

Town of Otter Creek – August 20, 2024
Otter Creek Town Hall – E5905 County Road S, Wheeler WI
Regular Town Board Meeting – 7 p.m.

Attendees:

Chair LeAnn Ralph*

Supervisor 1 Cecil Hayes*

Supervisor 2 Bob Bernier*

Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier

Patrolman Gary Anderson

Guests: Renee Carrell, Gary Axness, Denise Axness, Sharla Utpadel, Brian Hawking

*Board Members

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday August 20, 2024. Meeting minutes from the 7/9/2024 Regular Board Meeting were not read by Clerk as the Town Board reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. Bernier motioned to approve the 7/9/2024 Regular Board Meeting as presented, Ralph second, MC.

Public Comments – None. (Public Comment is limited to 3 minutes. As per the state's Open Meetings law, there will be no back and forth discussion with the town board. The state Attorney General's guidance is that board members can ask clarifying questions but that back and forth discussion is not advised.)

Communication from Town Chair –

Agricultural Roads Improvement Program (ARIP) second project solicitation cycle is now available. The only road that might be eligible for Otter Creek is 1180th and is 3 miles long. The roads have to be engineered, would be \$3 million to have assessed. Up to 90% reimbursed. Once the road is paved, then determination is made as to reimbursement. Cannot be a weight limit on the road if applied ARIP. At this time, Otter Creek will not pursue ARIP.

ADU Ordinance - review of Dunn County Board of Supervisors 7/31/24 approval of the ADU Ordinance. This is a County zoning permit, County comes out and checks the site for septic, etc. They review the plans, UDC inspection. Residents want to see compliance with trailers brought in. The ADUs count toward the density of homes allowed on a tract of land.

710th paving done on August 12 by Senn Blacktop. This was to repair damage from 2023 logging.

Catlon Phelps, Phelps Land Surveying, LLC is conducting a 2 lot certified survey map in Otter Creek – Cory and Jenifer Reisdorf

CSM prepared by Brandon King for Wade Leibfried, he purchased a bit more land adjacent to his site from a neighbor.

Driveway permit - on hold for Curt Nelson. Working to get driveway access off of 990th Avenue, or County Road S. Survey markers mark the Town of Otter Creek ROW, not property owner.

Newtons want to put a different driveway in on Hwy. S, they were told to contact the County.

Communication from Town Supervisors – nothing.

Communication from Clerk –

3 records request, one for Badger Book count and storage, one for Town Board pay information, one for listing of election inspectors for 2016 and 2024 .

101 voters out of 319 registered voters at the August 13 election.

Address assigned to Anthony and Adrienne Williams, N11871 County Rd SS, Wheeler

Fire dues received from St. of WI, paid to Colfax Fire Dept - \$2,520.56

Gunnufson fire bill still outstanding.

July 2024 Colfax Rescue Report – 9.4% of calls for OC

Comprehensive Land Use Plan – discuss the possibility of Otter Creek developing a comprehensive land use plan. County updates their Comprehensive Land Use Plan and will survey every resident in Dunn County to see what they want to see for land use, part of it is outreach to municipalities. About ½ of Otter Creek qualifies for Farmland Preservation. We will see what Dunn County does.

Roads – 1180th concerns and suggestions from Chair and Patrolman. On 1180th on the clay part by Dale Solheim, there is a spring on the edge of the road, the spring cuts a path across the road, this is an earthen road. The spring was excessively bad this year because of the weather. In the Spring of 2025, we can fix with backhoe, dig out the edge of the road, there is a pit there, put the dirt from the edge of the road into the pit, patrolman will dig a pond as far back as possible, so the water hits the pond and goes through a small culvert or perforated pipe, with rock on top. Put some gravel on the red clay at the top of the hill. Haul in some more rock on the East end, and have put some on the West end. Graded the sand from Solheim's to the top of the hill so it is smooth now. For snowplowing, we don't want to deviate off the route, we want to do a straight plow on the road.

