

**2024 BUDGET HEARING
TOWN OF MARION, GRANT COUNTY, WI**

1. **Call to Order:** Steve Peer, Chairman, called the Public Budget Hearing for 2024 to order on November 21, 2023, at 6:33 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Steve Peer, Chairman; Jerrod Waterman, Supervisor, Bob Frey, Supervisor, Judi Boughton, Clerk and Laurie King, Treasurer.
3. Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Laurayne Fischer, Tom Haile, Randy Dombek.
4. **Verification of Public Notice:** The notice of meeting was published Thursday, November 2, 2023 and Thursday, November 16, 2023, in the Boscobel Dial. Notice of meeting was posted at the town shop and on the town web site on October 31, 2023. The agenda was posted November 15, 2023.
5. **Minutes of November 1, 2023, Special Meeting on Budget:** A motion made by Bob Frey to approve the November 1, 2023, minutes. The motion was seconded by Jerrod Waterman.
6. **Budget Review:** A copy of the proposed budget, budget summary and budget cover sheet were distributed to all who were present for review and input.
7. Citizen Input: None.
8. **Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bob. Jerrod seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

**2024 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS
OF THE TOWN OF MARION, GRANT COUNTY**

1. **Call to Order:** Steve Peer, Chairman, called the Special Town Meeting of Electors to approve the 2023 Town of Marion tax levy to be collected in 2024 pursuant to s. 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Stats. to order on November 21, 2023, at 6:39 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Steve Peer, Chairman; Jerrod Waterman, Supervisor, Bob Frey, Supervisor, Judi Boughton, Clerk and Laurie King, Treasurer.
9. Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Laurayne Fischer, Tom Haile, Randy Dombek.
3. **Verification of Public Notice:** The notice of meeting was published Thursday, November 2, 2023 and Thursday, November 16, 2023, in the Boscobel Dial. Notice of meeting was posted at the town shop and on the town web site on October 31, 2023. The agenda was posted November 15, 2023.
4. **Budget Review:** A copy of the proposed budget, budget summary and budget cover sheet were distributed to all who were present for review and input incorporating a local town levy in the amount of \$185,937.00. This includes an adjustment increase of \$18,980.00 on Section D, line E of the 2023 Municipal Levy Limit Worksheet (debt service levy for general obligation debt authorized after July 1, 2005).
5. **Vote of Electors to approve the 2023 town tax levy to be collected in 2024 pursuant to s. 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Stats.** A vote was taken of the electors of the Town of Marion to adopt the town tax levy for 2023 to be collected in 2024 in the amount of \$185,937. Eight electors were present. There were 8 electors voting aye, 0 nay and 0 abstaining. Resolution no. 2023-002 – Resolution for Electors to Adopt the Town Tax Levy at Special Town Meeting of the Electors was adopted and signed by the chairman and clerk adopting the town tax levy in the amount of \$185,937.00.
6. **Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jerrod. Bob seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF MARION
NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

- 7. Call to Order:** Steve Peer, Chairman, called the regular Board meeting for the month of November to order at 6:48 p.m.
- 8. Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Steve Peer, Chairman; Jerrod Waterman, Supervisor; Bob Frey, Supervisor; Judi Boughton, Clerk and Laurie King, Treasurer.
- 10.** Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Laurayne Fischer, Tom Haile, Randy Dombek.
- 9. Approval of Agenda:** Jerrod made a motion to keep the agenda items in the order posted. Steve seconded the motion.
- 10. Proof of Publication of Meeting Notice:** The notice of meeting was published Thursday, November 2, 2023 and Thursday, November 16, 2023, in the Boscobel Dial. Notice of meeting was posted at the town shop and on the town web site on October 31, 2023.
- 11. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the October 9, 2023, board meeting were distributed to all who were present and, after everyone had a chance to review the minutes, a motion was made by Bob to approve them. The motion was seconded by Steve.
- 12. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was prepared by Laurie King and read by Laurie as follows:

Checking	\$	8,903.53
Equipment fund savings		13,682.09
Red school house restoration		3,254.21
People's Money Market		99,602.37
ARPA Funds		6,433.57
Local Gov't Inv Pool		<u>24.05</u>
Total:	\$	131,899.82

Loan Summary: Regarding the loan with Peoples State Bank, the terms of the loan are 2.49% fixed annual rate until 2025. The current loan balance is \$109,351.36. Payments of \$16,500 are due to continue quarterly until a final payment is made in June 2025. The money market account balance does include the shared revenue deposit.

- 13. Citizen Input:** None.

14. Old Business:

- **Update on Tower Road – Surveying/Quit Claim Deed:** There is nothing new from Austin Engineering on this.
- **Update on ARPA Project – Allocation of Remaining Funds (\$6,431.00):** A motion was made by Jerrod to table this for the next meeting. Bob seconded the motion and Judi will see if there are other funds available to purchase the remaining balance on the ICE voting machine or if we may wish to apply the voting machine expense to the ARPA funds.
- **Update on Replacing Bridge By Marion Church With Culvert:** Bob said he has heard the county is not planning on this culvert project but recommends it be done early in the spring to give the ground time to settle. Steve said they told him they had ordered the tube and Bob said he heard the county had nothing in the plans to tear out the bridge. Steve will follow up on this.
- **Proposal for Township to Switch ICX Voting Machine to ICE:** Judi recommended the township upgrade to the ICE voting machine per recommendation of the county and Command Central. The ICX machine has a flaw with listing the names of the write-ins in the results portion of the election tape and the only way to collect the names of the write-ins is to scroll through the entire paper roll from the election. Most townships are using the ICE machine and the county will also be able to get the results faster with this machine. Also discussed storage of the base of the machine and office documents currently kept at the clerk's and treasurer's homes and how these are accumulating. Judi asked about the possibility of the township purchasing a storage container to be put on the property of the township that could be used for storage. This was discussed and the need for a pad for the unit and shelving. Jerrod made a motion to purchase the ICE voting machine and a 40' storage unit. Bob seconded the motion. Judi will call the company that is advertising shipping containers in Boscobel and check out prices.

