SPECIAL MEETING

TOWN BOARD TOWN OF NEWTON

NOVEMBER 21, 2019

Pursuant to posted notices a special meeting was held on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at the Newton Town Hall, 6532 Carstens Lake Road, Manitowoc, WI at 6:00 PM. The meeting was called to order by Roger Busse, Chairman. Present: Roger Busse, Chairman, Denise Thomas, Supervisor, Mark Knorr, Supervisor, Barbara Pankratz, Clerk, Paulette Vogt, Treasurer, Mike Slattery, Zoning Administrator, Dave Mueller, Road Superintendent/Law Enforcement Officer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. The clerk verified that she had posted the meeting in the three official posting places as well as being placed on the Town of Newton web site. Paulette Vogt notarized said affidavit.

Denise Thomas made a motion to approve the agenda as posted. Mark Knorr seconded the motion which carried.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the WisDOT 2020-2021 Multimodel Local Supplement Application (road grant application) which is due December 5, 2019. Discussion started with Newton Road and whether or not to do more than one road. Gass Lake Road between County U and County CR as well as Rangeline Road North of English Lake Road to Viebahn Road. Mark suggested Carstens Lake Road North to Clover Road. It was suggested that Rangeline Road could not be considered because it is in two different townships.

Someone asked what would happen if they submitted all of the roads and if the State gave the town the cheapest one. Roger indicated the town would have no control over that.

Denise Thomas stated that the town would have to have the economic or agricultural reasons about the impact of fixing these roads would have in order to complete the application. Dave informed the Board that the WISLR rating for Newton Road from Willever Lane to Center Road is 5; Range Line Road is 6 ; Gass Lake Road from Clover to Carstens Lake Road is a 8; one section of Gass Lake Road from Luckow Lane to Carstens Lake Road is a 8; one section of Gass Lake Road from Luckow Lane to Carstens Lake Road is 5; County CR to County U on Gass Lake Road is 8.

Paulette asked whether or not any vehicles could go under the grant since the First Responders are getting a new vehicle but was told that it was only for town vehicles.

Mike Slattery asked about Gass Lake Road to County C to the Ag, Center because of the economic impact.

Denise Thomas presented a detailed letter about Newton Road outlining the impact of the traffic generated by the Grotegut Dairy Farms (tour buses at least five times a day from the Wisconsin Discovery Center to Grotegut Dairy Farm), DTE Biomass Energy, Inc. and the fourteen home owners that live on Newton Road. She stated that the agricultural impact on County U is huge with the semi traffic, heavy farm equipment, employees using the road as well as the traffic generated by the fourteen homes

The following is the information Denise Thomas, Supervisor compiled for the WisDOT 2020-2021 Multimodal Local Supplement Application for the Town of Newton:

Newton Road is a 2 mile road which is home to Grotegut Dairy Farms Inc. which is the partner farm with the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center, DTE Biomass Energy, Inc. and 14 home owners. The economic impact on this road is vital with the tours that come from the Agricultural Center and the cattle that are transported by truck and trailer to the center on a daily basis. DTE Biomass Energy Inc. is a green company, which the raw biogas is processed and injects the renewable methane gas into the ANR natural gas line.

Grotegut Dairy Farm Inc. is a large dairy business which is milking currently 3000 cows and raises young stock for the farm. That brings the daily total herd count to around 6000 animals. The dairy farm has 45 employees, who come and go to work on a daily basis, with cropped acreage at 4000 acres presently. This farm has a large amount of traffic volume each year including semi traffic of milk, feed, fertilizer, fuel, mixer trucks and farm vehicles. This farm also has heavy equipment which uses the road. They have truck traffic of approximately 9,171 loads per year and employee traffic at 32,850 vehicles per year.

DTE Biomass Energy Inc. is a renewable natural gas dairy processing and injection site. This plant processes raw biogas piped and trucked from partner farms into renewable natural gas and injects it into the ANR pipeline. This company has 10 semi loads of raw biogas per day which come and go from the plant. There are semis and trailers which use the road on a daily basis. This adds up to 7300 trips on this road per year. This company has four employees that come and go to work on a daily basis which brings that car count to 2920 per year.

There are 14 home owners which live on this road which at a conservative count of two cars per home coming and going on a daily basis is 10,220 per year.

Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center has farm tours via large tour buses that visit the Grotegut Dairy Farm, LLC five times daily totaling 3600 trips per year. Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center and the Grotegut Dairy farm have a great partnership wherein the farm supplies cows that are ready to give birth to the Center for the public to view a calf being born. This is done on a daily basis. This adds truck and trailers hauling the cattle daily with a count of 1460 trips per year.

