

## TOWN OF GALE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 12, 2023

The regular board meeting for the Town of Gale was held on September 12 2023 at 7:30 p.m. Board members present were Paul Halderson, Mike Oslie, Sharon Spahr, Kevin Duch and Matt Andersen. Also, present were Jim Stetzer and Jamie Stetzer, Randy Mickelson, Kevin Evenson, Mark Kopp, Carter Kopp, Hunter Kopp, Mark Carlson, Terry Herbst, Mark Carlson, Austin Heidlage, Lucas Teska, Archie Serwe and Sue Henderson

Paul Halderson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The open meeting law requirements had been met by posting and publication.

Matt Andersen made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Under specific matters for discussion which was agenda item four:

Mark Carlson was present and talked about updating the map to reflect what the land is actually used for; the map needs to be updated. They are in the land use plan correctly. Mark will draft a letter for those who are affected.

Hunter and Carter Kopp were next on the agenda for a conditional use request. They do not intend to have employees. The land is currently zoned rural residential and the conditional use would allow them to have an indoor maintenance and repair building. The proposed building is 40 x 60 with a 16-foot office separated by a wall to have a clean space. The land affected is just over two acres. There were concerns about increased traffic. Matt Andersen made a motion to approve the conditional use request. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lucas Teska the current fire chief presented information on why he feels that a full-time fire chief is needed. The number of fire and EMS calls continues to rise. The number of firefighters and EMS that are available during the day has decreased as less of the department work in Galesville. The amount of administrative paperwork has gotten more time consuming as well. The fire inspections are also done by the chief. Any grants that the fire department does are also part of what the chief does. The training commitment to be a fire fighter is 60 hours to be an entry level and 96 hours for a Certified level 1. Another increased responsibility is the insurance companies asking for reports for all the calls that the department goes to. Lucas talked about a \$60,000 salary with benefits on top of that for an approximate cost of \$100,000. There was discussion on where the 2% dues money is used for. The final discussion point was a possible regional fire department in the future.

The used mid mount mower that we have does not work on our tractor. This mower has not been paid for and we would like to return it and purchase a new mower. Serve Implement will take the used mower back. A new mower would be approximately \$39,800 and could take six months to get. The potential purchase of a new mower will be put on the October agenda.

The request from the Galesville Area Chamber for a donation was next on the agenda. Matt Andersen made a motion to approve \$200 to the Galesville Area Chamber for Apple Affair. Mike Oslie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Under citizen appearances there were none.

Under the machinery report it was reported that the pto was fixed on the John Deere 7410

Under the road report it was discussed that the crew has been mowing. A bigger turnaround was put in on Kamprude Lane. Shoulder work was done on Cory Road as well as patching. Trees have also been trimmed that have been hanging over the road.

Matt Andersen made a motion to approve the picnic license and temporary operator licenses for the Galesville Lions Club for October 7<sup>th</sup>. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Building permits were issued to Bob Mahr for house on Presley Lane, Callie Dornquist for house on Presley Lane, Ashley Halama for garage on Willis Lane, Mike Howe for outdoor sauna in Crystal Valley. Driveway permits for Kevin Kuchar on Paulson Lane to update his driveway. Bob Mahr and Callie Dornquist for driveways on Presley Lane. Kyle Lakey for a driveway on Irvine Lane.

Sharon Spahr gave an update on the Fire Board meeting. A FEMA grant for \$172,700 was applied for. Engine 1306 needs to be replaced and the fire department has the funds to fund this.

Mike Oslie gave an update on the STCSWC meeting. The fall cleanup will be October 5<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup>. The sign was repainted on front of the building. The 2024 grant application has been sent in.

Mike Oslie made a motion to approve the monthly financial report. Matt Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sharon Spahr made a motion to approve #27124 through #27167 Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kevin Duch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sharon Spahr seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Sue Henderson Clerk-Treasurer Town of Gale