15. New Business:

- **Winter Road Mix Update.** Discussed how the township will be storing winter road mix. Bob wants to use the salt shed, keep cleaning it out and refilling it. Steve said when they were doing the pile of road mix, there was no cover and it was getting lumpy, so they moved to the shed and there were big lumps towards the end of the season that they couldn't get broken up. Steve thinks we need a pile and cover it up so you can get to it. Randy Dombek was present and said you can have a pile as long as it is covered. Steve said it is a good idea to get some ahead. Steve votes make a pile out in the open and keep it covered up. Bob prefers to fill the shed 2 or 3 times because the tractor is right there and you can plug it in. Steve said what is in the shed now from last year had big chunks and may need to have more salt with it. Steve said we need to have salt piled somewhere so we don't run out as we are not guaranteed we can purchase it if there is a shortage and prefers to have salt mixed and piled. The township is in the process of putting a new roof on the salt shed and Bob wants to fill the shed more than once if necessary. Steve said to put on pile above and cover up. Discussed purchasing fines

from Bob since his quarry is so close and he said he will have it available. The township will pick up. Bob said gravel is \$6.60/ton picked up.

- **Approval of Tax Newsletter Draft:** Laurie put together the newsletter that will be included with the tax bills and handed out to all for review. The board approved the newsletter.
 - **Delinquent Personal Property Report:** Laurie provided a delinquent personal property report stating the township is responsible for collection of delinquent personal property tax. The county is responsible for collecting delinquent real estate property tax. She continues to bill for year 2020-2022 the amount of \$119.21 and years 2016-2022 of \$91.41.
 - **Approval of 2024 Calendar:** Judi provided a copy of the proposed 2024 calendar for review. Jerrod made a motion to approve the calendar. Bob seconded the motion.
 - **Update on Bid on Culvert on Pine Knob and Town Hall Road:** No bids have been received on this project and this will be added to the December agenda.
 - **Update on 7400 International at Jerrell's:** Steve said the International is supposed to be done, but he has not heard anything.
 - **Update on Grader:** The grader needs a rear seal, maybe a crank shaft and possibly other things once the engine is pulled out. Steve said we will have to complete this when we get extra money. Bob said it leaks oil and the concern is the seal may go completely out. The board agrees it needs to be repaired.
 - **Update on Locks and Camera:** The cheapest route for the camera would be an SD card. Bob discussed the cellular ones also, \$200 to \$300 for a camera. Upper shed needs to be locked and has the same key as the lower shed. Discussed Todd King had keys made and will need to get a key for Bob. Bob said cameras need to be high enough on shed so no one can though them. Steve will be taking all the tires to Highland and Tom will be taking the TVs to J&J's. Discussed starting with one cell phone cameral.
 - **Complete WISLR Local Road Certification:** Steve and Judi will meet to get the paperwork sent in before the deadline in December.
 - Bob asked about who would plow snow. Steve said he would work for \$14/hour and Nathan would plow snow for \$12/hour. Bob said we need to take care of trucks, wash, grease, take salt out at end of day and clean out. Bue light needs to be changed out in new truck. Steve said we need new chains for the truck. Bob recommended U.S. Blade & Chain in Eau Claire and he will call them the first of the week. Bob said we also need extra blades on hand.
- 16. Future Agenda Items:** Update on truck chain situation; update on cameras; update on shipping container storage and whether to make a pad for it (Steve recommended putting it where the barn was on the township property, and Bob said we would need a road to it). Input on who to hire for plowing snow.
- 17. Patrolman's Report:** Tom fixed the gas line Henry cut when he was trying to trim up brush around the salt shed. Ford pickup is back in shop. Tree past Fritzes needs to be cut and removed entirely from the road. Discussed getting big V plow out of upper shed and put on

a gravel pad. Need a tube extension on Crown Hill where Bob dumped concrete over the hill in the hole on Crown Hill that Mary Kirschbaum brought to the board's attention in October.

18. Correspondence: Managed Forest Law Order of Designation issued by WDNR for Philip Mollrem, 73 closed acres, Mark Whitish, 264.910 closed acres. Rural Mutual Insurance updated coverage and premiums. Conditional approval letter from DSPS for Fennimore Produce Auction Building. Letter from DNR re Wisconsin Unique Well Number. Discussed with board and they recommended laminating and placing on well.

19. Approval of Invoices: A motion was made by Jerrod to approve the November invoices. Steve seconded the motion. Steve made a note on one of the November bills that he used his own chain saw and charged \$10/hour for oil/gas/chain saw use. Included in the November bill approval is an invoice from Bob for diesel fuel from when they brought the Sterling back from Minnesota.

Additional checks written out after the November 2023 board meeting and before the December 2023 board meeting are:

- 11/21/2023, #14983, Bob Frey, \$155.52.
- 12/4/2023, #14984, Liberty Mutual, \$100.00.

20. Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jerrod. Bob seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The December board meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Boughton, Clerk