Beskar trucks hauling potatoes on 1090th. Gary talked to the foreman showed him where the driveway was. They were driving through the ditch, which starts an allegator pattern.

Census - Demographic Services Center's preliminary estimate of the January 1, 2024 population for the Town of Otter Creek in Dunn County is 532, with 422 of voting age. This represents a change of 34 persons (6.83%) since the 2020 Census. Three people increase since 1/1/23 estimate of 529.

Wis Towns Fall Conference – Eau Claire - 9/12/24 -\$70. Webinars 9/23 to 9/26.

National Incident Management System Overview for Senior Officials (Executives, Elected, & Appointed) on 09/17/2024 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Dunn County Judicial Center, 615 Stokke Parkway, Menomonie, WI

Fire Call – Doug Owens-Pike, 730th St., false alarm 3/27/2024. Doug pd town \$310, town pd Colfax FD.

Dunn County Unit WTA - The annual banquet will be at the Tainter Church on Wednesday, October 23rd, and the meal fee will be \$18.00 (the Unit will again pay \$10.00 towards each meal). Information and reservation form out at the end of August to be on the September town board agenda. The annual dues will be payable at \$25.00.

Synergy – Propane contract \$1.62 (2023 rate was \$1.52). Prepay balance of \$603.14. In 2023 had total prepay of 1000 gallons. Propose Fall prepay of \$1,620, less prepay balance of \$603.14, for a total due of \$1,016.86. (\$100 more for 1000 gallons than in 2023). Motion by Hayes to contract with Synergy for 1000 gallons, second by Ralph, MC.

Weber April Inspection report – no activity for July

Managed Forest Law – updated report showing Mark Warner with 12 acres of closed land, not 18.470, from a total of 100 acres in closed MFL.

Special Assessment Requests –

Owner - B & T Foods, LLC, a Wisconsin limited liability company d/b/a Waterside Bar & Grill (Amery, WI)

Buyer – CL Boyd

Zoning - Veronika Zazoyskaya received Zoning permit for a new Barn to be located on the adjacent lot as the existing dwelling (E6954 1070th Avenue). No LUP from Otter Creek needed.

Driveway permit request – received residential driveway permit application for Guy & Adrienne Ferry, 1020th Ave, Wheeler, and Sanitary permit for 4 bedroom dwelling.

Complaint – discuss and consider an ordinance and junk vehicle permit form. Chair and Dunn County received another anonymous complaint regarding junk vehicles and trailers on State Hwy 25 just outside town of Wheeler. Town Board to consider a resolution for an ordinance, sample documents provided for review. Register junk vehicles, need permit, if an ordinance violation, then DC Sheriff's department can enforce the ordinance. Clerk to obtain junk vehicle ordinances from other municipalities. Ground contamination health concerns. Town Board Supervisors will meet with Dunn County to discuss options. Put potential ordinance on agenda for September meeting.

Patrolman - Report from Patrolman on Road Work/Equipment

- Any road materials ordered – hot mix ordered – 990th allegator, patched with the whole load of hot mix.
- Any supplies purchased – purchased oil for JD backhoe
- Any equipment needing repair
- Any damage to roads by nature or man

Doing some mowing, 690th is finished with shouldering, not much ditch mowing on 690th as neighbors are taking care of it. In September do the culvert review (structures inventory) for Dunn County with the Chair, due before Dec. 31 to County.

- **Treasurer** - Review treasurer’s report – motion by Hayes to accept the treasurer’s report, Ralph second, MC.
- **Auditing of bills** for payment. Bills circulated and approved by the Town Board.
- **Any other business**

Clerk reviewed the finances.	Equipment Account -	\$61,943.43
	Tax Account -	\$38,185.28
	Checking Account -	<u>\$32,532.08</u>
	Total of all accounts	\$132,660.79

ADJOURN - Bernier moved to adjourn the monthly meeting, Ralph second, MC. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Beverly Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

Gary Anderson – 715-658-1483;
 Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;
 Bev Bernier – 715-658-0131;

LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;
 Cecil Hayes – 715-577-6334
 Town Shop - 715-658-1319;