

Town of Holland

Minutes of the Annual Elector Meeting

Sheboygan County, WI

1. Call to order:

The annual meeting of the Town of Holland was called to order by Chairman Donald Becker at 7:30 P.M. on April 20, 2021, at the Town of Holland Hall, W3005 County Road G, Cedar Grove, WI 53013.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Becker.

3. Certify that the Wisconsin open meeting laws have been met:

Clerk Janelle Kaiser stated that by default the annual town meeting is held on the third Tuesday in April, Wisconsin Statute § 60.11(2)(a). If it will be on that day, and at the same place and time as the prior year, no notice is required to be made. However, the annual meeting of electors was noticed at the usual posting places in the Town, on the website, and in local newspapers. The agenda for this meeting was posted at the usual posting places in the Town and on the Town's website.

4. Introductions and Comments:

Don Becker explained that electors are entitled to add anything they wish to discuss to the meeting agenda if it is in the limits of what is allowed by law for the electors to decide. Don explained that state statutes, not the board, determine what can be decided at an Annual Meeting. Direct powers, directives or grants of authority, and authorizations to the board to appropriate money is what can be discussed and acted upon. Only electors who reside in the Town of Holland may vote. Property owners who do not reside in the Township are not allowed to vote. While residents must be 18 years old and have resided continuously in the Town of Holland as their primary place of residence for at least 28 days prior to this meeting, voters are not required to be registered. Voting will be done by a show of hands unless otherwise called for, such as a voice vote, ballot vote, or standing vote. If anyone desires another method for a specific vote, that person must make a motion to change the voting method prior to taking a vote on the original motion.

Chairman Don Becker introduced 2020 board members as Stanley Lammers, David Huenink, Stephen Jones, and Douglas Hamilton.

5. Adopt Agenda as Official Order of Business:

Chair Becker asked if anyone would like additions or changes to the agenda. Motion by Stanley Lammers, supported by Douglas Hamilton, to adopt the agenda as presented; the motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

6. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting (minutes of previous year available for review):

Clerk-Treasurer Janelle Kaiser provided copies of the annual meeting minutes from June 16, 2020. These minutes are for information purposes only because annual meeting minutes are approved by residents present at the meeting each year and cannot be changed after

the fact. However, questions and comments about the 2020 minutes can be included in the 2021 meeting minutes.

7. Progress reports by Committee Chairpersons and Town Chairman:

Parks and Property:

Douglas Hamilton introduced himself as the chairman of the Parks and Property Committee of the Town of Holland in 2020. Parks and Property oversees the Town Hall, the Town Recycling Center and several town parks. It is responsible for operation, maintenance, and budgeting of those facilities.

This past year, state grants provided funds to install state of the art audio/visual equipment in the Town Hall. Dave Huenink supervised the project that will allow us to conduct virtual meetings over the internet as well as display pertinent information during meetings in the Board room and the large hall.

Our current internet service to the Town Hall marginally acceptable for our current needs. The Wisconsin Public Service Commission has provided grants for several years to expand internet service in the state to unserved and underserved areas. The Town, in conjunction with Charter Communications, applied for a grant from the Public Service Commission to upgrade the internet at the town hall. The PSC received a larger number of grant requests which increased competition for the limited funds available.

Unfortunately, the Town's grant request was denied. However, both federal and state governments have made expanded internet service a top priority and more funding will be available. The Town will re-apply for grants in the near future.

Conditions in the recycling market have increased the fees we now pay for disposal which was reflected in a budget increase. We are also charged if recyclables are "contaminated". As a general rule, recyclables are food grade containers – glass bottles and jars, plastic food containers, and metal and aluminum food and beverage cans. They should be rinsed and clean. "Clean" cardboard and paper is accepted – no pizza boxes. Not accepted for recycling are Styrofoam, rubber hose, plastic shopping bags, toys, etc. I know we all want to do our part to recycle as much as possible, but contaminating recyclables is counter-productive and raises our costs. "If in doubt, throw it out".

Kyle is our new staff member at the Recycling Center, joining Grant and Jennifer. They have printed information about recycling, fees and items we can and cannot accept.

The Town of Holland and Oostburg State Bank will have a Shred Event on Saturday, July 10, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Oostburg State Bank parking lot in Oostburg. Residents and businesses can bring confidential papers for shredding, providing security for personal information and helping prevent potential identity theft. I thank the volunteers for their energetic help and Oostburg State Bank for their support and providing their parking lot and cashier.

Doug asked for any questions following his report.

Public Safety:

David Huenink introduced himself as the chairman of the Public Safety Committee in 2020. That role primarily involves police and fire protection for the Town.

