

**TOWN OF UNION**  
**Monthly Town Board Meeting**  
**Minutes of December 3, 2020**

The Monthly Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Kendall Schneider at 6:46 p.m. Members in attendance included Chairman Schneider, Supervisors George Franklin and Kim Gruebling, Clerk Regina Ylvisaker and Treasurer Jessica Nellen. Plan Commission members Alvin Francis, Dave Pestor, and Ray Legris as well as Roadpatrolman Josh Wisner were also in attendance.

**Clerk's Minutes (November 12, 2020)**

Motion to accept the minutes of November 12, 2020 as written made by Gruebling/Franklin.  
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Jessica Nellen reported balances as of 11/30/20 (attached). She noted that the proceeds of the sale of two surplus municipal trucks was deposited.

**Building Inspector's Report**

Building Inspector Bob Fahey was not in attendance; Clerk Regina Riedel read in the report of permits issued during November (attached).

**Clerk Update**

Riedel reported that the final submission for reimbursement of Routes to Recovery grant funds is upcoming, and she anticipates receiving the full grant amount reimbursed. Additionally, the Town website is up and running; it will take some time to get fully updated as it only current through summer 2020 when it was initially supposed to go live.

**Recycling Center Update**

Josh Wisner reported that operations are going well.

**Brooklyn Fire District Update**

Gruebling had nothing to report. Nellen stated the Strategic Committee has not yet met to her knowledge, and no one has contacted her yet regarding the meetings.

**Public Comment (5 min max per item, no action will be taken on any issues)**

No comments.

**Discussion: Driveway Ordinance**

Riedel reported that the Town Attorney was unavailable for tonight's meeting, the discussion will be deferred to the January meeting.

**Board Action: Referendum Question for April 2021: Shall the Town of Union Allow ATVs and UTVs to be Operated on Town Roads?**

Ray Legris explained that the purpose of the referendum question is to allow the residents of the Town to vote on the issue of ATV/UTV operation on Town roads, and to allow the Town Board/Plan Commission to move forward from there.

Motion to add the following as a referendum question to the April 2021 ballot "Shall the Town of Union Allow ATVs and UTVs to be Operated on Certain Town Roads" made by Gruebling/Schnieder. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Discussion/Board Action: Recycling/Waste Hauling Contract**

Wiser explained that the contract with Advance Disposal expires January 1, 2021. A certified letter notifying the company of the Town's intent to not auto-renew the contract and requesting new pricing and contract options was sent, and Advance Disposal has not contacted the Town with new pricing.

Wiser and Riedel have met with and worked with representatives from Badgerland Disposal on the new contract under consideration by the Board.

Motion to approve waste hauling contract with Badgerland Disposal made by Gruebling/Franklin. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **Discussion/Board Action: Recycling & Refuse Pricing 2021**

Wiser and Riedel have worked on a pricing structure for 2021 with input from Recycling Center staff and taking into consideration the increased hauling costs and anticipated recycling grant funds. The most notable change to the pricing is the \$1 flat fee for any amount of recycling. Gruebling asked if there was or would be a charge for steel? Wiser clarified there has not been in the past and there was no plan to begin charging, as the Town receives payment for recycled steel.

Motion to approve proposed pricing structure, with a change of charging \$1 for up to 100 gallons of recycling, made by Gruebling/Franklin.

Discussion: Riedel provided history regarding the charge for recycling: There has been no charge for any amount of recycling for at least 20 years. It was generally accepted that the amount of recycling grant money received from the Wisconsin DNR was enough to offset the costs of hauling recycling. This is no longer the case and has not been for some time; grant amounts have not kept pace with the costs of recycling hauling. Charging \$1 for any amount of recycling, and assuming 100 residents recycle some amount each week would result in \$5,200 in additional funds annually to offset the costs of recycling hauling. It isn't equitable to increase refuse costs and have residents who only drop off recycling not bear part of the costs of hauling and removal of both recycling and refuse. Charging \$1 for any amount seemed a reasonable increase to make without residents facing significant and sudden increased costs. Wiser agreed and noted that there had been significant discussion and review of costs/grant funds/resident use of services done by himself and Riedel prior to this proposal.

Motion to retract initial motion and move to adopt recycling and refuse pricing schedule as initially presented made by Gruebling/Franklin.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **Board Action: Adoption of 2021 Proposed Budget**

Motion to approve budget as proposed made by Gruebling/Franklin. Carried unanimously.

