

**Town of Day
Marathon County, Wisconsin
Annual Meeting – April 16, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

(Minutes subject to board approval)

1. Chairman Brueggen called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm
 - A. Roll Call – present:
Chairman – Joe Brueggen
Supervisor – Chad Hoffman
Supervisor – Trine Spindler
Clerk – Rebecca Post
Treasurer – Marci Griesbach
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance was recited
2. Reviewed minutes from April 16, 2024, Annual Meeting. Motion (Brian Dillinger/Jeff Weis) to accept meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. Budget numbers were reviewed. Motion (Dave Kraus/Dave Smith) to accept budget numbers. Motion carried.
4. Dust Control- As voted on in 2024, liquid dow will be spread the full length of roads south of Highway C at no cost to residents, and those north of C will pay for it. (Odd years south of C and even years north of C). Postcards will be mailed out.
5. Christmas Banners. Joan Carey-Gebelein shared banner ideas for residents to provide input on. Christmas banners will replace the veteran banners after the Fall. These are the same material/size as the military banners. She would like to purchase 10 Christmas banners at the price of \$1,000 and two Welcome to Rozellville banners. The banners are owned by their sponsors, and they can choose to replace them if they become worn out. Next year there will be 36 military banners. The cost to print a military banner and hang it the first year is \$150, and it's \$50 each year after to hang a banner.
6. Plan Commission - Update provided by Plan Commission Chair, Brian Dillinger. The Plan Commission consists of five people (4 townspeople, 1 board member). As of tomorrow, Brian Dillinger's term will be up and nominations will be accepted at the board meeting on April 16, 2025. The town's comprehensive plan needs to be updated. Information previously gathered in 2017 was used as a baseline and they gathered additional zoning information from other towns. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission was brought in to assist. Once the draft is finalized, they will recommend it to the board and there will be a public hearing followed by a final approval.
 - A. Dave Kraus asked about codes and permits for putting up things like small sheds. Brian said there will probably be a permit to make sure setbacks are in place but isn't sure if there will be a fee. To simply the process things will come through the Plan Commission to make sure what is being done is ok. As for things being grandfathered in, it will be a legal issue and there may be a grandfather clause.
 - B. The Commission is also working on town zoning. The zoning map must be consistent with the comprehensive plan map. Most of the town will be zoned agricultural with five districts. Within the zoning code each district will have permitted use and conditional use. Permits and record keeping are needed to keep things from getting out of control. There will need to be a building inspector/zoning

administrator. The Plan Commission will review building applications. Mobile homes will be allowed in the zoning code with stipulations. The zoning code will be reviewed by the lawyer. After a public hearing and final approval by the board it will be posted and take effect the next day.

