franzen mentioned that everything is going well and that they will be having another movie entitled "Vogi Bear" on Saturday, March 26 at 10 a.m. at the Library. She also mentioned that she attended the CBCG conference. She also wrote for a grant with matching funding; The Women's Club will contribute the match of \$350 towards it and the Library will get a total of about \$1,400 worth of books. The Phelps Lions Club donated a new copier machine to the Library, which has scanning, faxing and copying capabilities. She also received a call from Rod Sharka regarding the issue of garlic mustard being in our area. He is looking for volunteers for "pulls" on Friday, May 13th. The Town will contact him and have this posted on the chamber and town's websites.

Constable's Report: Rick Brown reported that he only had one call regarding a cat that he had to take to the humane society.

Park Commission's Report: Todd Bierman reported that they got a 10 year maintenance plan on the ball park lights; once the snow is gone he will clean up the ball park for the first high school game which is in April. There is a snow blower issue in that the auger is bent and the cost to repair it will be \$1600.00. He was wondering which budget this should be paid from or should it be split between the Park and Highway budget. The Board asked him to discuss this at their next park commission meeting to see if splitting the cost would be a possibility.

Town Crew Foreman's Report: Due to the Town Foreman not present, Chair Albrecht mentioned that due to the liability insurance rates increasing, the Town changed to Bituminous Insurance. The Highway crew is now doing ongoing safety training which will hopefully help lower our rates. The Crew will be at Pomp's on March 15th for free tire safety training, and pavement training in Tomahawk on Thursday, March 17. Also, the road limits will be going on Wednesday March 16 at 7a.m.

Sanitary District: Mrs. Snook reported that the Sanitary District met on March 10th. There was no major business to report and submitted the minutes to the Board.

Fire Chief's Report: Steve Waier mentioned they are just completing the FEMA grant and are completing their training classes.

Ambulance Supervisor's Report: Carole Selin reported that they had 15 runs last month and 7 already this month. The EMS workers have just completed 30 hour refresher course training and a CPR course. Also, they have picked 3 Rivers Billing Company out of Crescent Wisconsin as the new billing company.

County Supervisors' Report: Not present.

Phelps Chamber of Commerce: Mary Ann Bicker submitted a report due to not being able to attend the meeting. She mentioned that they have received several photos for their contest which the deadline for submission is March 15. As soon as the board selects a winner, she will be ordering the new spring banners. Sunrise lodge is coordinating a project with the Phelps, Conover and Land O'Lakes Chambers to publish a Headwaters Vacationland Dining Guide. More details will be available on March 16.

Phelps Town Lakes Committee: Not present

Phelps Town Building Committee: John Huza mentioned 25% of the logging project is complete. With road limits going on and the ground being soft it will be completed next winter. The Town Garage should be on the Town's agenda next month. Grant eligibility is maxed at \$50,000. They will put some final numbers together and bring it to the Town Board next month for discussion on the funding issue.

Phelps Signage Committee: Not present.

Planning Commission: Not present.

Community Development: Debbie Void reported that they discussed the marketing analysis report as well as having a community development website at their last meeting.

Food Pantry Committee: Debbie Void mentioned that the Food Pantry will be meeting on March 15. They are serving about 119 families every other week. The Food Pantry is doing some renovating and might have to expand electrical updates, etc. on the building.

Museum Report: Pauleyn Nystrom reported that they are working on the brochures. They would have liked to put tickets in with the brochures but found out that sending tickets through the mail is against an 1880 law that's still in effect.

Discussion/Action: June Franzen - Women's Club - Request to Place Mural on Corner Lot Downtown: June Franzen is requesting if the Women's Club could put up the mural that was created at the centennial celebration a few years ago and where they could display it. The Board is referring this to the Park Commission for their next meeting.

Discussion/Action: Market Analysis Report: The 96 page market analysis report is available online on the Chamber and Town's websites. A hard copy will be available in the Library. Chair Albrecht mentioned that there is a person in the community that is interested in putting in a grocery store in the Boundary Waters Building and hopefully this will come about.

Discussion/Action: Board Certification Class for Board of Review: Board of Review certification is good for two years. The Clerk/Treasurer is interested in attending the class on April 21st at the Courthouse and Supervisor Kimmerling is interested in attending a class if there is one scheduled for a Saturday.

Discussion/Action: Blinds for Town Hall/Fire Hall: Carole Selin explained that they got 80% off on Blinds from JC Penney for \$250.00 for the fire hall and \$413.00 for the Town hall. This was a savings of over \$1,200.00 between the blinds for the two offices.

Update: Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 12, 2011. Phelps School Commons. 7 P.M.

Set Community Spring Clean-Up Date: It was decided to schedule the spring clean-up for Saturday, May 21st from 8 -11 a.m. The Clerk was asked to check on what the Town got back for the metal last year and to decide if a another dumpster is needed.

Citizen Input: Dan Swiecichowski reported on the ATV routes survey that was submitted along with the tax bills. Out of 391 submitted there were 224 Yes, 166 No, and 1 undecided. He also mentioned that on Saturday, March 19th, there will be a ATV meeting at the Sand Lake Pub at 3 pm and is requesting some of the Town Board members to attend. Dick Schulz reported that they are still in limbo regarding the bicycle (multi-use) trail. Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Currie from Cloverland Township was present at this meeting. He is the President of the Great Wisconsin Headwaters Trail System. He mentioned that even though Phelps did not get funding for the trail from Muskrat

Creek to Phelps he is interested in seeing what can happen to put pieces together to help complete this trail without having to wait to apply for grants.

Monthly vouchers were signed and approved by Town Supervisors.

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

Marjorie Hiller, Clerk/Treasurer