

Town of Merton
Town Board Meeting
Minutes of August 12, 2024

- Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Klink Immediately following the public hearing.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Klink
- Minutes- Minutes of the Board of Review of July 22, 2024 and the Minutes of Town Board Meeting of July 22, 2024. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Fleming/Herrick. Motion carried.

Present: Chairman Klink, Supervisors Herrick, Olson, Fleming and Morris, DPW Director Griffin, Treasurer Kempen, and Clerk Hann. Absent: Atty Murn.

Also, in attendance: Edward Schlumpf, John Marchek, Mark Adams, Andrew & Michelle Miner, Liz Tobolt, Marge & Ray Hager, Chief Bowen.

Citizen Comments and Concerns: John Marchek spoke on the Fire Inspection Fees charged by the Village of Merton Fire Department. Liz Tobolt spoke on Fire Fees and that farmers should not be taxed or charged a fire fee.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Consider/Act on Resolution to Vacate and Discontinue a Portion of Forest Drive abutting properties located at W3296N6597 Forest Drive (Tax Key No. MRTT0367011), W329N6579 Forest Drive (Tax Key No. MRTT0367009, unassigned mailing address (Tax Key No. MRTT0367010), unassigned mailing address (Tax Key No. MRTT0367011), and W329N6573 Forest Drive (Tax Key No. MRTT0367012, including the revision of title as to vacated public way. Chairman Klink stated no concerns were made at the public hearing and the resolution is now before the board. A motion to approve the resolution to Vacate and Discontinue a Portion of Forest Drive was made by Herrick/Olson.
- Consider/Act on Request from Edward Schlumpf to opt out of garbage collection for second residence on one tax parcel MRTT 0334.991. Clerk Hann stated that it was brought to the Town's attention that there are two residential houses on one tax key and the current garbage/recycling policy is to charge each house. A bill was sent to Mr. Schlumpf and he asked to be put on the agenda. Mr. Schlumpf stated his property has two residential houses which can not be separated. Clerk Hann stated the renter called and his address was not recognized by the Garbage Company and he has a separate container from the Schumpf's. Supervisor Herrick motioned to allow Mr. Schlumpf to have one can. There was no second to Supervisor Herrick's motion. Motion died for a lack of a second. Discussion followed. A motion to reject the request from Mr. Schlumpf and not change the policy was made by Morris/Fleming. Herrick opposed. Motion carried 4 yeas and 1 nay.

- Consider/Act on Refund Request for Kaul K Kaun LLC for Lot 1 thru Lot 21 of Helene Estates. Clerk Hann explained that Mr. Kaun contacted the town about the high fire fee on a plat map for Helene Estates and it was noticed that this parcel is not developed into a subdivision, yet and is being farmed. However, since the plat was recorded it created 21 separate tax keys and two out lots for this parcel. Attorney Tobolt represented Kaul Kaun stated that the fee should be determined as farm land and not each lot. Clerk Hann stated that he was charged \$100 for each 21 separate tax keys and the refund should be determined based on last year charge amount of acreages. A motion to refund the amount over the 2023 fire fee for 67.54 acres of farm land to Kaul K Kaun LLC was made by Morris/Herrick. Motion carried
- Consider/Act on Outdoor Event request for Harvest Fest - North Lake Fireman's Park on September 21, 2024. DPW Director Griffin stated the part of the road will be closed on Friday and Saturday for the event. A motion to approve the outdoor event for Harvest Fest was made by Herrick/Olson. Motion carried.
- Consider/Act on Outdoor Event request for the Car Show @ Stone Bank Community Park on August 25, 2024. A motion to approve the outdoor event request for the Car Show at Stone Bank Community Park was made by Herrick/Olson. Motion carried.
- Consider/Act on Outdoor Event request on Woodrest Drive for Jean Schlidt. A motion to approve the outdoor event request from Jean Schlidt by Fleming/Olson. Motion carried.
- Consider/Act on Repealing and Re-Create Ordinance 15.08 (7) Exterior of Property Area Requirements (g) and (h). Chairman Klink stated the plan commission reviewed a request to update the ordinance on exterior requirements. Supervisor Olson thought this change is taking away some power away from the Town to enforces issues. DPW Director stated that several of the subdivision are trying to cut back on mowing costs however they still would be responsible for spraying the weeds. A motion to repeal and re-create Ordinance 15.08 (7) Exterior of Property Area Requirements (g) and (h) was made by Morris/Fleming. Discussion followed on how to determined what is prairie grass. Chairman Klink stated that as long as the noxious weed section is still in the ordinance that can be enforced. Motion opposed by Olson/Herrick. Motion carried 3 yeas and 2 nays.
- Discussion with Western Lakes on future agreement with the Village of Hartland and Western Lakes. Chief Brad Bowen spoke to the Town Board on working with the Village of Hartland for an agreement for the area in the Town currently being covered by the Village of Hartland Fire Department. Chief Bowen stated that the Village Chief would be in agreement for a longer-term agreement rather than annual. Chief Bowen stated that the Village of Hartland Board would be reviewing the new agreement in the next month.

- Discussion with Western Lakes on future ALS service agreement with Western Lakes Fire Department, Village of Hartland Fire Department and Village of Merton Fire Department. The Village of Merton Fire Department does not have their own Paramedic Service License, they currently use the Village of Lisbon Fire Department license which will be dissolved later this year. To ensure that all the residents of the Town of Merton have Paramedic Services the Village of Merton Fire Department will have to enter in an agreement with Western Lakes. The Village of Merton will have to cover those additional costs for Paramedic Services to their residents that is provided by Western Lakes.
- Western Lakes Six Month Report on Fire/EMS runs in the Town of Merton from Western Lakes, Village of Hartland Fire Department, and Village of Merton Fire Department. Chief Bowen handed out the run figures for the three fire departments. He stated that everyone is seeing an increase in call volume this year.
- Update from Western Lakes on Fire Inspection Invoices from the Village of Merton Fire Department to Town of Merton Businesses. Chief Bowen talked about his discussion with the Village of Merton on how the Town was not notified about these invoices going out. He also stated he was waiting for the Village of Merton to respond about waiving the inspection invoice for the North Lake School District since they waived the inspection fee for the Merton Community School. Clerk Hann asked that the Village of Merton Fire Department check how they are determining square footage for the business that they are billing because some the invoices this year had the wrong square footage.

Clerk, Board, Highway, Treasurer and Attorney Reports. Treasurer Kempen reviewed information from her meeting with the Merton Community Fire Department to review their finances from 2023.

Vouchers as Presented - A motion to approve the vouchers as presented was made by Olson/Herrick. Motion carried.

Budget to Actual - Treasurer Kempen presented the first quarter budget to actual report for 2024. A motion to approve the Budget to Actual report was made by Morris/Olson. Motion carried.

Quarterly journal - A motion to approve the quarterly journal entries was made by Morris/Fleming. Motion carried.

Adjourn - A motion to adjourn was made by Fleming/Herrick. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Donna Hann, Town Clerk