

Town of Merton  
Town Board Meeting  
Minutes of October 4, 2021

- Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Klink @ 6:30 pm
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Klink

Present: Chairman Klink, Supervisors Herrick, Olson, Fleming and Morris, Highway Superintendent Griffin and Clerk Hann. Absent: Attorney Murn, , Treasurer Kempen  
Also, in attendance: Cindy Spyers-Duran, Scott Selby, Lorand Spyers-Duran; Jim Grinney, Dan Christiansen; James Paulsen; Mary Walker; Pat Walker; Dave Jambretz; Dawn Borjorski; Travis Schultz; Jenelle Blavat; Richer & Lisa Burant; Nicole & Joe Probst; Donna Beringer; Kent Rice; Jill Smith

Citizen Comments and Concerns:

Mary spoke for her brother who recently had a medical event and his concern of not have immediate response. Donna Beringer from Arrowhead High School Board spoke on behalf of the Board getting information on any changes with the Hartland Fire Department. Jill Smith spoke on response time concerns for ambulance contracts. Kent Rice, president of the Arrowhead High School Board spoke on about the excellent response the school has received from the Hartland Fire Department.

Old Business:

Consider/Act on Engineering Contract. Clerk Hann presented the contract for the board to review and approve Strand Associates as the Town Engineer. A motion to approve the Engineering Contract was made by Morris/Olson. Motion Carried.

Consider/Act on Wards for the Town of Merton. Clerk Hann explained that 2020 was a census year and the town needs to review the change in population for the Town of Merton. Town Wards need to be reviewed to make sure they comply with the requirements of no more than 1000 people in each ward. Supervisor Herrick asked questions about the county supervisors for Waukesha County. Supervisor Morris stated that we need to work with the county when developing the ward map. A motion to approve the Wards for the Town of Merton was made by Fleming/Olson. Motion carried.

New Business:

Consider/Act on Merton Fire Department Contract. Chairman Klink clarified for the audience the town board meeting was moved due to a convention for the Wisconsin Towns Association. Chairman Klink stated that there have been many meetings with Merton Fire Department Inc. and most recently with three members from Merton Fire Department, Inc. and members from the Western Lakes to talk about coverage for the Town of Merton. Supervisor Herrick stated that we are not looking at getting rid of any fire departments. Chairman Klink stated the discussions started about three years ago. The town was looking at have a contract with Western Lakes and possibly a new group called Bark River. Originally, the Bark River Group was going to be made up of the Village of Hartland, the Town of Lisbon, the Village of Merton, the Town of

Merton and Merton Community Fire Department. Which would give the Town of Merton ownership in the Bark River Group. Over time, other fire departments decided not to join the Bark River Group. Merton Fire Department has informed the town that Bark River is not going to happen. The Town of Merton is not taking this lightly. Merton Fire Department is always looking for staffing and it is hard to find volunteers for Fire/EMS Departments. The Town is looking at entering into 6-month contract with Merton Community Fire Department which is a private entity not like the Hartland Fire Department which is a Municipal Fire Department. The Town of Merton has always worked with the Hartland Fire Department and will continue to work with the Village of Hartland/Hartland Fire Department and The Merton Fire Department. The Town of Merton had discussion with the Village of Merton in close session about entering into a 6-month contract with Merton Fire Department, however did not move into open session that night and decided to bring this as an agenda item to tonight's meeting. Supervisor Morris stated the contract would be for Merton Community Fire to start the process to work with Western Lakes. A motion to enter into a 6-month contract with Merton Community from January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 to give Merton Community Fire Department time to work out details with the Western Lakes Fire Department was made by Fleming/Morris. Motion carried.

Discussion on 2022 Fire Contracts.

Chairman Klink stated that Town was waiting to hear back from the Village of Hartland on the six month or one year contract. Discussion will continue with the Village of Hartland and with the Merton Fire Department, Inc. Chairman Klink thanked everyone for their comments tonight.

Adjourn - A motion to adjourn was made by Fleming/Olson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted  
Donna Hann, Town Clerk