For police protection, the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department provides normal coverage for the entire county. The Town also contracts for additional police patrols for Town specific tasks from April through October. In 2020 the Town contracted for 140 hours but received 153.5 hours at no additional cost. The Sheriff's Dept responded to 825 incidents in the Town and issued 33 citations, mostly for traffic violations.

For fire protection, the Town is involved with four fire departments: Cedar Grove, Oostburg, Adell and Random Lake. In 2020 the Cedar Grove Fire Dept had 13 calls for Town locations plus 5 calls on I-43, with no structure fires occurring in the Town. Four calls were for downed power lines and five were false alarms for controlled burns. The Oostburg Fire Dept had 9 calls for Town locations plus 3 calls on I-43, including 1 structure fire on County Road KW. Two calls were for downed power lines. I do not track calls for Adell or Random Lake, but they only cover small areas of the Town.

Emergency services costs came in under the 2020 budget, so we were able to save some funds to help with an expected fire truck purchase in 2023.

David Huenink also serves as the chairman of the Town Plan Commission, which is composed of 2 board members and 7 members of the public. We normally meet the first Monday of each month. In 2020 we had a very busy and productive year. We received 13 applications for land division, rezoning, and conditional use permit requests.

We also worked on time-consuming special projects that required extra meetings to complete. These included drafting a 10-year Comprehensive Plan update; adding the Agricultural Tourism (A-T) Zoning District; implementing many ordinance updates to enhance, clarify and cleanup Town Code; and beginning a review of our Plan Commission procedures to find opportunities for improvement.

David Huenink also serves chairman of the Amsterdam Park Commission and am on Sheboygan County's Amsterdam Dunes Advisory Committee. Amsterdam Dunes is the County owned preservation area near Amsterdam Park.

In 2020 we had unusually high usage of Amsterdam Park. Due to the coronavirus, most people had "vacations at home" so took advantage of the local park and beach. Unfortunately, the Lake Michigan water levels set all-time record highs in January thru July. This resulted in only a narrow strip of beach and sometimes no beach at all. With the increased number of people, it could be quite crowded at times though family groups tried to spread out as much as possible.

The other issue caused by the high water was use of the boat launch. The base of the boat launch off the parking lot was washed out numerous times and exposed erosion protection measures from decades ago, including chunks of concrete with protruding rebar which was a safety hazard. Within the last two weeks we finalized our plans for 2021 and completed most of the preparation work. The large concrete pieces we could find have been removed. A protective semi-circle made up of large rocks to the south and wood pilings to the north has been installed. Our steel 20-ft ramp sections had been damaged over time so only two wide ones are able to be used. That is insufficient to reach deep enough water to launch most boats. We're having two new ramp sections fabricated and hope to have them available quickly so we can install the ramp before the end of May. Each year our goal is to have the boat launch available from Memorial Day thru Labor Day.

David asked for any questions following his report.

Roger Testroote asked if the Villages of Cedar Grove and Oostburg and the Town of Holland still subsidize Amsterdam Park Commission with \$1,500 annually. David Huenink stated that they do, and that the annual dues amount has remained unchanged. Roger commended the municipalities for continuing to do this over the years. Dave noted that the municipalities share the labor of park operations.

Administration:

Beyond the normal duties of administration like reviewing all of our insurance renewals etc. I spent a fair amount of time this year researching solar farms under 100mw. While the town has no say on solar farms over 100mw we do have a little say on solar farms under 100mw. I researched the current State Statutes to see what say we did have and also researched all the municipalities in the state that had some type of ordinance in place at this time. With the information gathered, Don and Dave were able to put together a Solar Farm Ordinance for the Town of Holland that was passed last week.

I would like to say that after spending fourteen years on the Town Board I am honored and privileged to have served with the members of the current board. While we did not always agree on the best way to get things done there was never a question in my mind that every board member was always trying their absolute best to do what was in the best interest of the town.

Roads:

Stanley Lammers introduced himself as the chairman of the Roads Committee of the Town of Holland in 2020. In 2020, the Town of Holland's major road project was the extension of the culvert on Sauk Trail Road South along the Amsterdam Dunes property making for a much safer road. A betterment project was completed on Rauwerdink Road from Risseeuw Road north to County Road A involving adding shoulders and reshaping of ditches after a major rain event in August of 2020. Two large culverts had to be replaced as a result of the rain event one on Wittwood drive and one on Frontage Road, which added \$75,000 to capital expenses, blacktopping of the Eernisse Road. Repair of a shoulder due to a washout going down to Bahr Creek was also completed on Sauk Trail Road. The Town replaced its tractor mower for doing the road ditches in 2020 as well. For 2021, two more large culverts

will be replaced, one in the Wittwood complex and one on the Frontage Road; blacktopping will be completed on Rauwerdink Road in the section that had the betterment project done and a couple more miles of road blacktopping will be decided on in the next few weeks.

