

Town of Holland
Annual Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2011

The annual meeting of the Town of Holland was called to order by Chairman Donald Becker at 8:00 P.M. on April 12, 2011, at the Town of Holland Hall, County G. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Becker. The clerk certified that the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws have been met.

Don Becker explained that there is a draft agenda, but the electors are entitled to add anything they choose to have discussed as long as it is in the limits of what is allowed by law for the electors to decide. Motion by Jack Stokdyk, seconded by Ivy Nevela, to adopt the agenda as the official order of business. Chairman Becker explained the procedures for the Annual Meeting, and that only people living in the Township are allowed to vote. He explained that this is a meeting of the electors, not a Board meeting. He then called for the vote. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Deputy Clerk, Allan Claerbaut, read the minutes of the April 13, 2010 Annual Meeting for information.

The Chairman introduced Supervisors Stanley Lammers, Martin Elmer, and David Huenink, and stated that Supervisor John Maul was not present. He explained how each of them serves on various committees. Chairman Becker also introduced Clerk Sharon Claerbaut, Deputy Clerk Allan Claerbaut, Treasurer Craig Droppers, Deputy Treasurer Sue Droppers, Custodian Ron Lenz, Auditor Paul Corson, and himself, Don Becker, Chairman of the Township. Chairman Becker also introduced Roads Supervisor, Roger TeStroete and Road Worker, LaMont Lukens, and stated that the Building Inspector is Tom Huenink who is not at the meeting.

The Chairman stated that he had just been re-elected as Chairman of the Township for a two year term, and that David Huenink and John Maul had just been re-elected to the Board, also for two year terms.

Paul Corson presented the financial report for the Town of Holland for 2010. He also presented pie charts to show where the revenues come from and

how the tax money is divided and used. Paul then asked if there were any questions. There was a question by Diane Meiser asking if they knew what
Annual Meeting Minutes 2011 – Page 2

former state funds will be cut. Chairman Becker answered that the Town anticipates a Transportation Aid cut of about \$15,000 or \$16,000 for this year. State Shared Revenue will probably be cut by 10% to 15%, but that has already been going down some each year. He also said that the Recycling Grant was set to be eliminated, but will instead be cut although we don't know by how much. The final decision by the State has not yet been made. Maria Hayevski asked if it was true that the Town will not be allowed to increase taxes. Paul Corson answered that it is true to some extent in that they will not be able to raise taxes to make up for state revenues that are cut. Craig Droppers asked if the levy could be raised at a meeting such as this. The answer was that by a meeting and a referendum it might be able to be raised. It was also stated that the total spent for emergency services that are not capital expenses can not be reduced. Motion by LaMont Lukens, seconded by Maria Hayevski, to approve the 2010 Financial Report. Voting was done by a voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson reports by Committees:

Public Safety – Dave Huenink reported we will hold all costs for services steady for 2011 because the Sheriff's Department, and all four Fire Departments involved have not raised their fees. They have all held budgets for two years. He also reported that the Village of Cedar Grove and the Town of Holland purchased a used equipment truck for the Cedar Grove Fire Department. It is a larger size so all equipment can be carried in one trip. The old truck was sold to a group in Ohio. Maria Hayevske asked about the cost of the newly purchased truck, and was told that it cost \$75,000 for the truck, plus \$30,000 for equipment to fix it to be the most useful for its purpose. These costs were split equally between the Village and the Township. Dave further reported that a new agreement has been finalized between the Village of Cedar Grove and the Town of Holland regarding the Fire Department. That agreement took affect on January 1, 2011. He said he is pleased with the new agreement because now Mutual Aid (to other Fire Departments) and all training will be split 50/50 between the Village and Township.