### **Discussion/Board Action: Road Patrolman Sick Leave Eligibility**

Gruebling explained that there has been no policy in place for earning or using sick leave for the Roadpatrolman position. An employee contract needs to be developed addressing this issue and others, so there isn't a reliance on verbal agreements regarding these issues. This is in the best interest of both the Town and employees. Gruebling would like to begin discussions on this issue after the first of the year, and would like to go on record that the Town Attorney should be involved at some level to ensure the legality of whatever is developed.

### **Discussion: Appointed vs. Elected Clerk & Treasurer**

Board had previously agreed that combining the offices of Clerk and Treasurer was not what they wanted to do. Gruebling stated that having appointed positions allows the positions to be filled with individuals who do not reside in the Town. Add to agenda for action item on January agenda.

## **Roadwork**

Wiser stated Board needs to made a decision tonight on leasing vs. purchasing a tractor for mowing, etc. for 2021. He reported the lease price for the John Deere the Town has historically leased will be increasing to approximately \$10,000 in 2021, an increase of almost \$3,000. Purchasing would eventually put the Town in a position where they would have something to trade in and would be getting ahead instead of spending money on a lease with no return.

Tyler Salzman from Ritchie Implement was in attendance via speaker phone to discuss the Case tractor the Board was considering for purchase. The total cost of the Case 150 with loader and bucket would be \$126,899.00. Any decisions regarding extended warranty coverage could be made closer to delivery.

Motion to approve purchasing Case 150 tractor and loader at a total cost of \$126,899.00 in 2021 made by Franklin/Gruebling. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Wiser noted that the roadside mower the Town is currently using has reached the end of its useful life and needs replacement. The majority of the budgeted funds for equipment purchase for 2020 were unspent, and he recommends applying those funds toward the purchase of a Bush Hog 3810 mower at a cost of \$15,700.00

Motion to approve purchase of Bush Hog 3810 mower for \$15,700.00 made by Franklin/Gruebling. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

In anticipation of upcoming winter weather, Wiser reported all plow trucks are ready to go and full of material.

## **Pay Bills**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn and pay bills was made by Gruebling/Franklin. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

## Town of Union Treasurer's Report November 2020

Prepared by: Jessica Nellen

<b>State Bank of Cross Plains - Municiple Account</b>			
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Beginning Balance		<b>\$288,147.67</b>	
	<b>INCOME</b>		YTD
Special Assessments	\$45.00		\$405.00
MHP - taxes	\$1,337.14		\$14,568.16
Refuse	\$2,818.01		\$22,475.57
Tires	\$50.00		\$387.00
Scrap	\$140.00		\$850.00
Building Permits	\$1,425.00		\$12,627.96
Dog license	\$5.00		\$725.00
Sale of two trucks	\$27,850.00		\$27,850.00
ACH - Shared Revenue	\$19,295.83		\$21,698.73
ACH - Charter	\$937.78		\$4,087.45
Subtotal	\$53,903.76		
Interest earned	\$26.32	<i>Interest rate 0.15%</i>	\$5,404.53
Checking account interest	\$0.14		1.52
Total Deposits			<b>\$53,930.22</b>
Total General Business			<b>\$342,077.89</b>
	<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Total Expenses			(54,114.83)
SBCP Balance 11/30/2020			<b>\$287,963.06</b>

<b>State Bank of Cross Plains - Checking Account</b>			
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Balance as of 11/30/2020		<b>\$16,500.00</b>	
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<b>State Bank of Cross Plains - Escrow Account</b>			
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Balance as of 11/30/2020		<b>\$0.07</b>	
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<b>Wayne Disch Memorial Park fund</b>			
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Balance October 31	\$1,302.55		
Interest	\$0.04		
Balance as of 11/30/2020			<b>\$1,302.59</b>

<b>Greenwoods State Bank - Morning Ridge Rd CD</b>			
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Balance as of 10/31/2020		<b>\$22,917.04</b>	
Matures 12/23/2021	Int pd 6&12		

<b>LGIP-Park &amp; Rec Fund</b>			
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September 30 Balance	\$10,084.09		
Interest-October	\$0.88		
Balance as of 10/31/2020			<b>\$10,084.97</b>

