

TOWN OF WEST POINT
TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2023

Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.84, the Town Board of the Town of West Point held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at the West Point Town Hall and via Zoom. The meeting was published in the Lodi Enterprise, the Star News, posted in the three designated places in the Town and on the Town's website.

The Town Board meeting was called to order by Ashley Nedeau-Owen - Town Chairman, at 6:50 p.m. The Town Board members present at the Town Hall were: Ashley Nedeau-Owen - Town Chairman, Kevin Kessler - 1st Supervisor, Scott Earnest - 2nd Supervisor, and David Lendved - 4th Supervisor. Also present were Taffy Buchanan - Town Clerk and Sharon Richmond - Town Treasurer. Absent was John Ungrodt - 3rd Supervisor (excused).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to approve the agenda as with moving Agenda #15 "Broadband Resolutions & ARPA Funds" up to number #10, 2nd by David Lendved – motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Input – None

Copies of the December 8, 2022 Town Board Meeting minutes were emailed to each Town Board member prior to the meeting for their review. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to approve the December 8, 2022 Town Board Meeting minutes as presented, 2nd by Scott Earnest - motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Sharon Richmond had prepared and the Clerk presented the following report: General Fund as of December 31, 2022 - \$2,989,618.59; Coronavirus Recovery Acct (ARPA Funds) - \$208,290.42; Park Fund \$2,727.00; Historical Society is \$6,102.71; and Savannah Tree is \$1,159.38 is in a 1-year CD (matures 5/24/23). The Town Treasurer and Town Clerk reconciled the bank accounts for the month of December.

Correspondence – The Town received a letter from Lodi Community Action Team (LCAT) requesting municipalities to add them to the agenda in the coming

months for a presentation on what they do for the community and consider adding LCAT funding to their budgets in 2024. Wisconsin DOT sent the 2023 Final Calculation for transportation aid; the Town will receive \$111,574.54 to use on town roads. The Town has been awarded \$1,200.00 under the Election Security Subgrant Program for Municipalities, issued by the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). The WDOT will be holding an informational construction meeting regarding the Highway 113 project at the Lodi High School Performing Arts Center on January 30, 2023. Columbia County Highway Department will be holding a public informational meeting about the large re-surfacing project for CTH V from CTH JV east to STH 113 at the West Point Town Hall on February 1, 2023, at 6:00pm. The Town received minutes from the LAFD Fire Commission meetings held on November 16, 2022, and December 14, 2022. Clifford Wilkinson sent a letter stating he concerns he has about dead and dying pine trees at Pine Vista, some of them which have fallen already, he also sent pictures.

The bills were reviewed by each town board member prior to the town board meeting. A copy of the bills, deposits, and budget for 2023 were given to each town board member for their information. A motion was made by Scott Earnest to approve to pay the bills as presented, 2nd David Lendved – motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Columbia County Report – Doug Richmond reported the County heard concerns from citizens about solar farms.

Lodi Fire Commission – David Lendved reported they met on December 21st, and they had closed sessions about 2 candidates for hiring and also on Fire Station site selection. Nick Davies was nominated to be Secretary of the Fire Commission.

Sauk Fire District – no report

Sauk Prairie Ambulance – no report

Lodi EMS Commission – no report

Plan Commission – Kevin Kessler reported the Plan Commission met on January 5th, and recommended approval of the CSM for a lot-line adjustment for Steve Stokes. Kevin Kessler also updated them on the Blackhawk Ridge “condos”.

Transfer Site Report – no report

Park & Open Space Committee – David Lendved reported they met on December 13th and discussed Selwood Park and options for a “community garden” at Ryan Park.

Broadband Committee – no report

Fish, Crystal, and Mud Lake District/Pumping – no report

Tess Carr, Columbia County Board Supervisor for the Town of Lodi, requested the Town authorize the use of ARPA funds for Broadband expansion. Spectrum would like a local match for a grant to expand fiber optic to about 114 homes in West Point. Tess Carr is also going to ask Columbia County for and the Town of Lodi to allocate funds also. Kevin Kessler was concerned about the inequity of the amount of funding requests between County and municipalities. Ashley Nedeau-Owen presented a resolution to show the Town’s commitment of ARPA funds to broadband expansion. A motion was made by David Lendved to adopt Resolution 2023-01-12-A – Determination to Expand Broadband Access with a minor change striking the word “its” from the second to the last paragraph and add the words “further” and “that” in the last paragraph, 2nd by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously. A second resolution was presented to specify amounts and some terms for the allocation of the ARPA funds to Spectrum/ Charter if awarded a grant. A motion was made by David Lendved to approve Resolution 2023-01-12-B - Local Match Commitment for Broadband Expansion using up to \$175,000.00 of ARPA funds, 2nd by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously. The signed resolutions are attached to the minutes.

Steve Stokes presented a CSM for a lot-line adjustment between Parcel #11040-165.04 and #11040-164.05. The Plan Commission met on January 2nd and recommended the Town Board approve the CSM as presented. A motion was made by Scott Earnest to accept and approve the CSM for a lot-line adjustment with the understanding that the dirt pile will be taken care of., 2nd by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously. Jeff Marquardt brought up a concern about the removal of the pile of fill on the property. Steve Stokes assured the Town Board that the pile is stabilized, is in compliance, and will be taken care of.

