**Town of Bradford**

**Town Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradford Town Hall**

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm. Present:All board members- David Moyer, Sharon Douglas, Loren Bobolz, Dan Huisheere, Ben Wellnitz, Jill Bier, Marlina Jackson. Also present: Ryan Rudzinski (Battermans), Mike from Rock Road, Officer Rufer, Chief Rousch, and Jim from D&J Auto Sales

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Adoption of the Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda (Dan Huisheere/Loren Bobolz). Motion carries by voice vote with no negative vote.

1. Approval of the Minutes to the August 15, 2023 meeting and approval to the Planning Zoning Meeting Minutes (Membrino)

Motion to approve the minutes to the August 15th, 2023 meeting and the Planning and Zoning minutes from August (Lorem Bobolz/Sharon Douglas). Motion carried by voice vote with no negative vote.

1. New Business
2. Discussion and Action on Joint Municipal Court

Officer Rufer shares with the board that nothing active is going on in Bradford. The last court appearance there were 5-6 tickets for the Odling residence. Appeared in court. 4 guilty, 2 or 3 not guilty, waiting for meeting with the village attorney. Board thanks Officer for attending.

1. Discussion and Action report by Fire District Representative

Chief Rousch shares that there were 44 calls, making it 401 calls for the year. 17% decrease from this time last year. 42 members, 2 new recruits. 16 fire firefighters, 4 EMS,9 EMT, 10 paramedics. Budgeting is in progress and looking for ways to raise revenue. Dave asks about an annual fundraiser? Chief responds that the association is working on it. Dave suggests an annual event would be good revenue. Board thanks Chief for attending.

1. Discussion and action on upcoming Road Project with Batterman, deadline October 15th

Ryan Rudzinski shares with the board that the grants open tomorrow, applications are due November 1st and the county submits them to the state. He asks if we are interested in submitting applications for this grant period? Previously submitted were Creek Road and Emerald Grove Road. Loren says we definitely should consider Emerald Grove Road. Dan suggests contiguous Emerald Grove North of 14 too. Ryan states that if it gets to long of a road stretch it makes it difficult for consideration. Dave states our concerns are Emerald Grove from Avalon to the new bridge is going to be done by the county and depending on the program funding we would consider. Ryan responds that LRIP is 50/50, Supplemental is 90/10, BIL is 80/20. All meet similar criteria. Sharon asks about culverts? Loren says there are a couple on Emerald Grove by Richards and the cemetery.  Ben asks if we can include the cemetery road where it goes East and curves to the North? Dave asks Ryan if we could include that stretch? Ryan responds that it would be difficult. Dan suggests we apply for Emerald Grove and we do the cemetery road ourselves. Dan asks what we would have to do for the project? Ryan responds that we could reconstruct, pulverize, and with pulverize we would use the existing base. Grant favors a reconstruct. Dave asks if it would or wouldn't require new ditching? Ryan responds that it is not set but it would be the time do it. Dan says the culverts need to be done. Dave says to apply for it in the category were looking at it and wants the most bang for our buck. Ryan says 50/50 and 90/10 are 1 application and the state decides which to go for. Loren asks if it doubles our odds? Ryan says through LRIP they’ll only fund 1 project for the town. Federal funds are 80/20 but could be a different project. SHaron aks Ryan how it would wo rk with the culverts and the county splitting 50/50. Ryan not sure if federal would allow that but LRIP probably would. Loren suggests 2 bridges to highway, Dan and Dave agree. Dave tells Ryan thats the one we want to work on. Ryan says there s no fees since its a resubmission. Dave says you could submit the one part for LRIP and the other section of Emerald Grove for federal. Dan says the North section is getting bad and needs something done. Ryan says during the webinar they mentioned an agricultural road fund is coming out. Dave asks if it would be out before these funds are out. Dan aks if new program is state or federal? Ryan says the state funded project would be Emerald Grove to 14 and the North half for 80/20 on the federal application. Dave asks if Ryan is taking care of it all? Ryan says yes and that he will need to get together with Dave for a signature.

