**Town of Clayton**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**January 12, 2017**

Chairman Bill Vanda called the posted meeting to order at 7:07pm after the Town Caucus. Also present were Supervisor Roger Olson, Supervisor Jake Balog, Supervisor Scott Gilbertson, Supervisor Tom Nonemacher, Treasurer Jane Leschisin, Clerk Tracy LaBlanc and Roadman Jamie Wood. Also Present were 22 residents and 4 non-residents.

The Clerk presented a signed affidavit as to where and when the meeting was posted.

**Minutes** – Roger moved, with a second by Scott to accept the December 8, 2016, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s report**- shows a balance of $11,046.36 in the checking and $142,666.99 in the Money Market account for a total of $153,713.35. Jake moved, with a second by Roger to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented. Motion carried.

**Bill Payment** – Jake moved, with a second by Scott, to approve payment of voucher #12618 to #12647, and pay State & Federal Withholdings & WRS for a total of $299,029.89. Motion carried.

**BUSINESS:**

**RENTING OF TOWNS 3.05 OPEN LAND**- Jeff Olson doesn’t want to rent the land this year. With no one else currently interested in renting at this time, this was tabled.

**RENEW BUILDING INSPECTORS CONTRACT-** Tracy gave the board copies of the current contract to look over, the current one expired on Jan. 1 2017. We are looking only to extend or change the wording on the contract as far as the expiration date of the contract goes. Currently we need 120 days for Jim Price or us to terminate services. After some discussion on dates VS the 120 day termination period, Roger moved with a second by Jake to amend the current contract using dates and go with the 120 day termination period. Motion carried. Scott abstained from voting on this. Tracy will ask Jim for an updated contract to reflect these changes.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**ROADMAN Report**- Prior to Jamie’s report, Bill explained that Tom had talked with the County Hwy Dept. about services they could provide if needed, Bill asked Tom to explain those services. Tom stated the county is cheaper than any other contracted service and they are available to do any service that needs to be done in the event we can’t get them done. After some lengthy discussion Tom explained we had until January 15th to get the backup service authorization form signed and back to the county. Scott moved with a second by Tom to accept the county as backup. Motion carried. Bill explained Jamie was gone this last week and so it was his call regarding the snow removal, stating that he made the call when to send the plows out and he misjudged the snow amounts and for that he apologized. Pam VanHeuklom asked how many miles of roads need plowing? Kevin Marlett spoke up and said, we have 51 miles of roads and it takes 52 gallons of fuel and the average speed is 8.7 miles hr. Bill explained its 52 miles or 104 miles both ways. Question was asked by a resident why there is a need for the part time help, when it wasn’t needed in the past when Kevin was here, and this must cost more than having one person doing the job? Bill explained that even with having a full time and 1 part time now and then, we aren’t paying out any more than what Kevin was paid. Pam V. asked if Kevin ever had part time help? Bill explained Kevin didn’t want help, he chose to do things alone, and he also chose not to take much time off, he was proud of what he did. A resident spoke and said, he did a good job. Bill said, he did a fair job. Jackie Marlett said, he did a fair job or a good job? Bill explained yes he did a fair job, and there are 2 sides to every story and we should make sure its factual and the fact is Kevin should still be here today but he quit on us, so our next step was to hire someone to fill his position and that is what we did, and the only reason Kevin isn’t here today is he left on his own. A resident asked how do we get him back? Bill explained that at this point we don’t, he’s a disgruntled employee and he has proven nothing but being disgruntled. Kevin stood up and stated that when he asked for some help, he was told he could get school kids to help, he asked for gravel for 2 yrs. in a row and didn’t get it. Bill stated he’s aware of all that, and there was a different board then and there is a different board and thought process today, that wasn’t the best way to handle that then and there should have been a better way for Kevin to approach this, but he chose to just walk away, so at this time we are going to move ahead with who we have hired and make the best of it. For Jamie’s report, Jamie mentioned he has been plowing and sanding roads.

**CLERK’S Report-** Tracy mentioned she called the insurance company regarding the DOT inspections like the board asked her to and Carl stated, he knows it’s not required and it doesn’t change the liability at all, but agrees it’s a negative towards Rural if they aren’t inspected, as the insurance would rather them be inspected for potential issues. That being said, Scott moved with a second by Tom to get DOT inspections on the vehicles. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN’S Report-** Bill mentioned the WTA meeting is at the county on Jan 26th @7pm. at the Gov. Center. Bill stated that one question that will be coming up at that meeting is the county is talking about moving ahead with a county wide animal ordinance. Bill stated currently we have hired Darel Hall for our animal control, so we will see where it goes with what the county is looking at. Tom stated there are no punishments at this time and he has an issue he wants to address at this time. Tom stated last fall there was an issue that was enacted and punishment was set on Odell Olson with a fine, and right now there is no punishment for one, and the board handles that not a clerk, and he moves that it be removed as it wasn’t handled correctly or legally. Bill explained the way the contract reads and how it was presented when Darel is called for services, this isn’t a fine it is a bill for services provided by him. Tom said, these issues need to be brought to the chair and handled by the board, so this has been done illegally. Bill explained this is brought to the board as a bill, and it is then sent out as a bill by the clerk as this is what the clerk does. This is an outstanding bill. Tom showed Scott a copy of the bill in question for Odell. A resident spoke, asking if we hired this person to provide services for the town? Bill stated yes the board contracted his services. Resident stated then the board accepted the terms of his contract/services then. Tom disagreed and stated it doesn’t work like that, you need to get your facts. Resident stated it does, it’s part of the contract. Tom stated everything needs to go through the chairman, the board decides and then it’s passed and gone through. Clerk Tracy explained that Darel sends her a bill for the services he provided for the town, the town then pays him for those services and then it is up to the clerk to send a bill to the resident for reimbursement to the town for services that were provided. Tom asked if it was done correctly? Bill stated he believes it was. Tom thinks this should be looked into, because he hears different. Bill will follow up on this, but it is a bill that came out of tax dollars. Roger asked to have animal control put on next months agenda. Carol Wozniak asked if the WTA had been contacted to get advice as to how to handle this? Bill will check into this.

