

Town of Newark Board

Approved Minutes of the 2023-09-11 Town Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm on September 11, 2023.

Roll Call: Chair Barb Lange, Supervisor 1 Jeff Bovee, Supervisor 2 Kevin Kangas, Treasurer Jacki Olson, Clerk Kelly Fallon. 20 audience members were present.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Approval of the Agenda: Jeff Bovee made a motion to approve the agenda with a statement that the meeting will end at 9:30pm, any remaining items on the agenda will be discussed at another meeting. Barb Lange seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Report: Audience concerns included not needing more stop signs, but more presence of the Rock County Sheriff's Department with areas of concern including County roads K and H intersection and the large curve at County Rd. K, by Roy Rd.; speeding cars and semis on Town roads. The deputy stated he will try to have increased presence. Barb Lange and Kelly Fallon shared information regarding an incident that happened in the parking lot of Town hall Sept. 11, 2023.

Minutes 2023-08-14:

Kevin Kangas stated the Joan Genz paragraph was improperly stated due to the elimination of the reason. Jeff Bovee stated if the drawing indicates 28 feet, no variance is needed.

Barb Lange stated the original drawings and the drawings presented on August 14th were different which is what led to the need for a variance. Joan Genz was going to provide the drawings to Char Martin, we can follow up with her. Jeff Bovee repeated that no variance is needed if the dripline has a side offset of 28 ft or more.

Kevin Kangas referenced the Planning Commission section of the August 14, 2023, minutes. He is concerned that he does not see any mention of the letter to Marie Ayen in the recommendations section. A lengthy discussion took place. Barb Lange stated the letter would be reviewed and brought to the Board for approval at a later date.

Kevin Kangas stated there are 5 months' worth of minutes not on the web.

Jeff Bovee stated minutes from the 7/27 Planning Commission were to be reviewed at the September meeting, but they were approved 08/24/23.

Under Planning Commission Recommendations, Kevin Kangas stated there is no mention of sending the letter to Marie Ayen. In addition, the first paragraph stated the Town of Newark "will" impose fines and that is not a recommendation. This should state The Town of Newark "recommends", not "will".

Jeff Bovee would like the 3rd paragraph in this section to state “Furthermore, a letter will be drafted and approved by the Board at a future meeting with a fee of \$50.00 per day imposed...”

Barb Lange - **Fire & EMS**. Jeff Bovee - no changes.

Barb Lange – **Audio Visual** – Kevin Kangas believes the sentence regarding how many hours Kelly has Entre work on her computer does not add to the minutes and should be removed. Jeff Bovee is okay to remove it, as is Barb Lange.

Barb Lange – **Audit Update** – Kevin Kangas would like the minutes changed to remove “will work” and instead state “met”, as Kevin met with Matt Kenter at 7:00 a.m. on 8/14/23.

ATV/UTV - Kevin Kangas is concerned about the second paragraph. He was not providing a report as he had already provided it to the entire Board. Change the first sentence to read “...review this in September, and include the report previously provided by Kevin Kangas.

Barb Lange – **Roads** show no changes.

Barb Lange - **Mowing?** Kevin Kangas has asked that we remove the sentence that reads “Kevin Kangas asked if we should impose punishment for not meeting the requirements.

Barb Lange – **Maintenance** – Please change the vote to read “A vote was taken with Barb Lange and Jeff Bovee voting Yay and Kevin Kangas abstaining.

Barb Lange - **Treasurers Report**: No comments

Kevin Kangas questions why the quick meeting date paragraph is located at the end of the Treasurer’s Report. Barb Lange explained that is the time in the meeting when the discussion had taken place to have that quick meeting, so it is chronologically in the right place.

Barb Lange - **Proposed bills** show no changes.

Barb Lange made a motion to approve the August 14, 2023, minutes with the noted edits and changes, and then to be put on the web. Jeff Bovee seconded the motion.

Barb Lange asked if there was any further discussion. Kevin Kangas stated “I vote no because so much is wrong.

Barb Lange indicated we will work on the corrections, but is there any further discussion on the motion? No comments. A vote was taken; Jeff Bovee and Barb Lange voted Yay; Kevin Kangas voted Nay.

Minutes 8/24/2023

Kevin Kangas reiterated the lack of minutes on the web page. Barb Lange asked him to email that list to the clerk to follow up on.

