The Town of Preston met on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at the town hall.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Darrel. The pledge of Allegiance was recited. Certification of Open Meeting Law Requirements was met. Roll call was held with Ron, Philip, Darrel and Cathy present. Mary arrived late.

The agenda was approved with a motion by Darrel, second by Ron. Motion carried.

The minutes from the September 13, 2021 meeting were approved with amotion by Ron, second by Philip. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report for September was approved with a motion by Ron, second by Philip. Motion carried.

The disbursements for October were approved with a motion by Ron, second by Darrel. Motion carried.

Public comment: None

Patrolman’s report: grading & brushing are almost done

ATV/UTV signing is behind schedule according to Al Rinka. No other new information is available at this time.

Fire department is requesting a budget increase of $5000 to $85,000. Operating expenses are currently $95,000. Motion by Ron, second by Philip to approve the fire departments request to increase their budget by $5000 to $85,000, which is to be split with the city by equalized value. Motion carried.

The fire department proposed purchasing a F550 Super Duty, with a high-pressure pump and with a 12 ft box for an approximate cost of $189,500. Motion by Ron, second by Philip to move forward on fire truck contingent on the city’s approval. Motion carried.

Sand hauling bids were opened: Hesch Transport $8.28/ton Nelson Diesel & Dozing $4.75/ton

Motion by Ron, second by Philip to award Nelson Diesel & Dozing the sand hauling contract for $4.75/ton from County Materials in Trempealeau. Motion carried.

Town truck was discussed. Keep looking for automatic, 2 batteries, gas, 4 wheel drive, stainless steel box and crew or extended cab.

Equipment update: grader still losing anti-freeze, Andy to fix in house the seal and o-rings. Discussion on loader attachments, wing $40-50,000. Blade, $30,000. Airing to get us a new loader with a new contract. Representative from Road Groom would like to give demonstration of equipment, with the possibility of splitting cost with the Town of Franklin. Cost for 11’ groomer is $16,300.

Roadwork: Bradley Road/Silva Creek bridge is done. Blacktop is also is repaired on the approachments.

Motion by Darrel, second by Ron to approve transfer of $24,324 from fire department CD to checking for air pack purchase. Motion carried.

Town of Preston will be hosting County Unit Meeting for Towns Association.

Motion by Darrel, second by Ron to move to closed session pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Statutes to consider employment compensation and performance evaluation of town patrolman and employees. Roll call vote, Ron-yes, Philip-yes and Darrel-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Darrel, second by Ron to return to open session. Roll call vote, Ron-yes, Philip-yes and Darrel-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ron, second by Philip to increase patrolman’s wage by .50 from $21 to $21.50 beginning January 1, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion by Philip, second by Ron to have a written description of recycling attendant duties. Mary to work on this. Motion carried.

Announcements: Darrel gave an update on the State Towns Association convention

Suggestions for the next regularly scheduled meeting November 8, 2021 at 5:30 PM: pickup and road groom grader

Motion to adjourn by Philip, second by Ron at 7:07 PM. Motion carried.