Clerk-Treasurer:

Janelle Kaiser introduced herself as Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Holland. The report: I have an accounting background and operate a small cut flower farm here in the Township. I was appointed as Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Holland on April 1st, 2018. I am also the Clerk of the Plan Commission, the Board of Review, and the Board of Appeals. My position's duties are diverse and varietal, some of which include managing elections from start to finish, performing all administrative functions including payroll, taking minutes, and bookkeeping, and maintaining all Town records and correspondence. As the Town C-T, I am responsible for keeping up with many of the changing laws and requirements that our Township must comply with. I've found several ways in which to accomplish this in our region by attending trainings and meeting with local clerks and treasurers on a monthly basis. I am also working towards a Wisconsin Certified Municipal Clerk certification and anticipate earning that certification in 2021.

A few other updates that Janelle provided:

The Town of Holland continues to make use of the drop box at the Town Hall near the front door for payments, permit applications, absentee ballots, etc. This box is checked regularly, so please feel free to utilize it for your purposes. Physical posting places for meetings, notices, and ordinances in the Township are at the Town Hall, the Recycling Center, and Hy-Way Transit on Sauk Trail Road. Please visit www.townofholland.com regularly to keep up with local government activities. The Clerk-Treasurer's office hours are posted around the Township and on the Town's website. The Clerk-Treasurer's hours are Mondays 5-7pm, Tuesdays 11am-1pm, Wednesdays 8-10am and by appointment. I have so enjoyed the last year serving as the Town Clerk-Treasurer; I learn so much every year and no day is the same. I truly look forward to serving another year with the Town of Holland.

Chairman:

It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with the supervisors on the Town Board, the Plan Commission members, and the Clerk-Treasurer because of their dedication and service to the Town of Holland. Supervisor Steve Jones, in his report to the electors, properly pointed out the focus of these dedicated people to do what is best for the Town as a whole.

You have heard some of the work the Board and Plan Commission have done through the prior committee reports. Although the Board is divided into committees, there is a great deal of assistance provided across committee lines and within the Plan Commission. I thank the Board and Plan Commission members for their service and for their assistance throughout the past year. I especially want to thank David Huenink for his willingness to take on the responsibility of serving as Chairman of the Plan Commission. In so doing, he took on many extra duties thereby reducing the workload for me. I am incredibly grateful for his service to the Town and especially for his assistance to me.

The quiet hero behind the scenes is our Clerk-Treasurer who anticipates the needs of Board and Plan Commission members alike, researching and resolving issues even before they are reported to these organizations. This saves many hours for the elected and appointed officials, results in timely service to the residents, and improves the functioning of the town government. Thank you for streamlining our systems, adding and improving systems consistent with our effort for continual improvement, and for doing it all with a smile.

Ranger Power submitted its application to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) for the development of a solar electric utility in the Town of Holland, the PSC held its public hearings, and the PSC is nearing the end of its review of the submittal and comments. The state legislature has placed all responsibilities for review and licensing of such projects with the PSC to the exclusion of the local units of government. In early 2020, the Town Board started the task of negotiating a Joint Development Agreement with Ranger Power for the purpose of protecting the citizens of the township throughout the project development and the decades-long life of the solar utility. A special thank-you to David Huenink for leading the negotiation effort and bringing it to a conclusion that will likely serve as the JDA model for other communities.

The Town Board also addressed solar electrical installations that are under 100 MW. Stephen Jones researched what other communities were doing with regard to these installations. Working with the Town's attorney, an ordinance was drafted and recently adopted that sets standards for these smaller electrical generating facilities. Thank you to Supervisor Jones for leading this effort.

There were many other activities of the Board and Plan Commission that cannot be detailed in the committee reports or in my report.

Don Becker asked for questions anyone may have related to his report.

8. Presentation and discussion of 2020 Financial Report presented by Janelle Kaiser, Clerk-Treasurer: Janelle Kaiser presented the 2020 financial audit report. The financial audit was performed by Paul Corson of Corson, Peterson, and Hamman in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.
9. Approval of 2020 Financial Report: Motion by Roy Teunissen, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to approve the report as presented. Motion carried by a show of hands (15 votes yes, 0 votes no).
10. Elector vote for proclamation by Town Board for the Oostburg Middle School 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Team:
The Town Board became aware of this recommendation during the April 12th, 2021 board meeting. The Town Board felt that it would be more appropriate to address this item during the annual elector meeting.
Motion by Craig Droppers, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to adopt Town of Holland Electors Proclamation 2021-01 to the Oostburg Middle School 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Team and the Town Board present that proclamation to the team. Motion carried by a show of hands (15 votes yes, 0 votes no).

