

Town of Lincoln Annual Meeting Minutes April 18th, 2023 7:30PM

The annual meeting of the Town of Lincoln was held on Tuesday April 18th, 2023 7:30pm at the townhall.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bruce Auset. Members present, Bruce Auset Chairman, Cody Ritscher and Steve Heller Supervisors, Trinity Hungerford Treasurer, Lori Dahl Clerk and Carolyn Thomsen. Clerk noted all notices were posted as required. Ryan Quandt was also present.

Minutes were read by Clerk. Steve Heller made motion to approve minutes, Cody Ritscher 2nd.

Treasurer's balance reflected \$2,557.68 in checking and \$106,761.58 savings for a total of \$109,319.26. Public cemetery account reflected \$504.01; Lincoln Public Methodist cemetery \$1,311.59. Equipment fund CD \$3,848.40 and 4 Bridge CDs totaling \$40,688.00.

Annual report was reviewed. Clerk reminded those present the town's website is a great source of information. The website appears at the bottom of all town meeting agenda postings.

Bruce Auset reported on roads. Schieche and Heller Roads need to add rock. Need to check into arm mowing this summer to reduce brush and small tree growth along town roads. Previous work on Jahn road will be checked for wear.

Bruce Auset reported on bridges. Schaub bridge work to start by the second week in July 2023. It should be a 6–8-week project, commencing by September 23, 2023. This will be a full concrete bridge. Cedar Corp reported that there are not a lot of bridges being built this year, so this may be decreasing the total cost of the bridge. Yapp bridge is less than 20ft, so there is no federal funding available for its replacement.

Grant Application Status:

1. ARPA (Covid Cares) Grant in the amount of \$16, 537.64 (50% paid June 2021, balance June 2022). Clerk reported this grant paperwork has been submitted and is complete.
2. LRIP State Municipal Bridge project grant for \$302,931; this will be used for Schaub bridge replacement; total cost which includes bypass \$436,500. Town and county will split additional costs over \$302,931. Town expects this amount of be reduced as no bypass is needed and bridge building cost may be down with 6 bidders. Grant expires 6-2027.
3. Township applied for Flood Mitigation grant to rip rap Schmidt bridge. The amount of the project is approximately \$6,000 with the town covering 50% of the cost. Rip rap should be laid soon once town road bans are lifted.

Trinity Hungerford reported on the status of dog licenses. Approximately 31 dogs have had their license applications renewed equaling \$183.00 dog license income. She reported that approximately 15 dogs licenses need to be renewed, totaling \$239.00 which include fine at \$10/dog. She will follow up with residents that have not applied for their pet's license. With rabies outbreak on the rise in the county, it is important the town continues to enforce compliance.

Cody Ritscher reported on Broad Band plans. A Committee is being formed, consisting of Cody Ritscher, Carolyn Thomsen, Mike O'Connor, Ryan Quandt for sure, possibly Mark Cloutier, Dave Lockett and Julia Quandt. A few important steps need to be completed as soon as possible to get the Town into a better

position for possibly applying for future grants as they become available, including sending out a survey to residents, a form to register that we are interested in Broad band. Bruce Ausethe reported that he contacted Lee Engfer about previously allotted funds that are possibly set to sunset, but confirmed that there would be funds there for the Town, when we get to that point. First Broad Band committee meeting will be scheduled for some time in June 2023.

Motion was made by Steve Heller to continue advertising in the Buffalo Co News, Carolyn Thomsen 2nd. Motion carried.

Lawn Mowing and Snow Plowing contracts with 5-year term were approved in 2021 with J&K Lawncare.

Clerk will talk to Fire department chief about payments to be made and set dates for such payments.

Cody Ritscher reported that a new ambulance has been ordered. Will take approximately 2 years to receive. Current rig is 6 years old.

Town projects for 2023, rock and blading on Schieche and Heller Roads. Board will have a building professional inspect town building for building updates such as wrapping windows and replacing trim on outside.

Cody Ritscher made motion to continue banking with Bank of Alma. Steve Heller 2nd, motion carried.

Carolyn Thomsen made motion to give the board the power to borrow, Steve Heller 2nd, motion carried.

Bruce asked for any public comments. It was mentioned the board works extremely well together to manage town affairs.

Bruce Ausethe extended a wealth of Thanks to retiring Clerk Carolyn Thomsen for all her hard work and dedication while serving the Town of Lincoln for the past 20 years. Cody Ritscher made a motion to instate Carolyn Thomsen as acting Deputy Clerk until revoked. Steve Heller 2nd. Motion carried.

Next annual meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of April, 2024.

Cody Ritscher made motion to adjourn, Steve Heller 2nd. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Lori Dahl, Clerk