

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Town of Ashippun
Tuesday, April 8, 2008

The Annual Town of Ashippun meeting was held at the Town Hall, starting at 7:30 p.m. Town Chairman, Jim Schoenike, called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the flag. People at the head table included: Karla Chase, town's attorney; David Wendorf, supervisor; Vickie Schlieve, clerk/treasurer; Roger Kopfer, supervisor; and Darin Krebill, representative from Johnson-Block, the town auditing company. Chairman Schoenike announced that the History Committee would have their displays open for viewing after the meeting and that there would be refreshments at that time also.

Jim Schoenike - Chairman's Report. Chairman Schoenike reported on the following accomplishments this year: the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan/Land Division Ordinance; new patrol truck into service; Ashippun is a growing and vibrant community with steady growth; great performance of the Police Department and Fire Department; and, use of an electronic newsletter. Some challenges facing our community included: three subdivisions in the growth mode; continued cooperation with our neighboring towns and entities; implementation of the Land Division Ordinance; road construction problems last year; looking at more road construction this year, which would include the town work on Roosevelt Road from Highway 67 east to Hoover Road. Concerns for the town in the future would be to continue being an "ag" area. Maintaining our streets, roads and equipment is a continuing challenge. Petroleum costs are continuing to increase, which means increased costs to the town. The Town is under a budget cap of 2%, which makes budgeting difficult, especially when we have just gone through a winter where expenses were up for plowing snow. Chairman Schoenike pointed out that we have a beautiful community that we should be proud of.

Vickie Schlieve read the minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting. A motion was made by Dave Guckenberger to accept the minutes as read. Ernie Borchardt seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Annual Financial Report – Auditor, Darin Krebill from Johnson-Block, Inc. presented the Financial Statements to the town board. He noted that the property tax increase was 4.6% from 2006. Permits were down due to less construction. Interest income was over-budget by \$35,000 due to unspent road building funds. Expenditures were right in line. Capital Outlay was under-budget and have been transferred to the 2008 budget. The town is in good shape for future road construction. The 2008 budget is balanced. Total assets are \$6.7 million. Net assets increased \$132,000. The auditor took questions from the audience. Lengthy discussion followed regarding transferring unused budgeted funds from one account to a savings account. It was noted by the auditor that the town board dictates fund transfers. Motion by Syl Hoerth, seconded by Ron Mallow to accept the 2007 Financial Report as presented by Darin Krebill. All in favor. Motion carried.

Deonne Eske, Chief of the Ashippun Fire Department presented the 2007 report and goals for the coming year. The department responded to 162 calls for assistance, compared to 181 in 2006. The members are continually increasing their level of training and education. In addition, 12 drills and maintenance nights are scheduled. Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month. Fire prevention programs were held at Meadowview and Erin Schools. Many education and safety programs were noted. New member welcomed this year was Shane Miller. The new rescue vehicle was put into service in July and Chief Eske thanked everyone for their contributions. In July the department celebrated it's 90th anniversary with a 100-unit parade held in conjunction with the annual picnic. Mold problems with the present fire station need to be addressed. The department will continue to train and will be ready for future challenges.

Chief Bill Linzenmeyer, Neosho/Rubicon/Ashippun Police Department recognized the Ashippun Fire Department and the work they do behind the scenes to prepare themselves. The department is a good, positive department for the community. They try to be responsive to the

needs of the people of the Town of Ashippun. Chief Linzenmeyer brings 34 years experience in law enforcement and is also the Chief of the City of Mayville Police Department. The community involvement makes it a safer more peaceful place to live. He recommended that, "If it doesn't look right, call the police." The Chief gave the department statistics for 2007, which included 968 items of activity, which was handled in 350 hours of part-time assistance per month. The Chief took questions from the audience.

Tracy Grebe, Dog Catcher was introduced to the residents in attendance. She can be reached at 262-623-2231. Chairman Schoenike thanked her for helping the community with stray dogs.

George Monis, Planning Commission Chairman was not in attendance. Chairman Schoenike introduced members of the commission that were in attendance.

Roger Johnson, Ashippun History Committee thanked the board and the community for support in their activities. The program scheduled for this summer's Ashippun Firemen's Picnic display will be the collection of wooden toys and miniature replicas made by now deceased Ashippun resident William Janiecke. An Italian Fantanini collection will be displayed during the Christmas season in 2008.

