

TOWN OF WELLS MINUTES FOR AUGUST 14TH, 2025

The board for the Town of Wells held their monthly board meeting on Thursday, August 14th, 2025, at the town hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Wells at 6:06 p.m. Supervisors Greg Schmitz and Jeff Schmitz were present as well as Treasurer Simon Wells and Clerk Diane Schwarz. The meeting was properly posted and published. The minutes were reviewed for the Board of Review held on July 9th, 2025. Jeff Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Greg Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were reviewed for the regular meeting held on July 10th, 2025. Jeff Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes as read. James Wells seconded the motion. Motion carried. Simon Wells gave the treasurer's report. Greg Schmitz made a motion to approve the report. Jeff Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried. The expenses were reviewed for July-August, 2025. Greg Schmitz made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Jeff Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public input was addressed by Kevin Schmitz who is the trustee for the Norwalk Area Fire Protection District. He gave the report that Todd Schmitz was hired to write grants for the department. There was a discrepancy on the money to pay him for his work that will be deliberated. He reported that the USDA Grant Application was approved for \$1.4 million for the 2026 fiscal year. The newest estimate to build the station is \$2.1 million. It was estimated at \$1.2 million 4 years ago by Todd Schmitz. The \$1.4 million grant was approved after there was an agreement to change the meeting room into a storm shelter. Norwalk did not have a storm shelter. The grant was approved on a 2 to 1 basis. The federal grant pays \$2 for every \$1 spent by the fire department. There will be \$175,000 available in CD's upon maturity and there will be an additional \$50,000/year added as a gift from the Haldemen family of Norwalk. It was also reported that they have applied for a grant from Compeer Financial for up to \$10,000. They currently need 9 sets of turnout gear at \$3,500/set. He also noted that the current fleet of equipment is slowly ageing and will need to be updated in the future as well. The next meeting in September the fire board will decide whether to reimburse the townships that have not received reimbursement from fire calls of highway incidents after 2 years.

There will be a Monroe County Towns Association meeting in Tomah on August 21st, 2025. Simon Wells will represent our township.

Simon Wells has indicated that he will be stepping down as treasurer for the Town of Wells. The board will pursue any interested parties for the position.

The updates on roads and equipment were discussed. The Patrolman indicated that the guard rails have been put up along the bridge on Janus Avenue and edging of cold mix will take place soon along the bridge and Kayak Road and town roads that need it. He also reported that the equipment is running good.* The mowing along the town roads have been completed once and the second round of mowing and brushing will take place in about a month. * The LP gas contract was reviewed for United Cooperative. Greg Schmitz made a motion to sign the contract for 1200 gallons for \$1.599/gal. Jeff Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.* Discussion was whether to sign a contract to service the furnace from Schneider Heating and Cooling. After discussion, it was determined to pass on the contract and try another source for maintenance of the furnace and heating. James will check into other possibilities. * The discussion took place about the replacement of the entrance doors in the townhall. It had been decided previously that the monies gifted of \$1,500 to the Town of Wells would be allotted for door replacement. James will get an estimate for replacement.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, September 11th, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Greg Schmitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Diane E. Schwarz- Clerk Town of Wells