# New Hartford Township

# MINUTES

# for the Monthly Meeting

# January 9, 2025, 7:00 pm

# New Hartford Town Hall

**Attendance**

Supervisors: Larry Moldenhauer, Joe Baumgartner Richard Johnson

Clerk: Kathy Klawiter

Treasurer: Michael Moor

Maintenance:

Fire Chief: Cody Gehrke

Guests: Vickie Baumgartner, Caroline van Schaik, Wilie Erdmann, Shelby Erdmann, Cody Gehrke, Ed Walsh, Emma Iremonger

Meeting called to order by Chairman Joe Baumgartner at 7:10 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes for the regular meeting of December 12, 2024 – Motion to accept by Richard Johnson, seconded by Larry Moldenhauer; approved.

**Public** **Comment:**

**Fire Department Report** –

1. Still waiting on the DNR Grant, waiting for Federal to release funds.
2. 2 new FD members starting now with 3 more to start soon. Starting their training Jan 27th. Page Johnson and Maddie Jorgenson. Goal is to have 20 members by the end of the year.
3. Cody, Bill, Andrew, Emma, and Ammy will be attending the State training school in Austin in March.
4. Bylaws state that each new member needs to commit to 2 years of service to get the training paid for.
5. 2024 Training checks and mileage checks are to go out in February. It was noted that the rate for training was increased to $20.00 per hour effective April 1, 2024. Need training hours separated by date to pay proper rate.
6. Acknowledged that the Township will need to assume the responsibility to pay certain bills, i.e. lawyer, insurance ect., for the FD since they no longer have an accessible checking account due to transfer of relief association moving to Pera. This included the current bill from the Volunteer Fire Fighters Benefit Assc of MN for insurance.

**Road Reports**

1. We are still looking for a qualified person to operate grader and snowplow. Getting complaints about sanding, plowing ect. Will post on Website and at all usual posting locations.
2. Doug and Cody tried it but declined to do it and refused payment for the few hours they did it.
3. Discussed Carl Ukkestad’s maintenance position noting that he does not operate the grader or plow and this was only temporary. He’s doing a good job. Need a motion to hire him correctly to make sure he is covered under our insurance. Motion was made by Richard Johnson to continue his temporary position for the foreseeable future due to Willie’s continuing leave, seconded by Larry Moldenhauer. Approved
4. Mileage reimbursement will be raised from .67 to .70 for 2025, this is the Federal rate increase.

**Old Business**

1. Motion made by Richard Johnson to approve claims paid tonight and any outstanding claims. Seconded by Joe Baumgartner. Approved. The outstanding claims this month are for Xcel Energy, Kwik Trip, Dakota Fluid, and Mi Energy.
2. DOJ update-. The first report is due January 15th. Discussed the report as written by Kathy and made any corrections that were needed. Kathy will send this to the DOJ before January 15th.

**New Business**

1. Clerk’s Report
2. Need to select the date of the Board of Audit meeting for the end of February. Will set at February meeting. Will check to make sure the date is not preset by the state.
3. Willie will be off until at least the beginning of April 2025. Next appointment April 3rd and will find out then.
4. County Hazardous Material Mitigation Meeting is not applicable to New Hartford so will not attend the meeting.
5. Motion was made by Richard Johnson and seconded by Joe Baumgartner to delegate to Winona County the authority to set rules for Canabis.
6. Treasurer’s Report:
7. Starting balance tonight: $257,322.36
8. Spent tonight: $10,923.63
9. Balance tonight: $246,392.73
10. This month last year January 11, 2024 $315,836.49
11. Will keep $10,000 in Money Market account at ESB.

Joe Baumgartner rendered his resignation, effective immediately. Discussed ramifications and next steps. Can we add to the March ballot or do we appoint someone? Special election possible? Motion to recess until Monday. January 15th at 2:00 was made by Richard Johnson to allow for contacting proper people to ensure that we handle it correctly. Seconded by Larry Moldenhauer. Approved

Motion to Adjourn - Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m. by Joe Baumgartner and seconded by Richard Johnson; approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Klawiter 02/13/2025

Approved by:

Vice Chairman Larry Moldenhauer Date

Witnessed:

Kathy Klawiter, Clerk Date