7. Road Commission - Update provided by Supervisor Hoffman. Road Commission members are Chad Hoffman, Mike Berdan, Tom Kollross and Eric Leichtman. Will be using LRIP this year on Folz from Oxbo to Eau Pleine. Depending on funds, we will try to do the dead end on Folz, Meadow and Day, Guldán East, Poplar, some on Kraus and River Run. Ditching on Schalow Street by 97 North side, Oxbo east of Bangart, Bangart to south, north of Kraus to west side. There are a few more culverts not needing immediate repair. The five-year plan includes a culvert on Bangart and having culverts coated due to the cost of replacing them. River Run to Guldán south, first section north, County Line to M to North to Auburndale – would like to get Auburndale to split cost 50/50. Putting in for LRIP and ARIP to see what we can do on other roads. Bangart and Vreeland need work along with Kraus. North Rd to the Mead – hoping to get kick back from DNR to help with this. Standard funding doesn't cover what we need.
 - A. Joan Carey-Gebelein had questions regarding Rangeline Road North of C. Last year it was stated a black road base would be added for two miles and only one mile was done. Per Chairman Brueggen, we are waiting to see how this first mile holds up and to do culvert work on the second mile before putting new material down. Supervisor Hoffman feels it's holding up well so far. Chairman must submit information to the state to show what we are doing to receive money. As funds come in, we will move forward with projects using good material.
8. Town Board Structure/Wages. Chairman Brueggen stressed board transparency with residents and protecting the town from issues other towns have experienced. With a new board in place, he would like to look at a better division of responsibilities between members and possible wage increases. The last time the chair or supervisors had a wage increase was about 2010. There was a discussion as to when raises go into effect. Chairman Brueggen will look into this further and add it to the agenda for the budget meeting to see where funds may be available for a wage increase
9. Wind Energy - Brighton/Eau Pleine. Update provided by Chairman Brueggen. Per Mark Krause, chairman for Brighton, the judge is scheduled to make a judgement on May 23. Brighton received a letter from the FAA because they are close to flight patterns for medical helicopters for Marshfield and Neillsville; towers can't be over 450 feet. Supervisor Spindler stated the turbines for the Hub City Wind project in our area will have 20-25 turbines and will be 650 feet tall. There are binders in the town office Alliant Energy dropped off regarding the project that residents can review. Per Supervisor Spindler, there are several bills in Madison being worked on, but we need to take care of it locally with our ordinances, comprehensive plan and zoning. It was asked if we will have a battery storage ordinance as well. Supervisor Spindler stated the Battery Energy Storage System will come in with the comprehensive plan and zoning. At the January WTA meeting, Mark Krause asked the other towns to assist with the legal costs they have incurred defending their wind ordinance. Chairman Brueggen stated we don't have money in the budget. He also stated we worked on the Health and Safety Solar Ordinance and bore the cost of that which Brighton has used. Chairman Hoffman agreed we don't have the money and stated if we are sued by Alliant Energy it will be a tougher fight because they are a public utility.
 - A. Motion (Kevin Schmitte/Kobey Spindler) to support Brighton with \$3,000. Motion amended by Kevin "motion to authorize board to support Brighton with \$3000 to support their legal defense." Motion failed with 18 ayes & 19 nays.

10. Open to Public

- A. Dianna Drexler asked regarding zoning, how turbines would be zoned. Per Brian Dillinger they incorporated the town wind and solar ordinances into the zoning code. He stated it's not a permitted use in the agriculture district; he also didn't believe it's under conditional use. Per Supervisor Spindler there was nothing in the ordinances regarding zoning, they were based on health and safety. Chairman Brueggen asked our assessor about them, and he said they are so new he would probably lump them together as agriculture.
- B. Ron Hartle questioned why Eric parks his truck in the building, how people are supposed to know if he is there. Chairman Brueggen said because there is an open stall, and he has had stuff happen to his truck while he's parked outside. Dave Kraus said for transparency he should park outside. Motion (Dave Smith/No second) to authorize Eric to park his truck inside. No vote taken.
- C. Joan Carey-Gebelein asked if the board made steps to remove brush along the front of the town hall driveway to the west on the north side of the road. Per Chairman Brueggen, the county will add it to their list.
- D. Roy Seubert asked when the Christmas decorations were coming down. Per Joan the town pays for a lift to do this. When the military banners are taken down the Christmas banners go up as it's a cost savings to do it only twice a year. The issue is the cost of \$250 for each use of the lift. The Lions cover one time and the town the other. Roy also said there is a wire/extension cord hanging from a pole that should have been removed a long time ago. Chairman Brueggen said he was aware of this.
- E. Dave Kraus stated that a couple years ago there was supposed to be a six-month study of Eric and his hours worked and wanted to know why the board cut it short to three months. Chairman Brueggen said he didn't recall but he brings Eric's books to every meeting for residents to review if they want. Dave is concerned because he continues to get raises while doing less work. Chairman Brueggen responded to bringing in someone else to do brush because our equipment doesn't reach far enough and that we aren't taking work away from him.
- F. Mark asked what our overall maintenance cost has been, including replacing equipment, since Eric was hired. He asked if there are raises because equipment is being kept in good condition. Chairman Brueggen said that was a reason and the cost of living goes up as well. Mark questioned if we have had problems with him threatening town officials. Supervisor Hoffman said no. He also stated that Eric keeps everything very clean. Supervisor Hoffman said Eric often does work after hours if needed.
- G. Ron Hartle asked if the plow/snow saver on the new truck has helped keep more gravel out of the ditches. Chairman Brueggen said it helped.

Motion to adjourn (Dave Kraus/Jeff Weis) at 9:01 pm. Motion carried.

Submitted by Rebecca Post, Town of Day Clerk

Next Annual Meeting April 21, 2026