**PUBLIC COMMENT- (max 3 min) –**  Here to speak was Dan Tolan the new & currently appointed Circuit Court Branch 1 Polk County judge and he spoke about himself and his background and his candidacy for the judge position and came out to meet the people from this area. Also here to speak was Malia Malone who is also running for the Circuit Court Branch 1 Polk County judge position and she spoke about herself and her background and her candidacy for the judge position and also came to meet the people from this area. Both candidates handed out personal candidacy literature and they hope that everyone gets out to vote on Feb. 21st at the Spring Primary Election. Carol McKay asked if was really necessary to have on the agenda in large letters max 3 min per person? Bill explained this is new to the agenda and we could drop it down but that isn’t really what the issue is. Carol McKay stated the issue is, it makes it look like sometimes, the issue is not a 3 minute issue and you really don’t want a lot of public comment. Bill explained the reason for the 3 minute limitation is to avoid the heated discussions and to control the meetings, and just stick to comments and not discuss it in detail, and if it is something that needs to be discussed in more detail it can be put on the agenda to do so. Bill stated during public comment he would also like to hear positive comments not just the comments that are trying to crush someone for something, we are here to try to make the community better. Roger Olson stated that in the past during public comment we have had multiple people talking/commenting on an issue and then other groups would start talking about things amongst themselves at the same time so nothing was coming through to the board. Jake Balog stated the nice thing about 3 min is then we can hear from more people and not just the same person for 25 min., and this change was just made by the board and this way by having it on the agenda everyone knows about it. Jackie Marlett asked if this was something that needs to have a motion and a board approved to set the time limit then? Bill stated we did have a motion and Odell was chair at the time, and we made a motion to go to the 3 min., as far as public comment that is an option we would like to keep on, it is not a requirement of a business meeting, we feel it’s important to hear from the residents and get their feedback good, bad or otherwise. Cindy Vanda spoke stating it doesn’t matter who the road person is there are going to be times like this week storms when they can’t get to all the roads, Kevin included he didn’t get to them all every time it snowed either. Jamie was on vacation this week, Kevin chose not to take time off and that was his decision, but Jamie earned it and he took it, and we had backup help. Bill called the county and they pulled their crews so this was not just Clayton, and driving on D now still isn’t real great. We need to support whoever is our roadman, Kevin resigned and left no choice but to hire someone and Jamie is that person and its time as a board and community to step up and support him as he is doing the best he can do, he doesn’t deserve all the bashings like he isn’t doing anything, it’s time to support our community and be done with it. Carol VanHeuklom stated she came to the meeting to support Kevin the night he decided to resign and several asked him not to, Kevin did a good job and this little guy is doing ok too. Gordon Weber stated most of us have been in the township for quite a while and a few are acting like this is new, every town chairman has faced the same thing, now we are all so concerned and worried, where have we been all these other years? We need to do some thinking. Paul Gehrman directed this towards the board, stating its good they are in contact with the county as breakdowns and things can happen at any time and you might need their help, but also remember we have over two hundred thousand dollars worth of equipment in the shed and only one guy to run it. The board needs to look at getting this equipment we own that is sitting there to work to serve these people. We all complain about the road issues and our equipment sits here because no one is here to run it. So if they want a better service the board needs to implement that. There just needs to be a little better planning for these types of situations, not when the issues are upon us. The board needs to look forward at summer help or winter help and plan it better. Tom Nonemacher commented stating that he would of planned this back in Oct. if it was left up to him, and there would have been no time off during a time period when we needed him the most, the machinery can be used yes, so far it’s been left up to our roadman and he’s hired employees so these things could be moving, if it’s up to me they would be moving or they’d be gone. Kevin Marlett stated that everyone seems to think this is about bashing Jamie it’s not about bashing Jamie, I feel bad about that part of it, it’s really not, we should of hired someone with experience to operate our equipment, then we could put in culverts and then the part timers would come in handy. Tom stated it starts with the board, with the chair to be in close contact to make decisions together that’s how it gets done, when management doesn’t make decisions the help can’t do anything. It’s not all the workers fault, it’s the board and chair and until we fix the board the issues won’t get fixed.

Bill thanked our Treasurer Jane Leschisin for all her years of service with the town, also letting her know she will be truly missed.

**CLOSED SESSION-per Wis. Statute 19.85 (1)(c) personnel issues-**

Jake moved, with a second by Roger to Adjourn meeting and go into Closed Session. Meeting

adjourned at 8:05pm. Motion carried. Roll call going into Closed Session was Bill-Yes, Roger-Yes, Jake

Yes, Scott-Yes, Tom-Yes. After closed session discussion, Scott moved with a second by Tom to

Reconvene into open session and accept the closed session discussion. Roll call coming out was Bill- Yes, Roger -Yes, Jake-Yes, Scott-Yes, Tom-Yes. No other action was taken at this time.

**Adjournment-**  Scott moved, with a second by Jake to adjourn at 8:50pm. Motion carried.

**Date & Time of Next Meeting:** Regular Board Meeting

February 9, 2017 at 7pm. – Voucher Approval at 6:45pm.

February 21, 2017- **SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION**

Tracy LaBlanc, Clerk