Don Christopherson, Building Inspector gave a report of the number of new homes in Ashippun the past five years: 11 in 2003; 46 in 2004; 21 in 2005; 16 in 2006; and 17 in 2007 for a total of 111 new homes. So far this year there have been two new home permits, with the third coming soon.

Jim Schlieve, Recreation Committee reported that three baseball teams have expressed interest in using the baseball diamonds in Ashippun this season. This is a great use of these fields. A drawing of proposed playground equipment submitted by Lee Recreation is on display here today. Local area businesses, organizations and the town should be proud of the refurbishing of the Triangle Park on the corner of Highway 67 and O. This was a group effort and is a showpiece for our town.

Jim Schoenike, Recycling Report introduced the employees who work at the Recycling Center. A brief report of collection totals was given.

Salary Study Committee Report – Dave Guckenberger, Don McCollum, Ernie Borchardt. Dave Guckenberger spoke on the conclusions to their study. They looked at the current salary structure for the clerk/treasurer position, which included checking local communities and what they pay their official. They also made a recommendation to raise the election workers \$1.00 per hour, with the election supervisors getting an additional \$2.00 per hour. The current wage for both is \$7.00 per hour. The town board can address the election wages when they see fit. They made no recommendations for changes to the town board wages and per diems. The committee recommended that the position of clerk/treasurer be appointed and that the town electors vote on this issue at a future referendum. The salary of \$24,900 for the clerk/treasurer position was recommended based on their reviews. The change would not be in effect until the next election, which is in 2009. Ed Martin asked if there would be a possibility of hiring a deputy clerk/treasurer in case the clerk/treasurer would be sick. **Larry Krier moved that the town approve the recommendation to increase the clerk/treasurer salary to \$24,900 in 2009. Ed Martin seconded the motion.** Jim Franke asked if this salary was for an inexperienced person who may be elected to the position in 2009. Dave Guckenberger answered this question by explaining that the salary is for the position of clerk/treasurer, whoever is in that position. Don McCollum explained the difficulty in the job, the need for someone who can do the job and the need for the board to have control over the appointed person in the position. **Vangie Kuehl moved to have a paper ballot vote. Seconded by Virginia Zuercher. Ayes were 13. Nays were 41. Motion defeated.** There will be a voice vote on the motion. Hand vote to raise the salary was passed with a clear majority.

Vangie Kuehl moved and Dick Fieweger seconded to raise the salaries of the election workers to \$8.00 and the election supervisors to \$9.00. There was a voice vote with a majority voting aye. No nays.

Ernie Borchardt made an advisory recommendation and moved to have a referendum to change the clerk/treasurer position to an appointed position. Jim Franke seconded the motion. Dave Guckenberger recommended sending out a flyer to all town residents.

The dates for Open Book and the Board of Review were announced.

Spring Clean Up Days are May 3rd & 10th and October 4th & 11th

Public Comment - Vangie Kuehl asked if our town is up for re-evaluation. **Al Schure** asked about the status of the Davy Creek situation. **Dave Guckenberger** read a letter he had written regarding the poor construction of County Road P last year. **Jim Franke** recommended that the town look into a central compost site for residents. **Dennis Gimmel** would be willing to pay for a site to be maintained. **Ray Zuercher** would volunteer to monitor a chipper site on Saturday. **Ron McCord** suggested offering a permit to use a site for yard debris. **Lester Schuett** suggested the town be incorporated. **Joe Rossa** compared the city of Oconomowoc to how Ashippun handled the yard waste. **Gene Guenther** would like to see a chipper monitored due to the danger. **Larry Krier** reminded everyone that the DNR suggests no burning at all. **Dave Wendorf** read a letter from the DNR regarding burning. **Ron Mallow** asked about forming a drainage district on Davy Creek. **Bill Bremer** questioned about the cancellation of the Plan Commission meeting in March. Bill felt the Plan Commission made a bad decision on the Bernice Wisner land split. **Ernie Borchardt** announced that if anyone would like to voice their concern about the Highway P construction that they should forward a note to the Dodge County Highway Committee. **Norm Greeb** would like to be notified of the Dodge County Highway Committee meeting. **Syl Hoerth** agreed with Norm and would like to be notified of those meetings. **Vangie Kuehl** felt that the county should not be building roads.

Syl Hoerth moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Motion seconded by Dick Fieweger. All in favor. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vickie Schlieve, Clerk/Treasurer