**Parks and Property – Martin Elmer reported that the Amsterdam Park shelter was repainted. Last year a committee had been
Annual Meeting Minutes 2011 – Page 3**

formed to improve the ramp placement due to problems caused by the lower water level. The next meeting of the Amsterdam Park Commission is set for April 18, 2011. Martin further reported that as far as the Recycling Center is concerned, a larger, higher plastics dumpster is now being used that has cut costs greatly. The paper dumpster is being pushed down to reduce hauls. The new electronics recycling law has been implemented. We have engaged a new company out of Minnesota which charges less and also pays small amounts for some items. The Town has joined a consortium out of Waukesha County which saves a great deal of money. Oil filters can no longer be thrown in the trash, so another company was brought in which offers a lot better deal. Martin said that there is now a dusk to dawn light at the Recycling Center. Lastly, Martin reported that the chairs at the hall have been recovered. The upholstery is a much heavier grade than the original upholstery, but was a very good deal because it was an in stock fabric. The Town is now looking at dressing up the hall kitchen. Larry Opgenorth called attention to the fact that the new dumpster at the Recycling Center is so much higher that it is hard for some people to reach, and was told that anyone can ask the attendant for help. Maria Hayevski asked who the men at the Recycling Center work for – Veolia or the Town, and was told it is the Town. Ivy Nevela asked if the electronic waste has been successful. Martin said “very much so”. Maria Hayevski said she had seen things in the ditch on a couple of occasions and asked if she would be charged if she brought something in that she found along the road. She was told that she can throw most of it the dumpster or a bin.

Roads – Stan Lammers stated that he has been on the Town of Holland Board since 1997, and that, while all costs have risen, the cost of asphalt has risen very significantly, which makes it even harder to manage the budget. Roads are a large part of the Town budget. Stan then reported that in 2010 there was

blacktopping done on Hoitink Road from County Road KW to Rauwerdink Road, and on DeWitt Road from DeMaster Road

Annual Meeting Minutes 2011 – Page 4

to Hoftiezer Road. There was seal coating done on Palmer from County Road G to Smies Road, on Smies Road from Palmer Road to State Road 32, and from State Road 32 to Sauk Trail also on Smies Road. A large culvert was replaced on Ebbers Road. Stan further reported on the road work planned for 2011, that being to blacktop DeMaster Road from State Road 32 east to the Oostburg village limits. They plan to finish blacktopping DeWitt Road from Hoftiezer Road to Sauk Trail. Plans are also to seal coat Knepprath Road from County Road D to County Road RR, Rauwerdink Road from County Road A south through the woods, and Holland-Lima Road. Betterments are planned on Amsterdam Road. and for Risseeuw Road from the bridge east to Rauwerdink Road. Maria Hayevski asked what seal coat is, and Stan explained.

Administration – In the absence of John Maul, Don Becker reported that John Maul and Stan Lammers are working on the DeMaster Road drainage ditch project. This should be organized shortly. The Town will assist with securing permits, and also sharing a modest amount for the work because this project will save costs on road repairs, especially DeMaster Road.

Chairman Becker reported on things that were worked on during the past year. He said that the Town had approved the newest version of the Zoning Ordinance. This got more complicated because the State laws changed in the middle of the project, and probably the Zoning Ordinance will need to be changed further due to the new law ‘working lands initiative’ which is in regard to farm land preservation. Don also reported that the Plan Commission works very well together and has done outstanding work. Don further said that the Town Board is planning changes in records management, especially in this ‘working lands initiative’.

The agenda item ‘Any other business that lawfully comes before the Township’ was addressed. Roger TeStroete had a copy of a one hundred year old

Annual Report of the Township that he asked to hand out. This was very welcome. The audience received copies. It was very interesting and fun to look at.

Annual Meeting Minutes 2012 – Page 5

Roger's great-grandfather, G. H. TeStroete Chairman of the Township at that time, which also automatically put him on the County Board at that time. Roger is now an elected member of the County Board. The one hundred year old report had been passed down through the family which is why Roger had it, and was able to share it with the audience. He called attention to various items. Chairman Becker thanked Roger for sharing. Maria Hayevski stated that she would like to thank the Town Board, and said they do a great job.

The next Annual Meeting should be held on the second Tuesday, following the first Monday in April of 2012. That date will be April 10, 2012. Motion by Stan Lammers, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to set April 10, 2012 for the 2012 Annual Meeting. Hand vote showed twenty-one (21) in favor and zero (0) opposed. Motion carried.

Clerk, Sharon Claerbaut, read these minutes for approval. Motion by Roger TeStroete, seconded by Diane Meisser, to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

Motion by Jack Stokdyk, seconded by LaMont Lukens, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Claerbaut, Clerk**

Lunch was served following the meeting.