

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 11, 2024**

The regular board meeting of the Village of Hustisford was called to order by Village Board President **Laurie Buchanan** at 201 South Lake Street, Hustisford, Wisconsin at 7:00PM in accordance with the Notice of Meeting delivered to trustees on March 9, 2024

Trustees Present: Bob Knueppel, Ted Engelbart, Cynthia Stroessner, Ken Westphal, Jay Huncosky, and Andy Buchanan

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Kim Hopfinger, Chief Greg Kaepernick, Officer Ryan Brehmer, Todd Tessmann, Roger Zubke, Nathan Schoenike, and Art Jones

Public Appearances:
None

Minutes:
Andy made a motion, seconded by Ted, to accept the February full board meeting minutes with one correction. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills:
Bob made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve the February bills with check #46269-#46306 for a total of \$250,956.87. The motion carried unanimously.

Utility:
Todd Tessmann gave a brief update on the Utility. The treatment plant project is moving forward. Todd also informed the board that with additional testing requirements coming from the DNR – the utility is working on doing more in house testing rather than sending it out for testing.

Police Committee:
Chief Kaepernick went over the monthly police report with the board.

Ted made a motion, seconded by Cynthia, to approve operator's licenses for Shelle Elliot and Marissa Boeck. The motion carried with Andy and Laurie abstaining.

Chief Kaepernick announced that part-time officer Ryan Brehmer was named Officer of the Year in Dodge County. This award is voted on by all of the Police Chiefs in Dodge County. Officer Brehmer is the first part-time officer to receive the award, and also the first Hustisford officer to receive the award.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Ted, to hire Devin Meeuswen for a part-time police position as recommended by the Police Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee:
The subject of implementing a wheel tax in the Village of Hustisford has been ongoing with the finance committee and board over the last couple months. Finance Chairman Andy Buchanan stated that the committee is recommending implementing the wheel tax to pay for yearly maintenance on the village roads, which would eliminate having to borrow again for streets maintenance. Ken Westphal stated he was against the wheel tax. The finance committee is recommending the tax be set at \$30 per vehicle. There was more discussion on making it higher to have more funds for the yearly street maintenance. A tax of \$40 was suggested, but some board members felt this was too high. After more discussion, Jay made a motion,

seconded by Andy, to implement a wheel tax of \$35 per vehicle in the Village. The motion carried with Ken Westphal opposed. The tax is collected by the DOT when people renew their license yearly or when they purchase a new vehicle. This will bring in roughly \$38,800.00 per year after the DOT gets 17 cents per vehicle for administration. The DOT will begin collecting the wheel tax on July 1, 2024.

Cynthia made a motion, seconded by Ted, to donate \$50 to the Hustisford Business Association for their annual Easter Egg Hunt. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Committee:

Public Works gave an update on the progress of getting ready to bid out the salt shed that will be jointly owned and maintained by the Village and the Township of Hustisford. Andy made a motion, seconded by Jay, to approve the public works department putting the salt shed construction out for bids once they have the specs. The motion carried unanimously.

Bob made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve a joint agreement with the Town of Hustisford for the construction and maintenance of a new salt shed. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the agreement is attached to these minutes.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve putting the repairs on the roof and overhead doors at the Village shop out for bids. The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion on quotes that Nathan and Roger had gotten for a new front-end loader. The Fabick Cat was the lowest quote at \$162,000. There were still some questions as to whether the current front-end loader could be repaired. After some discussion, Andy made a motion, seconded by Ken, to get an estimate as to what it would be for repairs on the current front-end loader. The motion carried unanimously.

There was some discussion on street repairs for future years. The board is hopeful that the maintenance can be planned around the yearly income from the wheel tax. There will be further discussion on if borrowing is needed if larger projects come up.

There was discussion on borrowing for the salt shed, the shop repairs, and possibly a new front-end loader. Kim stated that when a decision is made on the front-end loader and we have an idea on bids for the other projects, she would seek financing.

Report from Village Board Representatives on Joint Boards:

Ken gave a report on the Fire Department. The department will be purchasing structural fire gear for which they got a quote of \$124,540. The purchase of this gear would come out of the replacement fund.

Cynthia gave a report on the library. Cynthia handed out a sheet with information about upcoming events at the library. The next library meeting is on Tuesday March 12th.

Recreation Board Representative Bob Knueppel reported that youth baseball registration is underway. Bags league is finishing up as is Men's basketball. There will be a spring training camp for youth baseball held at Dodgeland. The next recreation board meeting will be March 13th at 6:30pm.

With no other business before this board, Andy made a motion, seconded by Ted, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.