Date and Time: **Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 7:00 pm**
Place: Town of Farmington Town Hall, 9422 STH 144, Kewaskum WI 53040

Present: Chairman Chris Elbe, Supervisor Mark Foyse, Supervisor Duane Wollner, Treasurer Ken Ramthun, Clerk Chris Schellinger.

Chairman Elbe called the meeting of the Town of Farmington Town Board to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chris Schellinger read the Affidavit of Posting, stating that prior to the meeting, notice was sent to the Kewaskum Statesman, posted at the Town Hall, Fillmore Fire Hall, Green Lake Access and on the website.

**MINUTES** of the December 13, 2011 and December 19, 2011 Town Board meetings were approved on a motion made by Wollner, seconded by Foyse. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**BUILDING INSPECTOR / ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** John Derler reported a total of three (3) homes, consisting of two (2) new homes and one (1) replacement home, for the year. Twenty-one (21) various zoning permits issued for the year for pools, decks, additions and garages.

**ORDINANCE #2012-01:** Moved by Wollner, seconded by Foyse to approve rezone request and adopt Ordinance #2012-01 – An Ordinance Amending the Town Zoning Map by rezoning from Commercial District (CD) to Residential District (RD) the following described property of Jacob Junk and Liza Cranney located at 663 CTH H,
Fredonia, WI 53021, Tax Key#T4-0550-00B. Legal description: Lot One (1) of Certified Survey Map No. 6110 as recorded December 11, 2006 at 11:05 AM in the Office of the Register of Deeds in and for Washington County, Wisconsin, in Volume 45 of Certified Survey Maps on page 312 as Document No. 1146585, being a part of the NW ¼, of the NE ¼, and all of Outlot 1 in Krystal Heights of Section 23, T12N, R20E, Town of Farmington, Washington County, Wisconsin. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) – EUGENE W ZIEGLER JR: A Public Hearing regarding CUP request was held 1-10-2012 at 6 pm. Mr. Ziegler has applied for a Federal Firearm’s License (FFL) and is now seeking approval for a CUP to sell firearms, in order to complete his application with the ATF. It would take approximately 4-6 weeks to receive his license if approved by them. The Board considered comments heard at the public hearing. Moved by Foyse, seconded by Wollner to deny a Conditional Use Permit for Eugene Ziegler Jr. for gun sales not to exceed 50 per year from his residence at 1120 Greenway Lane. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion Carried.

ROBERT ZETTLER JR. – REGARDING PETER WINKELS PROPERTY: Postponed from December 13, 2011 Town Board meeting. John Derler stopped at Peter Winkels’ house to speak with him regarding concern from neighbors Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zettler Jr. that his property at 9410 Bolton Drive, Kewaskum, WI 53040 is in possible violation of the Town Zoning code. Mr. Winkels was not present. Mr. Derler will send him a letter noting possible zoning violations. Further discussion and possible action postponed until the February 14, 2012 Town Board meeting.

CHAINSAW PURCHASE: Postponed from December 13, 2011 Town Board meeting. Board reviewed prices received for chainsaws.

- Gibbsville Implement: $1,020 (for 2 saws equivalent to MS290)
- Miller Sales & Service: $999.99 (for 2 saws equivalent to MS290)
- Tennis Ace Hardware: Stihl MS290 3.8hp 18” bar and chain was $316, extra chain $18
  Stihl MS311 4.0 hp 20”bar and chain was $432, extra chain $19

Moved by Elbe, seconded by Wollner to purchase two chainsaws from Tennis Ace Hardware, one MS290 3.8hp with 18” bar and chain for $316 and extra chain for $18.
and one MS311 4.0hp with 20” bar and chain for $432 and extra chain for $19. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.

**TOWN ROAD CONDITIONS:** Read letter received from Gary Schreiber, unable to attend meeting. Letter expressed his concern regarding the icy condition of the Town’s roads a little over a week ago. Letter also expressed Mr. Schreiber’s concern regarding his understanding that our plow contractors were not permitted to plow at their discretion and only permitted to plow when authorized by our Chairman. Numerous residents also spoke out about their similar concern for the above issues. Comments included such things as: roads were in poor condition especially for buses and school children, found the icy conditions unacceptable and saw where vehicles had gone off the roads. Joe Gonnering, Town of Trenton Chairman, was present and stated they had received numerous calls in his Town regarding the road conditions on the sections of road we are responsible for in our agreement with his Town. Mr. Gonnering also wanted to confirm this working agreement between the two Towns. It was mentioned that the Town of Kewaskum also received numerous calls regarding a section of Forest View Road that the Town of Farmington is responsible for and they eventually sanded this section of road.

