

MINUTES
TOWN OF NEW HOPE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.
North New Hope Church, 845 County Road T North

Members present: Chair Todd Knepfel, Supervisors Timm Raddatz and Ray Reser
Also present: Treasurer Dorene Stolpa, Clerk Pat Zellmer, Dean Onan, Sally Prideaux, Don Romundson

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Knepfel called the regular town board meeting to order at 7:00, opening the meeting by leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Review/Approval of Regular and Special Town Board Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Meeting (February 13, 2024) were emailed to board members prior to the meeting; hard copies were distributed at the meeting. Supervisor Reser moved to approve the Regular meeting minutes as written, seconded by Supervisor Raddatz. Motion carried.

Minutes of the Special Town Meeting (March 5, 2024) were emailed to board members prior to the meeting; hard copies were distributed at the meeting. Supervisor Raddatz moved to approve the Special Town Meeting minutes as written, seconded by Supervisor Reser. Motion carried.

3. Our Savior Cemetery Update

Sally Prideaux and Don Romundson (South New Hope Cemetery Board of Trustees) appeared before the Board to express an interest in acquiring and maintaining Our Savior Cemetery, if feasible. Several attempts to contact Ralph Kalies, Pickett WI (owner of the 24-foot-wide strip of land between the cemetery and Trout Creek Road) have been made regarding access to the cemetery, to no avail.

A legal description is needed before any action on acquiring that piece of land could occur.

Discussion ensued about possible options to move forward, to be continued at the next regular meeting.

4. New Hope Emergency Plan Update

The New Hope Emergency Plan was discussed. Zellmer will post the work already completed on the Town Website as a work in progress.

5. Non-Metallic Mining Ordinance Update

Tracy Arnold of Portage Co. Planning and Zoning requested minor changes in the Non-Metallic Ordinance. Revisions to the ordinance will be presented to the Board for approval at the next meeting, pending a response from Arnold.

6. Spring Election: April 2, 2024

The Public Test of the DS200 Tabulator is scheduled for 6:00 pm, Tuesday, March 26 at North New Hope Church. A notice will be posted on the website, Church, Town Hall, and Sunset Lake. A demonstration of the ExpressVote and Badger Books equipment will be conducted after the public test.

Training on the new equipment (DS200, Badger Books, ExpressVote) will be conducted in the next two weeks for Patoka, Guyant, Groshek, Onan, and Stolpa.

Redistricting of the Town of New Hope was discussed. New Hope will change from Assembly District 71 to District 87 for State Representative and Wisconsin Senate District 24 to District 29 effective January 2025 (affecting the November 2024 election).

7. Road Improvement report

Glodowski will address an issue with ice accumulating at the intersection of Trout Creek and Waller Roads.

Supervisor Reser motioned to approve that Noah Swenson complete work on Hotvedt Road, seconded by Supervisor Raddatz. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding applying for LRIP (Local Road Improvement Program) funding. New Hope does not meet requirements for that funding. No action will be taken.

8. State Culvert Inventory

The State mandated that an inventory of culverts measuring 6-20 ft wide be completed by April 15, 2024. Per an email from Delmore Consulting (608-844-9820, info@delmoreconsulting.com), the \$100 charge per structure would be reimbursed at 100% from Portage County. Delmore would complete the survey and provide the Town with a map of existing culverts.

Supervisor Reser moved to use Delmore for this project, seconded by Supervisor Raddatz; motion carried. The application for Delmore was completed by Chair Knepfel, and will be submitted by Clerk Zellmer.

9. WI Towns Unit Meeting

Chair Knepfel, Supervisors Raddatz and Reser, and Clerk Zellmer will attend the WI Towns Unit Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 25 at the Jensen Center, Amherst.

10. New Business/Announcements

Supervisor Reser reported on renovating or rebuilding the New Hope Town Hall (9785 Town Hall Road) after meeting with Nelsonville Village President Judah Haas for a tour of the new Nelsonville Town Hall. Rebuilding the Town of New Hope Town Hall is estimated at a minimum of \$250,000, pending cost of a well and septic. Pat Ludeman (Counsel member) will be invited to attend the April Regular Board meeting to continue discussion on the use of North New Hope Church.

11. Payment of bills.

Supervisor Raddatz moved to pay bills in the amount of \$29,043.73, seconded by Supervisor Reser. Motion carried.

12. Next Meeting

The Annual Town of New Hope meeting is scheduled for 6:30 Tuesday, April 18.

The April Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 Tuesday, April 18, immediately following the Annual Town meeting.

The Annual New Hope Road Inspection is scheduled for 8:00 Saturday, April 20.

13. Adjournment.

Supervisor Raddatz moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Reser. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted to the Board by Clerk Pat Zellmer.