David Huenink mentioned 3 options for the presentation to the Oostburg Middle School 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Team and welcomed feedback on those options.

1. Have the entire team there but hold it in the large multi-purpose room. Perhaps hold a separate presentation before we go in the meeting room and start the board meeting.
2. Have as very early agenda item in the board meeting but only have the team captains and coaches present.
3. Have board representatives (at a minimum the chairman and one other) go to a team meeting at the Middle School.

Jack Stokdyk suggested that they discuss it with the coach and Judy Becker agreed. Craig Droppers that the school board may recognize the team and Craig suggested that the Town might join in on that effort if they had not already recognized them. David Huenink also noted that the Village of Oostburg may do something.

11. Recognition of Service – Donald Becker and Stephen Jones:

David Huenink made a statement recognizing Donald Becker and Stephen Jones' service to the Township as follows:

As you know, tonight is Don Becker's and Steve Jones' last official meeting as Town Board members. At least until they are re-elected in a few years. What year should I help with your nomination papers again?

Don has been with us for 16 years and Steve as been here for 14 years.

As both Don & Steve indicated in their reports, we have been fortunate to have board members that really care about the Town. Our diverse mix of backgrounds and skillsets have enabled great things to be accomplished during Don & Steve's terms.

One of Don & Steve largest accomplishments is all around us. They were our delegated authorities for the Town Hall renovation project which required many hours of project reviews, meetings with contractors and "be at the Town Hall in 15 minutes" to consider and devise solutions for all the issues encountered when working on an older building. We have received many compliments on the project's outcome.

Steve also led our implementation of ordinances relating to renewable energy. The largest one was to quickly regulate Wind Energy Systems in response to a proposed wind turbine farm that would span two towns. Steve gathered technical information which helped us successfully collaborate with the other town and we jointly adopted very complicated ordinance. Steve also did the initial investigation that led to our recent Small Solar Energy regulation, for solar projects below the State controlled threshold.

Don has had an immense impact on the Town. During his terms as Town Chairman, we've computerized almost all our systems, standardized many processes, developed and adopted a Long-Range Comprehensive Plan, implemented extensive revisions to our ordinances to follow the Comprehensive Plan and to clarify and enhance regulations, greatly improved our annual Town Budget process, and led many other projects.

Like the other board members and Town staff, I've always tried to provide support to Don. Little did I know the heights that would lead to, and I don't mean the chairmanship. One of the final steps of the Town Hall renovation project was the installation of the acoustic panels above us. We board members provided almost all the labor ourselves. We erected three tiers of scaffolding to reach the highest points. With each movement the entire structure would sway from side to side. So in this case after handing up the next acoustic panel, my "support to Don" was hanging onto the scaffolding for dear life with one hand and looping a finger through the back of Don's belt with the other hand. And Don? He was the guy standing upright on the top level, balancing an acoustic panel over his head, and blindly reaching around and above it in order to find the hook we'd previously screwed into the ceiling.

The Town Board and staff are certainly going to miss both Don and Steve. We thank them for all their years of service and wish them luck in all future endeavors.

Clerk-Treasurer Janelle Kaiser presented Don Becker with engraved plaques as a token of appreciation for their many years of service on the Town Board. Janelle Kaiser will ensure that Stephen Jones receives his engraved plaque. Donald Becker said a few words to commemorate his time serving as Chairman of the Township to include a complete overhaul, organization, and codification of Town ordinances during his tenure and completion of a joint development agreement between the Town of Holland, Sheboygan County, and Onion River Solar. He also discussed his appreciation for members of the Town Board, Clerk-Treasurer, and his wife Judy Becker. He thanked the electors for the privilege of serving as Town Board Chairman.

11. Any other Business that lawfully comes before the Township: Chair Becker requested that any business attendees wish to discuss be presented at this time. No other business was requested by attendees.
12. Set next annual meeting date: By default, the annual town meeting is held on the third Tuesday in April. This date is set by state statutes. The third Tuesday in April of 2022 is April 19th. Motion by David Huenink, supported by Roy Teunissen, to set the next annual meeting date of April 19th, 2022 at 7:30pm at the Holland Town Hall; motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
13. Reading of 2021 minutes for approval: Chair Becker recommended that the reading not include all committee, chairman, and recognition of service reports as they were provided to the Clerk-Treasurer in writing at the meeting unless anyone present objected to this practice. There were no objections. Clerk-Treasurer Janelle Kaiser read the minutes for approval. Motion by Jack Stokdyk, supported by Roy Teunissen, to approve the minutes. Motion carried by a show of hands (15 votes yes, 0 votes no).
14. Adjourn: Motion by Roy Teunissen to adjourn, supported by Jack Stokdyk. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.