Elbe stated he would try to explain this situation. On 4-19-2012, we had a small snowstorm and then there was also a fire in Star Valley. Wayne’s Grading was called out to plow for the fire and then they plowed the rest of the Town, which Elbe said he felt was necessary. That afternoon he saw the doors were open on the salt shed and came up to check it out. He saw they were loading up the trucks with salt for the next day. Elbe had watched the weather and it was supposed to warm up. So he called Rodney (Wayne’s Grading) and said he didn’t feel it was necessary for them to salt the next morning. Rodney said he would have to call his dad. Elbe called Wayne and found him to be very unhappy that Elbe was going to stick his nose into the plowing and salting of the Town. Elbe has always felt the Chairman should be responsible to make some of these decisions. We can’t have an open range to someone who is getting paid by the hour. By not having them salt that next day it probably saved the Town $1,500. Elbe also stated he feels someone needs to be in charge of one of our biggest budget items of snow plowing and salt. The budgets of the past were affected by a loan the Town took out in July 2007 for $80,000 and a surplus of approximately $358,697 from the Jay Road and bridge project in 2008. Elbe stated the Town has been running on these funds for 3+ years with expenses continuing to rise. In 2012 we are budgeted to use $71,000 more than our projected income, the last of the surplus. After 2012, what are we going to do? If we keep spending more than we
bring in it’s not going to work. Elbe stated, the last thing he wants to do is jeopardize anyone’s safety, but he will not disagree that Monday and Tuesday last week the roads got out of hand. He was a day late on the salting that they did. He will admit that, but he wants everyone to realize he is not kidding about the budget. Costs will have to be cut or taxes will have to be raised. Elbe suggested using sand as a way to possibly save money. How do you want us to save money?

*Art Seyfert:* How much do we have budgeted for the roads for snowplowing? **Elbe:** $210,000. *Seyfert:* Are we going to use that? **Elbe:** I hope not. *Seyfert:* Why aren’t we using it when the roads are icy? **Elbe:** I’ll tell you something Art, here’s a reason you went bankrupt a few times. *Seyfert:* That’s a lie. **Elbe:** Just because we’re having a mild winter doesn’t mean when it snows we’re gonna just giver. The only way we are going to get ourselves out of the pickle I just talked about that we are in is by continually being conservative. I feel there is merit to having myself and the three of us work together in telling the snowplowers when and when not to go out to try and save some money. *Foyse:* There were a lot of major roads that were glare ice. Drove the Town roads at this time and saw three different locations on Newark Drive where cars went in the ditch. Forest View saw about a half-dozen cars that went into the ditch. Agree that maybe on the subdivision roads or roads with slower speed limits could try to conserve a little bit, but owe it to the safety of the people to do a better job. Not against looking at mixing salt and sand together. *Wollner:* Town of Kewaskum and Town of Wayne both mix sand with their salt. This helps in icy situations because if the salt doesn’t melt the ice, the sand creates some grit. Both Towns found it cost effective. These Towns have an advantage owning their own trucks and when there is a bad spot they can just go out and take care of it. We don’t have that luxury. Believes the Chairman should be making these day-to-day decisions and be able to call someone and they are able to get there. *Rodney Erickson:* We have plowed for the Town of Barton for over 40 years and there’s not a problem there calling the shots, and have plowed for about 28 years for the Town of Farmington. *Wayne Erickson:* Feels Elbe doesn’t know the road conditions. I listen to the Sherriff’s Department and they call me and then we go out when needed, don’t just go out at random to plow roads. We check the roads all the time. Last Tuesday, got a call from the Sheriff’s Department and they were wondering if he was going out, I told them they needed to contact Elbe. Elbe contacted Rodney on Tuesday and said they could go out with one truck. *Rodney Erickson:* Upset that Elbe’s decisions to call the shots reflect back on their reputation. **Elbe:** This reflects back on my reputation. What I would like to do is make a motion to start using some sand, could get it from Hartmann Sand & Gravel for $5.45/ton picked up. *Wollner:* I think we have a real communication problem. **Elbe:** Need to get my cell phone number out to
others for immediate contact. **Wollner:** Elbe is Chairman and responsible for this. Get number from Joe Gonnering for the weather information. Get number to Sheriff’s Department. Rodney is contact for Wayne’s Grading. **Foyse:** Read copy of letter from Sheriff’s Department stating they do not call townships to report poor road conditions or request plowing or salting, in general. Feel it is the Town’s decision to make. Asked Elbe if ok to be notified by Rodney if they are going out. **Elbe:** No problem with that. **Foyse:** Feel our way of trying to save money, might be to look at trying some sand. **Rodney Erickson:** The Town tried sand years ago and ended up going back to salt. **Jim Dieringer:** Sand sounds good, just not going to save as much as you think you are, if you don’t get perfectly dry sand it will freeze in the truck, also can build up on the intersections and can cause slipping, not a good idea. **Wollner:** I think the biggest hurdle we have right now is communication. I would like to research salt and sand a little more. **Foyse:** Biggest concern right now is to resolve the communication issues. **Wollner:** Rodney, would you have a problem when you go out to call Elbe and let him know? **Rodney Erickson:** No, but I don’t want to be told we can only use one truck, etc. **Wollner:** I have no problem with you going out and just giving Elbe a call. If Elbe says no, then he is taking the heat for that. **Elbe:** I think that’s a good idea. **Rodney Erickson:** I have a concern about the times we might call in the middle of the night, what if he doesn’t know the condition of the roads or answer the call? **Wollner:** Rodney, I’m not telling you that you need his permission to go out, just inform him that you are going out, if he doesn’t answer you just go. The only time you don’t go is if he answers and says no. Mark, do you have a problem with that? **Foyse:** No. **Wollner:** Rodney, you said you have used sand here and there in the past when it’s like conditions we had? **Rodney Erickson:** Yeah, when it gets extremely cold we do.