The following operator license application for Schoepp’s Cottonwood Resort was presented to the Town Board for consideration: Bridget Krueger. The applicant

presented has attended Alcohol Awareness Classes. A motion was made by David Lendved to approve the Operator License as presented, 2nd by Scott Earnest – yes 3, no 0, abstain 1 - motion carried.

Mark Brown, Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc, joined the meeting via Zoom and presented the documents the company will hand out while conducting the revaluation for West Point and timeline that their company will follow. Wisconsin State law requires the Town of West Point to conduct a full revaluation in 2023.

Chuck Bongard, former Town Engineer from MSA, attended the meeting and introduced Stephanie Potter, the new Town Building Inspector from MSA, to the Board. He also presented the MSA Building Inspector contract. Kevin Kessler said he would like the contract to reference Chapter 8 & 12 of the Town's Code of Ordinances and that it also includes that MSA will provide a "certified" inspector. A motion was made by David Lendved to adopt the contract with the 2 changes, 2nd by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously.

The Town Chair spoke with the Town Engineer and he plans on having the bid documents out for the Schoepp Road documents February 1st, 2023.

The Town Board is waiting to sign the WDOT Highway 113 Project – Temporary Easement Agreement until a few questions are cleared up and they discuss it again. The Town Chair will attend a meeting on Thursday, January 19th at the City Hall with the WDOT.

The Clerk presented pricing for the ExpressVote voting machine, it is ADA compliant and would replace the Automark, which the Town currently has. The Automark will not be supported after a while and at that time the Town would need to get the ExpressVote. The company is offering special pricing if we purchase the ExpressVote before February 1st 2023. A motion was made by David Lendved to approve purchasing the ExpressVote, 2nd by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously.

The next regular town board meeting will be on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 7:00pm, on the agenda is: ATV / UTV Routes, WDOT Highway 113 Project, contract renewals, Town roads, and any other business that can be legally added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Scott Earnest to adjourn the January 12, 2023, Town Board meeting at 9:45pm, 2nd by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted By
Taffy Buchanan
Town Clerk

TOWN OF WEST POINT
RESOLUTION 2023-01-12-A
RE: DETERMINATION TO EXPAND BROADBAND ACCESS

WHEREAS, much of our civic, recreational, educational, business, healthcare, and, personal business needs can be satisfied wholly or in large part utilizing broadband services, and

WHEREAS, the town of West Point publishes all of its agendas, minutes, ordinances, forms, notices, and other written documents pertaining to local governance on line, and

WHEREAS, the minimal connection recommended by the federal government for accessing data on-line is a broadband connection, notwithstanding that definition of same varies over time, and

WHEREAS, much of West Point is still without broadband access, and

WHEREAS, the town of West Point has received American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA-SLFRF) that can be used for broadband expansion, and

WHEREAS, the town board has previously expressed an interest in using these funds for broadband expansion,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Town of West Point commit to using ARPA-SLFRF funds for broadband expansion, and further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the use not be limited to local expenditures but can also be used for local match requirements in larger grant applications.


Ashley Nedeau-Owen, Chair


Kevin Kessler, 1st Supervisor


Scott Earnest, 2nd Supervisor


John Ungrodt, 3rd Supervisor


David Lendved, 4th Supervisor

TOWN OF WEST POINT
RESOLUTION 2023-01-12B
RE: LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION

WHEREAS, West Point is preparing to support Spectrum/Charter Communications, Inc. ("Charter") to facilitate the deployment of affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service in West Point; and

WHEREAS, federal and state broadband infrastructure grant competitiveness necessitates that local stakeholders make a commitment of matching funds for proposed grant-funded broadband projects; and

WHEREAS, Charter has stated its intention, with Columbia County, the Town of West Point, and the Town of Lodi as local stakeholder supporters, to prepare a grant application to submit by February 22, 2022, to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ("PSCW") for provision of high speed fiberoptic cable broadband service to unserved and underserved areas of the Town of West Point and the Town of Lodi; and

WHEREAS, if awarded the PSCW grant, Charter will fund, or obtain funding through partners, consumers, and matching funding, for the remaining project funding not covered by the grant.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of West Point Board of Supervisors that West Point's commitment of matching funds to support this grant application shall be realized as follows:


1. In the grant application, West Point's share of the matching contribution will be in an amount not to exceed the following: if the project grant is awarded by the PSCW and West Point, West Point agrees to fund up to \$175,000 towards the project for the Towns of West Point and Lodi;
2. West Point shall pay to Charter half the amount agreed to in a forthcoming broadband expansion plan agreement within 30 days of all the following conditions being met:
 - a. Charter is awarded a grant for the project from the PSCW grant program, and
 - b. Charter commences fiberoptic construction in the project area.
3. West Point shall pay to Charter the remaining amount agreed to in the forthcoming broadband plan expansion agreement within 30 days of completion of the project.
4. Additional terms and conditions between the parties will be included in a separate broadband expansion plan agreement, to be developed and executed after the successful awarding of the PSCW grant.
5. In the event this specific grant is not awarded, the funding amount named above shall be released from the obligations of this resolution.


Ashley Nedeau-Owen, Chair


Kevin Kessler, 1st Supervisor


Scott Earnest, 2nd Supervisor


John Ungrodt, 3rd Supervisor


David Lendved, 4th Supervisor

Fiscal Note: Funding will be expended only upon successful grant award from the PSCW. Funding will come from American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funds set aside for this purpose.