**TOWN OF BENNETT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**May 15, 2023**

Chairman, Brett Hunter, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other officers in attendance were Wesley Koehler and Timothy Haskins, Supervisors, Tamara Johnson, Clerk and Stephanie Lintula, Treasurer.

Notices of the meeting with the agenda were posted at the Town Hall, Recycle Center, and the Town Website on May 8, 2023.

**MINUTES**: The minutes of the April 10, 2023, Regular Board meeting were read by the clerk.  Moved by Wes, seconded by Tim, to approve as read by the clerk.  Motion Carried.

**APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**  Moved by Wes, seconded by Tim, to pay the bills, checks #19221-19259, ACH payroll dated 4/27/23 & 5/8/23, and May automatic withholding payments to Wisconsin Department of Revenue, IRS, Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) and Nationwide 457B plan payments. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:**

**TREASURER**: Stephanie Lintula, Treasurer, gave the April financial report. The

April 30, 2023, balance of the Checking Account was $30,797.71, Money Market was $188,848.44, and ICS Account had a balance of $0.01. The accounts balanced with the bank as of April 30, 2023. Moved by Tim, seconded by Wes to accept the report as presented. Motion Carried.

**FIRE DEPARMENT:**Fire Chief, Travis Theien, gave the fire department reports for April. He reported that the new rescue truck has arrived due to a large donation by the Friends of the Bennett Volunteer Fire Department.  The new rescue UTV has also arrived paid for by the grant applied for by Brett Hunter. Travis asked the board to consider gifting the Engine II and the old Rescue Truck to the Friends or set aside proceeds from the sale for future fire department apparatus purchases. His report is attached to the original of these minutes.

Moved by Wes, seconded by Tim to approve as presented.  Motion Carried.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** Bruce Sutherland gave the highway department report. The grader is on the road after repairs but is waiting for parts to finish the cylinder repair. There is a large tree in the cemetery that is dying and needs to be removed. He has someone looking at fixing the roof leak.   His report is attached to the original of these minutes.

Moved by Wes, seconded by Tim to approve as presented.  Motion Carried.

**CONSTABLE:**Jay Burfield, Constable, gave his report for April.  His report is attached to the original of these minutes.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY:**N/A

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Lawn Mowing—2023 & Cemetery Sexton Replacement:**The clerk received an application from Charles Martineau for the Cemetery Sexton and lawn mowing.  After the board looked over his application, Tim moved to hire Charles Martineau for both Cemetery Sexton and lawn mowing.  Seconded by Wes Koehler.  Motion Carried.

**Prepare to Sell 2006 Ford F350:**Brett recommended that the board table the sale of the F350 for now so that the new Sexton, Charles Martineau, can use it to move the mowers this summer.

Tim moved to table the sale of the F350 for the time being, seconded by Wes.  Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Recycle Attendant Substitute:**

Wes moved to hire Charles Martineau as the substitute recycle attendant along with the mowing and sexton positions. Seconded by Tim.  Motion Carried.

**Research Grant Options and Plans for Town Garage:**Wes moved to allow Brett to begin the process of researching grant options for a new town garage.  Seconded by Tim.  Motion Carried.

**Consider Dump Truck Purchase/Lease:**Brett, Bruce and Alec met with Boyer trucks to discuss a truck they have available that was set up for the State of Minnesota.  It had more on it than the town needs but Boyer Trucks is preparing a quote with a trade-in allowance for the truck but set-up as the town would need it. Tim moved to approve researching this truck and getting a quote set-up for the town.  Seconded by Wes.  Motion Carried.

**Consider Pay-off of Tractor/Mower Loan:**Tim moved to approve researching budget amendments for the purpose of paying-off the tractor/mower loan in preparation for purchasing a new truck. Seconded by Wes.  Motion Carried.

**Class B Beer/Liquor Licenses, Cigarette Licenses & Operator’s Licenses:**The Clerk asked the board to postpone the approval of the licenses until the June board meeting.

**Budget Amendments (if necessary):**None

**Review Permits Issued by Douglas County:** No action needed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:**Rick Hartzell asked if there is gravel available for road repairs this spring.  Brett answered that the first priority is the roads that were washed out in the spring flooding.  We have about 1000 ton in the Bennett pile and Solon Concrete owes the town approximately 3700 ton of gravel.  Solon Concrete will also be crushing another $20,000 worth of gravel, hopefully soon.

**ADJOURNMENT**: Being there was no further business, Tim moved to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.  Seconded by Wes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Johnson, Clerk