

BUDGET HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - - - MINUTES

Budget Hearing and Special town Meeting were held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at the Dovre Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Chairman Dean Trowbridge, and Supervisors - Jim Plummer, Dan North, Tim Nelson, Mitch Hanson Clerk/Treasurer, Linda K. Reinolt, and Nine (9) Residents were present and Consultant, Greg LaFond. Names of the Residents present are available from the Clerk.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean Trowbridge.

Roll Call Vote – All Supervisors Present.

Each Resident present had a copy of the Proposed 2015 Budget with projections through 2017 prepared by Consultant, Greg LaFond.

Mr. LaFond presented information with regard to Surveys he took that included 54 Wisconsin Municipalities with regard to Salary paid to the Chairman, Board Members and Clerk/Treasurer. The Municipalities had Similar Population and Equalized Values as the Town of Dovre. Town of Dovre ranked 50 out of 54 and 26 out of 27. Stating that this Board has spent an enormous amount of time on necessary Town Business with regard to the Sand Plants, etc. Chairman's Salary is currently \$1,695.00 and he is suggesting an increase to \$7,500.00. Board Members Salary is currently \$1,075.00 and a suggested increase to \$4,000.00. Clerk/Treasurer Salary is currently \$16,300.00 and a suggested increase to \$17,500.00. No change in Per Diem and Mileage reimbursement. This would bring the Salaries up to the middle rank. These increases have been incorporated into the Proposed Budget.

The Proposed Budget projections show the Town Levy amounts decreasing through 2017 due to the Sand Companies Royalty Payments each year that will be increasing each year and Superior Silica Sand will also be paying the Town of Dovre approximately \$64,000.00 because of the Annexation into the Village of New Auburn. Per State Law, the Village is to pay Town of Dovre for a period of 5 years, the amount of tax the Town of Dovre would have received equal to the amount paid to the Town of Dovre on the 2013 Tax Roll. Debt Service – \$230,000.00 – the Amount that will be borrowed in 2015 for building and equipping the new Dovre Town Hall. Loan payments will start in 2016 and will be budgeted for 2016. Proposed Town Levy for 2015 - \$300,000.00. LaFond reviewed School Districts and other Entities Levies and approximate per thousand dollar Mill Rates.

Cathy Albrecht – Question – Dovre has a Consultant and this has been very helpful to the Board – Is it necessary to have 5 Board Members, being 1 Chairman and 4 Board Members? Lafond - Dovre is a million dollar operation now. Since 2010, 181 Towns have gone from 3 member town boards to 5 member town boards. Property Values in the Town show they are holding, not decreasing. Royalties from each of the Sand Companies will increase because of the increase in each sand company's production. We have received royalty payments from Great Northern Sand LLC and Chieftain Sand and Proppant Barron LLC. For 5 years these royalty payments will be used toward the Property Value Guarantee Payments from the Town of Dovre. After the 5 years time period the Town will no longer be liable for these payments and monies will be used to finance the Town. Northern Industrial Sand and Sioux Creek Silica will also be paying Royalty Payments to the Town of Dovre beginning in 2015. This will mean the Town Levy will be reduced each year. Property Value Guarantees - Is there enough money in the Royalty Funds to cover the Property Value Guarantee Payments? These funds will be increased at the end of January 2015. LaFond - There are several properties that will probably go up for sale and if not sold on the open market will probably be purchased by Great Northern Sand LLC, and then no PVG will be paid by the Town of Dovre.

Chairman Trowbridge – 5 Person Board – Better to have 5 opinions to work with and don't think the Town Business could be run effectively with a 3 Person Board. There are many meetings to attend and issues to address. Supervisor Plummer – Has attended 47 Meetings so far this year. 5 Board Members do not always agree on issues, but with compromise, etc problems are worked out. He feels the 5 Person Board works better than the 3 Person board.

Lafond – Recommends to Board this is how you should operate and what he thinks they should do. New Revenues – Mining Operations Application - \$25,000.00; Conveyor Application - \$10,000.00; License Fee - \$50,000.00; Each year – Each road the conveyor will cross - \$10,000.00 per road.

Cathy Albrecht – Is there record of all the information going back and forth between the Board Members and LaFond? LaFond stated all emails are put into 3 ring binders and he has many of them on file.

Board - No comments.

Motion by Trowbridge, seconded by Nelson to Adjourn the Budget Hearing, Motion Carried.

Special Town Meeting

Nine (9) Town Residents Present - Five (5) Board Members and Clerk/Treasurer and Consultant, Greg LaFond. Names of Residents present are available from the Clerk.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean Trowbridge.

Roll Call Vote – All Supervisors Present.

To Consider Salary Increase for Town Board Chairman, Supervisors and Clerk/Treasurer positions.

Motion by Harelstad, seconded by Albrecht to approve the proposed Salary Increases for Town Board Chairman to \$7,500.00, Supervisors to \$4,000.00 and Clerk/Treasurer to \$17,500, Motion Carried with 8 Yes Votes – 0 No Votes and 1 Abstained Vote by the Electors. No change in Per Diem and Mileage Reimbursement.

To approve the Total Highway Expenditures for 2015 pursuant to Sec. 82.03(2)(a) of Wis. Statutes, allowing the Town Board to allocate funds greater than \$5000.00 Per Mile of Roads in the Town of Dovre.

Motion by Al Albrecht Seconded by Ron Brewster to approve the Total Highway Expenditures of \$519,700.00 proposed in the 2015 Budget. No Further Discussion, Motion Carried with 14 Yes Votes – 0 No Votes and 0 Abstained Votes by the Electors.

Motion by Al Albrecht to approve the Proposed 2014 Tax Levy of \$300,000.00, to be paid in 2015, Seconded by Dean Trowbridge, No Further Discussion, Motion Carried with 14 Yes Votes – 0 No Votes and 1 Abstained Vote by the Electors.

Motion by Tim Nelson, to adjourn the Special Town Meeting, Seconded by Dan North, Motion Carried with a Unanimous Vote of Yes by the Electors.

Linda K. Reinolt, Clerk
Town of Dovre, Barron