This road is used very heavily with farm equipment, semi traffic as well as vehicle traffic. The agricultural impact on this road is huge. With the semi traffic and heavy farm equipment use on this road, which was not built for this type of traffic, being able to resurface Newton Road will make this a stronger road lasting long into the future.

The economic part of this road is two-fold: Primarily, the businesses and employees that rely on this road for their living, and Secondly, the tour uses that are at the dairy farm on a daily basis. Having this road resurfaced we as a town are making this road safer and stronger for all traffic using Newton Road. The two businesses using this thoroughfare can prosper and grow with additional tours to the farm along with everyone who uses Newton Road.

The Town of Newton, Manitowoc County, would like to thank the State of Wisconsin for the opportunity to apply for this grant. In today's declining revenue stream as well as the continuing price increases for maintenance and construction, any help would surely be appreciated.

 Gass Lake Road between Clover Road and Carstens Lake Road is a heavy traveled road which leads to the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center. This road has a very huge economic impact with it being a vital road to the agricultural center. It is also traveled with heavy agriculture vehicles, semis, excavating equipment as we" as other vehicle traffic. The agricultural impact is between three dairy operations on this section of the road.

Luckow Farms LLC has the mast traffic on this road. Luckow Farms LLC is a dairy operation that has 450 head which include dairy cows and young stock, Semis hauling milk, fuel and feed come up to 356 loads per year, This farm uses large tractors, combines, huge forage wagons, monstrous implements throughout the season for cropping total 4080 loads per yearl The farm also has a storage facility that can store 32,000 bushels of corn, 20,000 bushels of grain and 12,000 bushels of beans. As yields constantly improve and technology provided by the State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture continues, it is known that more storage will be needed. The storage that they have now increases the road traffic by 73 loads per year. Luckow Farms LLC have 4540 trips on this road between trucks, semis, tractors, heavy farm equipment and well as farm vehicles. Luckow Farms LLC has eight employees which has an additional 5696 vehicles per year.

Hockhammer Dairy Farm LLC along with Clover View Dairy Farm LLC operates the land adjacent to this part of Gass Lake Road. These two farms haul forage and manure though out the year. Both of these farms use semis, trailers, tankers and forge wagons to move the feed and manure to and from their operations. These two farms add, at minimum, 420 loads per year,

30b Braun Excavation LLC operates an excavation and hauling business on this section of Gass Lake Road. He currently has six employees, Eight months of the year, 5 days per week, they have gravel and blacktop trucks that are leaving and returning to their yard at the end of the day. During the months that are inclement, the bulk of their work is weather related. They have heavy trucks and a grader to plow and sand roads for the Town of Centerville, our neighboring township to the south. This company has large excavators and bulldozers which come and go from this business also. Between the company and their employees there is 3160 trips of heavy trucks, excavating equipment and personal vehicles on this road. This company has plans of expanding in the future.

The Town of Newton's crowned jewel, the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center, is located approximately 1 mile from this section of Gass Lake Road. While a majority of the traffic enters the Center from the south using CT H C to Gass Lake Road, there are those that enjoy a leisurely ride down Gass Lake Road to reach their destination. The Center has hosted a very successful 5K Run/Walk in 2019, and plans for an even bigger and better event far

2020.

The agricultural impact on this section of road is huge. With the constant pounding of construction equipment as well as heavy farm equipment, this road needs to be in strong condition to handle the ioad.

As for the economic impact on this road it is two-fold. First and foremost, the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center is ever increasing its annual visitor count, which is needed to have safe end secure roads to handle the additional traffic. The future events that the Center plans to hold is vital for them to have a safe, reliable road. We now will look at the two businesses that are looking to expand their companies. Looking into the future, this road needs to continue to be sustainable to handle the traffic demand that is end will be used on this road,

The Town of Newton, Manitowoc County, would like to thank the Stete of Wisconsin for the opportunity to apply for this grant. In today's declining revenue stream as well as the continuing price increases for the maintenance and construction, any help is appreciated.

The Trip D program was discussed and Road Superintendent Dave Mueller was asked to check with Lee Engelbrecht about the program.

It was suggested by Chairman Roger Busse to approach businesses on Newton Road about contributing to the resurfacing the road but the Board decided against it.

Motion was made by Mark Knorr to adjourn the meeting. Said motion was seconded by Roger Busse and carried,

Barbara Pankratz, Clerk