

Town of Johnstown, Polk County, Wisconsin
Minutes of the 2022 Annual Town Meeting
April 19, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Anderson at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Shed, 2181 County Rd G, Comstock, WI. There were 15 residents, the Chairman, 2 Supervisors, Treasurer and the Clerk present. Reviewed the general rules of order.

Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting were presented. **Motion by Dan Lowe, seconded by Joe Zaspel to approve the minutes. Yes – 20, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

Voting was completed by show of hands.

The 2021 Financial Report was presented and reviewed by the clerk. **Motion by Dan Lowe, seconded by Joe Zaspel to approve the 2021 Financial Report. Yes – 20, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

CAFO Discussion

There has been recent action from Polk County and Townships in our area regarding resolutions and ordinances to control Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). Prior to the Annual Meeting, Chairman Anderson shared Draft Copies of these resolutions with local farmers to encourage their input. Laura Jensen, a resident of the Town of Johnstown shared a prepared letter with those in attendance discouraging the need for more regulations to be placed on local farm operations noting that “Farms are currently regulated by USDA, FDA, EPA and OSHA for a variety of reasons including food safety, animal welfare, and environmental sustainability.” She further discouraged the township to pass any additional ordinances. “I strongly ask you to say ‘no’ to this ordinance and the process that is already in place do its job.”

Kevin Jansen, a resident of the Town of Johnstown recommended that the Town of Johnstown terminate any further discussion regarding CAFO Resolutions or Ordinances for the Town of Johnson.

Road Bans

Resident Merlin Richter asked, “Road bans – what good are they?”

Chairman Anderson explained that gravel trucks in excess of predetermined weight limit restrictions were hauling loads of gravel after the township had enacted the seasonal road bans. Most of the township roads are not designed to withstand the heavier loads during the spring thawing season and by putting road restrictions in place for a short time each spring, we are doing the best we can to preserve the fragile structure of the roads.

Chairman Anderson will stay in contact with Polk County and likely remove local road bans/restrictions at the same time the county does.

The 2023 Annual Town Meeting will be held (the third Tuesday) April 18, 2023.

There being no further topics for discussion, **Motion by Richard Naessen, seconded by Wayne Jansen to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Show of hands was used. Yes – 20, No – 0. Motion Carried.**