**Wollner:** I’d like to make a motion that the Sheriff’s Department calls you guys (Wayne’s Grading), just inform Chris (Elbe) what you are doing, if you don’t hear from him, then just go ahead, only way you wouldn’t be going is if he said no I don’t think we need to go out, or you can talk about the trouble spots. Just need communication here. **Wayne Erickson:** Are you going to tell us we can only go with one truck, two, etc? **Elbe:** No, that’s your discretion. **Wollner:** (Restated motion) Motion made by me that Rodney will going out to plow snow/salt at his discretion, but will inform Chris (Elbe), and it’s Chris’ authority, being the Chairman of this Town, to deny Rodney the ability to go if he so chooses. **Elbe:** Then we will not do anything at this time with sand. We all agree on that and we’ll look into it further. Then with communication, I have no problem if they’re gonna go out like any other time, give me a buzz. I don’t foresee saying no if they are going to Barton
and everywhere else. I don’t have a problem with that. Motion died for lack of a second. No further discussion or action.

GENERAL TOWN MAINTENANCE & STATUS OF WOODCUTTING CREW: Scott Densow addressed the Board regarding woodcutting crew status. Stated he is the coordinator of the woodcutting crew and wants to know if he did something wrong as coordinator? Elbe: Were you officially hired as the coordinator at a meeting? Densow: Yes, Art Seyfert and Gary Schreiber (as Board members) made that announcement at a meeting, doesn’t recall exactly when that was, maybe 2-3 years ago. Feels the crew has been doing a good job, didn’t realize members of Board were upset with what they were doing and thought they were doing what the Board was telling them to do. An incident occurred last Saturday that made him aware of this. Densow contacted his list of people during the week and came up with 4 individuals (limited to 4) to go out and cut on Saturday. On his way to the Town shed, noticed Town’s chipper truck was at the gas station at 6:25 am. Went to the Town Sheds and noticed two vehicles he didn’t recognize, drove back to the gas station and Reggie Rochwite was behind the wheel of the Town truck, John Stern was with him. Densow told Reggie the last place we were instructed to brush cut was on Forest View Road north of Club Lane and the rest of the crew would meet them at the site. Since Densow is limited to 4 workers he called Elbe and Elbe instructed him to send two of the four workers home and the other two would work with Reggie and John. At the time, Elbe also informed him that at the next Town meeting he wouldn’t be in charge of the woodcutting crew and this responsibility would fall to John Stern. Densow told the crew about this phone call and they all decided they wouldn’t be cutting that day and notified Reggie. Densow stated that it appears from this situation that a decision has already been made that John and Reggie are going to be hired as the primary and secondary part-time employees. Densow was very upset by this. He feels the crew has been doing a good job, they do the work they have been asked to do, and he has attended most Town Board meetings since this designation as coordinator. Elbe: No one ever told me that you were the coordinator of the crew, I just figured you were the lead-guy, not hired as a coordinator. The chipper and other machines need to be maintained and aren’t. Feels John and Reggie were accomplishing more in same time frame. Densow: Previous Town Boards took care of the primary maintenance on the machines. Elbe: Why don’t we just keep it like it is, you can still be in charge of the brush cutting and we can just have some of the maintenance done and stuff like that, but some of that stuff has got to get looked at. No action taken to designate John Stern as primary part-time employee and Reggie Rochwite as secondary part-time employee for general Town maintenance to include shop, machines, brush cutting, etc.
Letter with comments from Gary Schreiber regarding this agenda item was read.

