

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014, 6:30 PM
AT BARNES TOWN HALL, 3360 COUNTY HIGHWAY N, BARNES, WI**

1) Call the Monthly Town Board Meeting to Order, do Roll Call to establish a Quorum & Verification of Public Notice

Chairperson Tom Krob called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Roll call was taken. Present were Supervisors Chris Webb, Donna Porter and Mitch McGee. Supervisor Jack Webb was absent. A quorum was established. Town Staff attendees were Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Bakke, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Dorothy Vogel, Property and Roads Foreman Bob Lang, and Emergency Services Director Tom Renz. Bakke verified public notice had been posted per State Statutes.

2) Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

All stood to pledge allegiance to the flag.

3) Motion to approve the Agenda and the 12/17/2013, 12/30/2013, and 1/8/2014 Minutes of Board Meetings, and dispense with the reading of those Minutes.

Motion by Porter/McGee to approve the Agenda and the Minutes of the 12/17/2013, 12/30/2013 and 1/8/2014 meetings, and to dispense with the reading of those Minutes. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

4) Great Divide Ambulance Service Presentation by Royden Bloom – with discussion and possible action

Krob explained that he and Porter had met with Roy Bloom to discuss the possibility of working with Great Divide. Roy explained that Great Divide employs paramedics. If they would serve Barnes, they would respond from Cable, which is approximately 30-45 minutes away. Possible scenarios to shorten this time were discussed. Great Divide would require one EMT to be on call for a 24 hour period, who would receive \$120 for this period, whether they go on a call or not. Rob Puls also discussed different scenarios.

Motion by Krob/Porter to open the floor for discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

- Dr. Tom Stolee stated time is all important. Suggested a task force be created to make recommendations to the board, which should include a physician.
- Jon Harkness stated he was delighted we're having this discussion to determine what's best for the Town.
- Susan Pagnucci brought up concerns with the time it would take to arrive in Barnes from Cable. Even if they came from Drummond it would take time.
- Brandon Frierhood brought up the issue when we couldn't staff the ambulance, there is a mutual aid agreement through Bayfield County EMS.
- Dr. Stolee questioned what medications can be given by EMTs.
- Jon Harkness brought up the limited medications EMTs can provide, something for the task force to think about; not just the amount of time to arrive but dealing with pain..
- Ted Eastlund questioned medications also.
- Irene Bott explained levels of care EMTs can provide.

- Bud Heerema asked if we keep an ambulance in Barnes, can it go to the scene, then meet up with Great Divide. Since we would have one EMT on call, a second EMT would have to respond, then the ambulance can head to the scene.

Motion by Krob/Porter to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Krob thanked Ron and Rob for coming and spending so much time at the meeting. He also praised Renz and his ambulance crew for all their hard work.

5) Public Comment Session – 5 minute limit for those not on Agenda

- Marcia Ritter, on behalf of the Banners for Barnes committee, thanked Bob Lang and his crew for all their hard work with the banners. On Veterans Day, November 11, 2014, at 1 PM, they will recognize all Veterans at Barnes Community Church. Please provide her with the names of those who served or who are now serving in our Armed Forces. Also, on January 21st, at 5:30 PM, Barnes Community Church will be serving a chili supper in honor of our first responders. Homemade food and music. All are welcome and encouraged to come.
- Susan Pagnucci brought up the fact that they can no longer separate aluminum cans at the Transfer Site. Since this is a loss of revenue, perhaps a bin can be placed somewhere for those who separate their cans, or collected for donation to Operation Rudolph. She also brought up the water and jet ski ordinance. She understood the DNR had turned down the change to 10 AM to 6 PM due to Lower being in Gordon Township. If Lower can be an exception, could other lakes, like Robinson, be exempted as well.

6) Donn Bergquist – Buck-N-Bass Special Use Permit

Bergquist spoke about the need for the Buck-N-Bass (BNB) to increase their source of revenue. He spoke about the improvements they've been making at the resort and felt this would not have a negative impact on the neighbors. Krob discussed the guidelines of the original permit, which had not been maintained, and that the Board would not change their decision made at the December 2013 board meeting to not approve the permit. Krob stated the Board would like to see a period of compliance, then perhaps submit a new application at a future time.