1. Discussion and Action on D&J Auto Sales in Emerald Grove

Dave met with Jim from D&J Auto Sales. Dave stopped in on the business and asked Jim to move vehicles out of the Right of Way. Dave confirmed it with the county. Dave recognized and commended Jim for moving the vehicles back 1.5 feet. Dave asks Jim if the sale went through yet. Jim responds not yet. Jim states there are 14-16 cars there and he has 5 employees, 3-4 days per week. Sometimes there are 1-2 customers on site as well. Jim goes to auctions and cars are continuously coming in and out. Says the lot is very tore up. Will repave the lot when he is the owner. Estimates cost at $17000-$30000 to repave. Jim was hoping to find an efficient way to expand the lot. Says he sees going straight west and wants to clean the place up as business keeps getting better. Jim says the sale is in probate and was hoping it would be complete by now. Repairing pot holes and the lot would give him more space. Wants to expand the parking and have it more organized. Dave says part of the issue is the number of vehicles. Jim responds that in the 4 years since he last presented to the board he has not had any issues. And that he cant put more money into the place yet since it is not his yet. Dave advises Jim to come back to the board after the sale is complete with a more formal plan. Daves concern is an area for customer parking. Jim states that he would like help with the board and wants to work together. Sharon advises he goes before the Planning and Zoning Committee. Dave states that arrangements are made and we need to follow them. Dave recommends Jim to start making a plan while the sale is in progress. Jim states he does not know the costs and has questions but is happy to comply. Dave tells him to do a scale drawing for what he is thinking about. Jim responds that he doesn't know if he wants gravel or not. Dave states he is allowed one entrance and exit. Loren asks if there is room behind the building? JIm says some buy there's a septic and he showed Dave around the property. It is less congested out front. Sharon asks how many feet he has to the west of the property? Jim says there is plenty of room for expansion. Dave says the parking lot is roughly 45% of the frontage. Dave says it is zoned commercial so more gravel is an option. It needs to be formalized to the board. Sharon suggests he talks to someone for recommendations and makes some calls. Dan advises Jim to get the dimensions of his property and come back to the board with what he wants to do moving forward. Dan asks what he is looking for in total for cars? Jim responds that he has been selling 20 cars a month and sold 28 cars last month. Jim wants to make a point that he makes money buying cars and wants to know what he is allowed to do. Cars fluctuate and sometimes he sells 9 a week and needs to expand to keep everyone happy.

1. Discussion and action on Alliant Energy Road Bond Agreement and Bug Tussel Road Bond Agreement

Marlina reports that the $600 fee from Alliant has been received but no bond yet. The fee doubled since a permit was not obtained prior to work. Jill states that it was only 1 bore on Scharine road. Dave states that the purpose of the bond is to keep the roads good. He suggests we have Attorney Hahn send a letter.

The Bug Tussel bond was canceled for non payment and we received notice that it was reinstated.

Still waiting for the bond agreements to be returned from Attorney Hahn.

1. Discussion and action on Braukhoff Pit/Rock Road Hauling

Mike from Rock Road presents to board. Dave interjects that he wants to speak before Mike talks to the board. He says that he has received two calls from two different people that blew tires on pot holes-1 on Minkey Road and 1 on BC Townline. Dave is aware of delays and understands that the problem potholes have been repaired. Mike responds that at the beginning of the year he met with Dave and laid out a schedule. He has been working with the guys and they said June/July would be when work is completed but plans got delayed. Overall hauling has started and they are happy with how paver patch held up. They were trying to lay it all out and by June heavy portion was fine for solar project. Dave reached out about the tires and the roads and states that we are free to hand out his number for complaints/issues. Mike states that going in to labor day they were going to patch and it was not his intention to have delays. Hes working with his crew. The plant went down and work didn't get done. Tried to come in at 3pm on a friday after the solar trucks wer done, the crew was paving on hwy 120 and something happened at the mill so they worked there until dark. Rain on Monday and there was no mix. Found out it didn't go. The crew was there by sun up. Dave says our town guy did advise that the potholes were filled. Mike says the plan for the end of year now that solar is pretty much done they have one more job to haul out which should be starting this week–Centralia in Elkhorn. Should be done hauling out in two weeks. Loren asks about the shoulder on the south side of Minkey road. Thinks it is from trucks meeting trucks and moving to the shoulders. Mike says there are a lot of shoulder issues. Loren states it is a rollover hazard–atleast 1000’ of it. Mikes responds that they use brokered trucks. Dave states the issues need to be addressed. Mike says blading is the term and that they will return the conditions of the roads. Mike states that adding base is quite a bit different. The roads will be returned to original grade and adding is a lot of ask. Dan responds that there is a lip from the edge of the road to gravel and there is a drop off. Dave state that at the culvert on Minkey road we paid to have it fixed, put pavement down to even it out. Dave says that in cases where theres nothing on the edge it needs to be shouldered. Mikes states that Rock Road has video of the existing road and is happy to meet someone out there. States Rock Road is not going to shoulder the road and they will continue to do what they are doing and will continue to be responsive. Dan says its gotten bad at times but they do respond and is just letting them know that the shoulder needs to be restored. There is concern about the pavement and the cars going off or farm equipment. Asking to get it as close to safe as they can. Mike responds that they will do what they can to make it safe short of widening the road. Mike states that just so we know they are trying to time things right for hauling to get tonnes hauled out. Dave asks how many more years do they have in the pit? Mike states they have established mining agreement. Reserve isn't mined out yet. Say we wouldn't see them taking out the volume and putting money in to the roads if this was a short term pit. Dave asks about the time frame. Mike responds he only knows cyclical money and the quarry has been there since 1960’s. Was under water for 20 years and has changed the look of it in a year. Dan says the La Prairie pit is almost done. Mike says they have hauled almost 1 million yards in. Still a lot of gravel that could be mined out. Dave says to relay the messages to drivers to be careful of bike riders, horse riders, joggers, etc and not to come in the back way. Road is broken up to the south which is not part of the haul route. Mike says that did not happen this year.