APPOINT ELECTION OFFICIAL AS GREETER: Moved by Foyse, seconded by Wollner to appoint Marylin Schluga as Greeter for election term pursuant to s.7.30(1)(b) Wis. Stat. Approved to use a greeter for the April 2012 election and Clerk to report back on need for greeter for additional elections. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:  
*Tom Wondra (Phone call to Wollner):* Questioning Tomahawk Road Sign; *US Dept. Commerce:* Boundary and Annexation Survey received and completed; *Eckert Law Office, LLC:* Copy of Judgment entered by the court dated 12-6-11; *UW-Extension:* WisLine series pamphlet for “Open Government and Parliamentary Procedure”; *Wash. Cty. PCPC:* Copy of News Release regarding 2012 Native Tree & Prairie Seed Program Sale; *We Energies:* Letter regarding 2012 planned road projects; *Ron Trepes:* Farmington Athletic Club Annual Meeting and Baseball signup at Town Hall 3-8-2012 at 7 pm; *GLPOA:* Email regarding Ice Fisheree scheduled for 1-21-2012 postponed to 2-18-2012 due to unsafe thin ice.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:  
January 17, 2012, Town Board of Audit at 7 pm
January 24, 2012, Plan Commission at 7:30 pm, as needed
February 14, 2012, Town Board at 7 pm
February 21, 2012, Spring Primary Election

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT: Ken Ramthun reported $342,836.46 in the General Account, total income of $261,769.23 and total expenses of $81,318.55. This month Town income included Town Property Tax ($227,235.67) and General Transportation Aid ($34,533.56). This month Town expense included Fire Protection ($50,000), LOSA ($16,400) and Highway Maintenance ($1,960.41). Moved by Foyse, seconded by Wollner to approve bills and expenditures as presented. Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.
CITIZEN COMMENTS:  Laurie Pree  - Asked for clarification on plowing issue. When it comes time for plowing, Wayne and his guy’s make the decision if they are going out, they just call you and say, “Hey, Chris we’re going out” to let you know. They’re not waiting for your approval to go or not, just telling you they’re going. And you’re not telling them no, you’re just wanting to be told that they are out. Elbe said, “Right, if we would talk about something that would be an opportunity to talk about it.” Gary Schreiber – Read letter received from Gary, unable to attend meeting. He questioned road sign for Tomahawk Road and “Welcome to Farmington” sign. Elbe said after the meeting they would check the shed, if none there then would order one. Ken Ramthun stated he talked to the State Consultant on the Hwy 144 road project regarding the Farmington sign and a Forest View Road sign. The consultant was going to check with Super Western regarding this, may have to order one and might be spring before up. Chris Elbe- All brush cutters and those purchasing fuel at Marshall’s need to sign fuel slip and note what equipment it was for. Action may be taken if slips continue to go unsigned. Bryan Schneider - A stop sign on Rolling Ridge near Covey Place has no red on the sign anymore.

ADJOURNMENT:  Moved by Foyse, seconded by Wollner to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.  Voting in favor: 3, Opposed: 0, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Schellinger, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON
TOWN OF FARMINGTON

I, Chris Schellinger, Town Clerk for the Town of Farmington, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct and complete record of the transactions of the Town of Farmington Town Board meeting held on January 10, 2012.
Dated this 20\textsuperscript{th} day of January 2012.

Chris Schellinger, Town Clerk