Motion by Krob/Porter to open the floor for discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

- Jon Harkness, friends of a neighbor to the BNB, remembers him complaining about the mess next door and that they were supposed to put everything into the buildings.

Bergquist stated all of the BNB debris should be gone this spring, and the BNB is asking to use the empty space for cold storage.

- Pat Johnston asked for clarification of the specifics of the original permit.

Motion by Krob/Porter to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Krob thanked Bergquist for coming and providing more information. He will remain open-minded, has noted improvements over years past. If the permit does not get approved by Bayfield County Zoning, perhaps Bergquist should work with Furtak. Bergquist stated he can work with that.

Motion by Webb/Porter to re-open the floor for Public Comments. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

- Colleen Ruhman has talked to a lot of snowmobile people last weekend and heard lots of complaints about poor trails, Moore Road in particular. It's plowed right down to the gravel.

Krob stated we are State mandated to plow all roads every 21 days. Deferred to Bob Lang for more specifics. Lang stated Moore Road has been plowed once this year. Recreational hunters are demanding the roads be plowed, logging companies as well. But in spring, due to a grant from the Firewise program, Moore Road will be cleared 100 feet as a fire break. While working this project they will construct a trail that will run parallel to the road for ATV/snowmobile use. May also be able to do the same on a portion of Halfway Road.

- Scott Ruhman asked what the business/snowmobile community can do to solve this problem. Lang stated the Town has already been shelving the sides of the roads for snowmobile use. The Ruhmans appreciated the information and can now pass it on to their customers.

Motion by Porter/Webb to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

7) Voucher's Approval – Discuss/Motion to Approve December Vouchers

Motion by McGee/Porter to approve the December vouchers. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

8) Clerk/Treasurer Report: Brenda Bakke

a) Treasurer's Report

1) December Treasurer's Report

Bakke read the December Treasurer's Report

Motion by Webb/Porter to approve the December Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

2) Motion to amend 2013 Town Budget if expenditures are over budget in any of the major categories

After discussion it was determined there was no need to move money. Bakke stated the Highway Department had saved enough in their budget to pay for the new loader and plow.

Motion by Webb/McGee to amend the 2013 Town Budget from \$1,139,577 to \$1,182,774.

Webb explained the reason for the overage was due to dollars set aside for purchases that were not corrected in the budget, and there was an unexpected major repair on the fire truck.

Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

3) Motion to move unspent budget monies from the 2013 Town Budget to Designated Sinking Funds

Discussion ensued regarding movement of unspent dollars from Public Works and Highway Capital funds to the sinking fund to pay for the loader.

Motion by Webb/McGee to move the unspent money of \$123,950 from Public Works and Highway Capital Outlay to the Highway sinking fund. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

4) HCCU – Discussion and possible action regarding moving some funds into CD's

Bakke will call on current interest rates. One of the CD's expires in February, 2014.

b) Clerk Correspondence

1) Forestry Notices

Nothing to report

2) Chief Election Inspectors – Announce Chief Election Inspectors

Bakke stated we had lost one of our chief election inspectors for the spring elections (Feb 18th primary and Apr 1st election for two Town Supervisors).

3) Training for Election Inspectors

Training has to be completed for all election inspectors. Bakke will be contacting everyone to set it up.

4) Rescheduling February Monthly Board Meeting due to Primary Election

It was decided the February Monthly Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2014

5) Community Dinner to honor Barnes First Responders at Barnes Community Church Tuesday, January 21st

Bakke reiterated Ritter's invitation to dinner in honor of the Barnes First Responders at 5:30 PM. Emails had been sent to BES personnel to remind them.

9) TOB Department Head Reports:

a) Highway Department – Monthly Roads Report – Bob Lang

Lang read the report.

1) Pease Rd. Reclassification – Discussion/Input

Lang stated the Board would need to prepare a Resolution to reclassify Pease Road to a Class B road by May. He presented a brief synopsis of the process and reasoning behind it.

Motion by Krob/Porter to open the floor for discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

- Chris Neff stated information should have gone out with the tax bills to communicate why this would be done. It would avoid confusion and complaints if it was communicated to everyone. She suggested it be published in the Blog.