1. Discussion and Action on Invenergy Solar Project

Minutes from last Invenergy meeting was emailed out to board

1. Discussion and action on Zoning Officer Report

Marlina shared Chars report to the board

1. Discussion and action on Supervisors’ evaluation of their sections of roads

Loren says the shoulders on roads are bad. Sharon asks when the county work will be completed? Dave responds that they are behind. They were going to put a small ramp at the saw cut sections but that did not get done. Dave advises that he is going to call Pete. 1 crew is doing paving, 1 crew is doing patching. Dave was told that one crew that does a specific job but that could change. Dan states that it is not the county that is behind, its the county board that set them behind.

1. Discussion and action on roadwork, including but not limited to tree trimming, culvert repair and replacement, crack filling, ditching, shouldering, maintenance including replacement of signs and posts, paver repair, pot hole filling

Dave states that we joined the county and with inept management the county board pulls them from project to project. It is not an efficient use of time or money. Jill asks if we would be better off talking to Duane about this?

Dave says that a lot of signs have been stolen including stop signs and arrows. Other townships are having the same issues. Ben states he put signs out for Pete to replace the stolen ones.

1. Discussion and action on Town Hall Repair Committee Report

Bill has been paid for the new windows. No other work is scheduled. We would like to get money put away for the rest of the windows. Jill asks about the parking lot/driveway and extending it to the lot line. Dave says they have just been busy. A motion to get price for the remaining 4 windows and if its the same price to go forward with it (Sharon Douglas/Ben Wellnitz). Motion carries by voice vote with no negative vote.

1. Discussion and Action on Townhall Building 2

Dave sprayed weeds and it worked. He also put down siding pieces back up. Jill shares there is $27000 is left of the loan.

1. Discussion and action on approval of Driveway Permit Applications

None

1. Discussion and action on Utility Permit Applications

None

1. Discussion of 2024 Preliminary Budget

Jill and Marlina advise the board they need to start thinking about where to budget their 2024 moneys. Jill suggests putting the $27000 remaining from the loan back towards the loan. Asks if we pay back $20000 and the $12000 budgeted? Dave suggests discussing it at next months meeting. He does not think a resolution is needed since there is a resolution for the building money already.

1. Discussion and action on current rules and fee structure for animals unlicensed, without chip, or id tags and are running loose and charges for holding and maintaining captured animals

Tabled

1. Citizen Participation

Dan asks what we can do as a township for ordinances against Solar/Wind and there is the potential for a wind farm from Whitewater to Beloit.

1. Announcements and Reports
   1. The October Town Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradford Town Hall. P&Z meeting at 6:00pm
   2. Rock County Sheriff’s Report
   3. WTA meeting Thursday, Sept 21st
2. Treasurer’s Report

Jill shared the treasurers report with the board. 2nd half of the tax settlement came. Dave asks about delinquencies. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report (Dan Huisheere/Loren Bobolz) Motion carried by voice vote with no negative vote

Jill points out the increase in shared revenue for fire budget.

1. Bills for Approval

Marlina shares the bills for September. A motion to approve the September bills (Dan Huisheere/Loren Bobolz). Motion carried by voice vote with no negative vote.

1. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (Dan Huisheere/Ben Wellnitz). Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.