

**Town of Saukville**  
**Annual Town Meeting**  
3762 Lakeland Rd., Saukville, WI

**Minutes**

**April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Don Hamm, Chairman**  
**Curt Rutkowski, Supervisor**

**Curt Rutkowski, Supervisor**   **Mike Denzien, Supervisor**  
**Naomi Bruecker, Clerk**

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:02. The following persons were in attendance. Rita Pavlik, Al Gosewehr, John Morton, Ozaukee Press, Marvin O. Hoffmann, Barb Jobs, County Supervisor District #3, Jim Proefrock, Diane Hamm.  
Ken Watry, Jim Winnemuller, Jeff Walczyk, Mike & Lori Paulus.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge was recited by all.
3. **Public Notice.** The notice was acknowledged by Chairman Hamm.
4. **Approval of April 19, 2016 Annual Town Meeting minutes.**
5. **Building Inspector's Annual Report:** Wally Grotelueschen introduced himself and shared the highlights of the 2016 building permits.
6. **Fire Department's Annual Report:** Mark Chesak, Fire Chief, introduced Jeff Gonzalez, Asst. Fire Chief, and then reported the fire and EMS actions that served our town for 2016.
7. **Town Chairman's Annual Report:** Chairman Hamm shared the town's accomplishments quarter-by-quarter for the last twelve months. Seven new ordinances were passed, and two new members were appointed to the Plan Commission; Kevin Kimmes and Jeff Walczyk. Lastly, the Living Word Church of God is no longer leasing the Gym from the Town Hall which was a source of income.
8. **2016 Financial Summary Report.** Chairman Hamm read through and shared the Town's income and expenses for the past year. \$438,689 in taxes had been collected. The total income for the Town was \$598,843. \$200,000 was spent on road repairs. A motion was made by Al Gosewehr to accept the Financial Summary Report. The motion was seconded by Rita Pavlik. **Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.** The motion passed.
9. **Entertain motions, discussion and issues raised by the electorate present.** Mr. Gosewehr reported he was not satisfied with the quality of ditch mowing, brush cutting and road repairs. Both the snow plows and ditch mowing equipment have skipped and gouged shoulders on the

town roads. Ditch mowing occurred when grasses were wet and pushed the grasses down and did not cut anything. Other areas appeared to be missed all together. Al Gosewehr made a motion to have the Town include Ozaukee County in all bids to mow ditches and cut brush. No second was made on the motion. Mr. Gosewehr made another motion to obtain a car counter to provide an accurate count of cars traveling our roads. Mr. Gosewehr would like the busiest roads to be repaired. No second was made on Mr. Gosewehr's motion. Diane Hamm inquired where the money would come from to purchase a car counter. Al Gosewehr was in favor of raising his taxes to pay for better roads. He remarked, "Doing nothing is not an answer." Ken Watry said more than crack sealing needs to be done. Many sealed cracks have reopened. Marvin Hoffman said since 1995, other issues have been put before roads. He also asked if a plan could be made using input from Ozaukee County and/or a construction company to assist. Some roads that were black topped in the 1970's have had no overlay of asphalt added since. Supervisor Rutkowski shared the Town had saved up money for several years so we could complete the \$200,000 worth of road repairs on Blueberry Road, Hickory Road, and other roads in 2016. Don Hamm said money had not been spent on roads for nearly 20 years. This lack of spending has caught up to us. Barb Jobs shared there had been a decline in assessed value, but it is growing back. Jim Winnemuller added that the Town of Saukville has several road laid in swampy areas which adds to the burden of maintaining a road. Al Gosewehr wants to see the basics addressed namely shoulders should be repaired or they will tear into the rest of the road. Ken Watry made a motion to have the town obtain a car counter, if not cost prohibitive, to help identify which roads are the most traveled and in need of being maintained. Curt Rutkowski shared that he is waiting to learn of the cost for a new culvert on Hillcrest Road before planning other road projects. The motion was seconded by Al Gosewehr. Further discussion asked Ms. Bruecker to investigate the cost of set up and take down now rather than waiting a year. **Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0** The motion passed.

Marvin O. Hoffmann inquired about tax exempt lands, and has anything been followed up on the Attorney General's opinion regarding fire protection fees. Mike Denzien responded in his opinion there was not much merit in charging a fee to cover fire protection for all residents. Charging some residents property taxes, and tax exempt property owners a fire protection fee is not being consistent. Mr. Hoffmann shared that this has been successful in northern towns and they could be contacted for additional information. Supervisor Denzien agreed to make some contacts.

Chairman Hamm added taxes are lowered for all tax-paying property owners in some northern Wisconsin towns, and then everyone is charged the same fire protection fee. Ken Watry explained his take on fee-based fire protection, and he inquired if tax exempt properties contribute to our Town's fire protection expense. These properties would need to be assessed in order to determine an equitable fire protection fee to be charged. Marvin O. Hoffmann made a motion that the Town Board contact the Attorney General and northern Wisconsin towns to obtain more information on fee-based fire protection. The motion was seconded by Al Gosewehr. **Ayes: 3, Nays: 4, Abstain: 0.** The motion did not pass.

Mr. Paulus asked if the Fish Passage Project from Ozaukee County had been completed by Hillcrest Road (Mole Creek), and will Willow Road receive a new culvert. The Fish Passage Project is not complete at this time, and the Willow Road culvert may be considered once the Town completes the Annual Road Inspection tour and assesses all road related repairs. Ken Watry thanked the Town for repairing Blueberry Road.

10. **Set Annual meeting date for 2018 (*April 17, 2018*)**. Chairman Hamm announced the date for the next Annual Town Meeting to be April 17, 2018. A motion was made by Marvin O. Hoffmann to accept April 17, 2018 as the date for the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Diane Hamm. **Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.** The motion passed.

11. **Adjournment**. Rita Pavlik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Al Gosewehr. **Ayes: 7, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.** The motion passed. The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Naomi Bruecker, Clerk  
Town of Saukville