Motion by Porter/Krob to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Webb requested the information be published in the Blog and put on the Agenda for the March Monthly Town Board meeting.

b) Fire & Ambulance Departments – Monthly BES Reports – Tom Renz

Renz read the report. Informed the Board that the new ambulance is due for delivery in February, and we will be receiving a \$750 discount as they will be showing the ambulance at trade shows. Clarified some items from the discussion with Great Divide, and reminded the Board of our contract with Highland; if we go with Great Divide we need to notify Highland prior to the expiration of that contract. A current First Responder, Brandon Frierhood, has requested permission to become an EMT.

Motion by Porter/McGee to authorize payment for Brandon Frierhood's EMT training. The Town will pay the tuition and mileage.

It was clarified if the student does not finish the class they will be required to reimburse the Town. Debra Soar has completed her classes and now has her training license. Renz is also looking into another request from someone interested in becoming an EMT. New EMTs have to be reminded they will need to dedicate a lot of time to this endeavor.

Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

c) Constable – Monthly Report from Mike O'Keefe

Krob read the report. Renz stated there has been an increase in property crime. He encourages anyone seeing any suspicious activity to call the Sheriff's Department.

10) TOB Committee and Commission Reports:

a) Transfer Site Committee: Mitch McGee

Nothing to report.

b) Cemetery Sexton & Committee: Dave Schiess

Lang stated that even though the committee had doubled the price of a winter burial to \$600, with the extreme weather conditions the burial completed about 2 weeks ago cost approximately \$1,000.

11) Aluminum Can Collection for Parks and Recreation – discussion and possible action

In the past, Waste Management provided a separate dumpster at the Transfer Site for cans. Allied Waste will not. Porter suggested a bin be constructed at the Transfer Site, but that would incur too much expense as other garbage gets tossed in with the cans and the attendant would have to sort it out. Discussed the possibility of constructing a bin elsewhere, perhaps by the Fire Hall, for collection and possible donation to Operation Rudolph. Porter will contact Colin and Linda Nowaczyk to see if they would be interested in helping, or if anyone else would be interested in collecting the cans, please contact Porter. Porter will make a report at the February meeting.

12) Water and Jet Ski Ordinance – discussion and possible action

Krob gave an update; last summer the Board voted to change the hours to 10 AM – 6 PM. A draft of the new ordinance was sent to the DNR. Lower Eau Claire Lake lays in Barnes/Bayfield County and Gordon/Douglas County. Both sides had an identical ordinance. New ordinance could not go through as written. More research has to be done by the Board. It will be placed on the timeline for further discussion.

Motion by Krob/Porter to open the floor for discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

- Guy Johnston – Ellison Lake is also split between two counties. Remember the questionnaire that was sent out a few years ago? It might be wise to ask everyone, get more input, before making a change.
- Greg Martin had done some research and noted the Conservation Club voted the hours of 10 AM – 5 PM back in 1961.
- Susan Pagnucci questioned the possibility of exclusions by individual lake.
- Ted Eastlund – most people obey the laws.
- Chris Neff – she found the Warden, Jill Schartner, is willing to come out on the lakes to check out violations.
- Rich Ritter – he’s seen the Warden stop people on the water as well.

REMINDER: Water and jet ski hours are still 10 AM – 5 PM.

Motion by Porter/Webb to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

13) Tourism and Economic Development

No meeting had been held due to the holidays. They will be meeting in the next couple weeks.

14) Experience Works – Discussion and possible action on contract

Krob read a summary of the program. Basically the program pays for an employee to work 21 hours per week and he will assist with the tourism committee, economic development, and the business park. He will research and write grants that will benefit the Town of Barnes.

Motion by Krob/Porter to sign a contract with Experience Works and bring Bruce Hanson on board. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

15) Last Month’s Meeting Follow-up –

a) Town Board Issues Timeline Log - Review & Update

1) Michelle Ruprecht Special Use Permit – Review and possible action

No complaints have been received. Question was brought up whether Special Use Permit is still necessary. Ruprecht will be contacted to check on current status, Furtak may be contacted as well.

16) Adjourn

Motion by Webb/Porter to adjourn the January 17, 2014 Monthly Town Board meeting. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Dorothy E. Vogel

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer this 16th day of January, 2014