Draft of legal letter to Ms. Ayen: Please add after Barb Lange motioned for these edits “to be done by the attorney and brought back to the Board for approval.”

Barb Lange made a motion to approve the 08/24/2023 minutes with edits. Kevin Kangas seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

09/11/2023

Audience Communication: Wes Wieland asked about a light for the flag. Also, he is concerned that mowing 100 feet from the door of Town Hall is not done, he would like the ordinance enforced. Mr. Wieland has concerns about junk cars being stored on the property next to him he is asking the Town Board to enforce the ordinance about junk cars.

No additional audience communication.

Variance for Keith Berner:

There was extensive discussion with Mr. Berner regarding offsets, as well as the number of accessory buildings currently on the property.

Jeff Bovee volunteered to research the possibility of exempting buildings for purposes of counting accessory buildings for code limits.

Kevin Kangas moved, “that we table the Berner variance request while we research options to exempt buildings from the accessory building code”. Jeff Bovee seconded the motion. A vote was taken, 2 yay votes and 1 nay vote.

Brandon Allen variance:

There was extensive discussion with Mr. Allen regarding offsets and whether the current building was erected with a variance. If so, ordinances 9.1 and 9.3 state you cannot grant a variance on a building site that already has a violation of the ordinance. The discussion included whether the building could be put elsewhere on the property, to not need a variance. Mr. Allen will consider this.

Kevin Kangas made a motion to reject Brandon Allen’s variance request. Jeff Bovee seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Draft of Attorney Letter to Ms. Ayen, Parcel 6-14-242

There was extensive discussion regarding the letter, with thought given to potential financial penalties the property owner may be facing.

Jeff Bovee motioned to send the letter with an additional comment regarding fines beginning 30 days after receipt of the letter unless there is contact with the DNR as well as a plan to remedy

the overhead electrical lines. Barb Lange seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Loan application update:

Barb Lange reported the loan application for \$100,000 has been submitted, along with a letter of explanation. No further action currently, waiting for the state to reply.

Fire/EMS:

Barb Lange and John Sheehan went to the Town of Beloit Fire Station where they were given the draft of a contract for review. The contract is 100% as in the original proposed agreement, except for the cost-of-service increase. The original draft requested full payment of fees as of January 1st each year, but that has now been changed to half payment on February 1st and the remaining half payment September 1st.

The increases are not in the contract. This year the union increase was 2.5%. John Sheehan stated the change includes up to 3% CPI and 3% wage increase.

Discussion included the intent of CPI, as well as the question of whether wage increases would be fixed overall or just on the labor portion of the contract.

Barb Lange will speak with the Town of Beloit regarding the concerns and bring the information back to the Board at a future meeting for possible approval.

Audit

No updates

Roads:

Barb Lange is beginning the necessary road ratings.

Mowing:

Jeff Bovee reports the mowing of the cemeteries is a fixed contract, we have to pay it.

Maintenance:

Barb Lange had two companies come to the town hall to provide an estimate for the cleaning of the basement. ServPro explained the process and it will take 1 to 2 days to completely clean the basement. The money was budgeted for this and was allocated out of the ARPA funds. Barb Lange is requesting to move forward with this.

Kevin Kangas is wondering if there is a leak or if the walls are “sweating” in the winter. Barb Lange explained that Dave Lange came to the Town Hall during the last couple of rainstorms. He was able to see the water coming in and documented.

Recommendation has been made on how to stop the leaks, after Tom Popp Inc. has corrected the flow of water into the basement.

Barb Lange made a motion to accept the quote from ServPro for \$4814.75 and hire them to remediate mold and other hazards. The motion was seconded by Kevin Kangas. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Kevin Kangas made a motion to extend the time of the Board meeting to pay bills. Jeff Bovee seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

The Clerk explained Ck # 12699 had an error and check number 12718 replaced that check for the same amount. The clerk also stated she had just received the Entre Computer Solutions statement and would like to add it to the proposed bills.

Barb Lange made a motion to pay the proposed bills and include the Entre Computer solutions bill. Kevin Kangas seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Jacki Olson provided an itemized report of income and disbursements for the month of August 2023.

Kevin Kangas made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jeff Bovee seconded the motion. A vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Barb Lange made a motion, the Town Board meet on September 19, 2023, AT 7:00P M at Town Hall to complete the agenda items 8, and 12-16. The motion was seconded by Kevin Kangas. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Bovee. The motion was seconded by Barb Lange. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57.