

MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF FRANKLIN – JACKSON COUNTY
 Regular Town Board Meeting
 Wednesday, February 14, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
 Franklin Town Hall

- **Call to order**
 - Meeting called to order on Wednesday February 14, 2024 @ 7:00 PM CST. Present were Town Board Members Chairman Merlin Fredrickson, Supervisor Tom Clark, Supervisor Dave Brown, Treasurer Julie Brown, Clerk Bree Lien, Maintenance Person Dwight Tjerstad, and two townspeople.
- **Approve the Agenda**
 - **Motion** made to approve the agenda as printed: Tom Clark. Second: Dave Brown. **Motion Carried.**
- **Review/Approve Minutes**
 - January 10, 2023 Regular Town Board Meeting. One correction needed- Dave Brown was present during the meeting but not included in the Call to Order. **Motion** made to approve minutes with amendment to Call to Order to include Supervisors Dave Brown: Dave Brown. Second: Tom Clark. **Motion Carried**
- **Treasurer's Financial Report**
 - **Motion** made to accept financial report as printed with amended payables included in Treasurers Report: Dave Brown. Second. Tom Clark. **Motion Carried.**
- **Approve Bills to Pay & Monthly Payables Report**
 - February 14, 2024: **Motion** made to pay monthly payables as printed: Dave Brown. Tom Clark. **Motion Carried.**
- **Clerk Report/Correspondence**
 - Clerk sent notice to Town of Franklin residents within Black River Falls school district regarding Spring Primary election being held at Town of Adams. Clerk also contacted Town of Disco to request future consolidation for BRF only elections. They are able/willing to accommodate.
- **Zoning**
 - Zone Change Petition 2024-04 Rudy Petersheim- Request to change 1.50 of the A-1 (Agriculture) District to the R-2 (Residential) District for the construction of a Shed-House. Discussion regarding 4-acre minimum lot requirement to build in Town of Franklin, so Town Board would request he rezone 4-acres to residential to meet ordinance requirements. **Motion** made to approve with 1.50 to 4-acre rezone: Dave Brown. Second: Tom Clark. **Motion Carried.**
 - Review of several letters sent to town residents from Land Information Department for non-compliance issues.
- **Internet Service Provider**
 - Website lacking- underused for what it is and should look at how we can improve usage of it.
 - Interested in continuing to pursue a .gov e-mail
 - The internet at the town hall is very poor, need to check if Bugtussel is an option- have direct line of site to the tower. Dave will contact company to discuss options. **Motion** made to explore option of Bugtussel for internet service provider: Dave Brown. Second: Tom Clark. **Motion Carried.**
 - Review of Broadband Equity Deployment (B.E.A.D.) talking points provided by County Clerk
- **Sale of Truck**
 - Dodge truck sold, \$9000 was offered by individual before test-driving, but noticed some issues when he test-drove the truck. He offered \$8000 for the truck but had a check for \$9000 from the credit union. His offer of \$8000 was accepted, \$1000 reimbursed to the buyer.
- **Landfill Sale Discussion**
 - Previously discussed sale of land owned by Franklin. Dave contacted Records/Deeds and confirmed township purchased the property in 1973. Nothing has been recorded regarding right of refusal. If this is something the township wants to do, it needs to be publicized in the township to ensure everyone has equal opportunity. The discussion to sell was initially presented as a town resident was interested in purchasing the land to access his property. Chairman to contact this individual and get an idea of what they would offer for purchase price if it were for sale.
- **Set Date for Closes Session, Re: Employee Evaluation**
 - Town Board to meet for closed session on March 16, 2024 at 10:00 AM for purpose of employee evaluation
- **Maintenance Updates**
 - Dwight Tjerstad Report- Has been cutting trees and brushing on several township roads. Brought big truck to Brown & Hart as it wasn't running right, it ended up being a crank sensor but since it was already being repaired additional repairs were completed (u-joint, belts, hose.) Had a crack on deck of mower and welded this back together.
- **Road & Equipment Report**
 - Chairman to contact county regarding culvert replacement (project already completed.)
- **Citizen Concerns**
 - Black River Fall Medical Service sent letter- In 2025 an annual cost and dues will be required to be paid for the service.
 - Engineering firm contacted Chairman regarding culvert assessment. Indicated cost is \$100 per culvert, however; would be reimbursed. Unknown where reimbursement would come from. By April 15 every single culvert must be identified and registered. There is a meeting for board to attend to discuss and obtain additional information. Town can complete this without engineer firm or request for county to do it if they choose to offer the service. Discussed some of the specific information needed. Training was provided last Friday and there is a recording available online. Dwight will start locating and inventorying all culverts in the town and find out what is needed prior to road tour, and road tour to be held before April 15th deadline. If given a grant to complete this, no weight restrictions can be placed on the road.
 - Farhner provided bids for Lindstrom Road and Trump Coulee. Projects to consider in future years.
 - Question regarding Zoning- asked about board attendance at public hearing. Supervisor to contact zoning with the towns position and township position form to be sent via e-mail prior to the public hearing.
- **Adjourn**
 - **Motion** was made to adjourn: Tom Clark. Second: Dave Brown. **Motion Carried**