

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday – January 21, 2020
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Chris Webb called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order at 6:30PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Tom Emerson, Donna Porter, Seana Frint and Susan Jansen in attendance. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was said by all.

The clerk requested that a motion that was made at the December 17th meeting regarding the payout of comp time for Eric Polkoski be amended.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to amend the minutes from the December 17th Monthly Board Meeting changing the motion regarding the payout of Eric Polkoski's comp time to "A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to pay out 120 hours of comp time to Eric Polkoski at the rate of pay in effect at the time the comp time was earned". A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to approve the agenda and the amended minutes of the 12/17/2019 Monthly Board Meeting and the minutes of the 12/17 and 12/27 Special Board Meetings and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

Public Comment Session –there were no public comments

Clerk Correspondence-A letter was received from Bayfield County Planning & Zoning regarding Todd Holmstrom's Special Use application to allow (2) horses in a Residential-One (R-1) zoning district. It was approved with the following conditions: limit (2) horses and current owner only. A 'Cease and Desist" order was issued to Stacey L. Jordheim of 1220 Lake Rd for construction/conversion of a garage into a dwelling structure without permit(s).

A letter to Jason G. Hartung of 49475 E. Shore Rd regarding the property being used as a Short Term Rental without a Class A Special Use permit. His application has now been received and is on the agenda.

Update on the FireWise program grant-Vern Wilcox, the FireWise coordinator, applied for a grant in the amount of \$3,000 for a Barnes Chipping Site and \$5,000 for the Town of Barnes Firewise Education Program. Tom Renz commented advising that the Fire Department is applying for Wildland Grant and needs to coordinate with Vern.

Approval of Final 2020 Budget

A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to approve the 2020 Budget in the amount of \$1,654,808 as Amended to fund the hiring of a second EMT. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to approve the updated vacation policy which is based on the anniversary date. After one year, the employee is eligible for 40 hours; after 2 years of continuous service, the employee is eligible for 80 hours; after 5 years of continuous service, the employee is eligible for 120 hours and after 15 years of service, the employee is eligible for 160 hours. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve December vouchers.

A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to approve December vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

Treasurer's Report prepared by Clerk Bourassa was displayed for public view. The ending balance in the General Checking is \$105,075.18, \$579,555.92 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,931.09 (no change) ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account, the Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$650,256.31 and a 6 month CD at Associated Bank with a value of \$100,000.00 for a total in all funds of \$1,436,818.50 with \$9,308.79 in interest earned in 2019.

A motion was made (Emerson/Frint) to approve the December Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report presented by Eric Polkoski –

Completion of projects for month of January

- Ski trail has been groomed.
- Plowing snow, scraping, sanding roads daily.
- Regular maintenance on equipment. Greasing and washing.
- Organizing of the shop getting all equipment inside.
- Moved office over to the old fire hall side.
- Been out benching and widening the roads when we can.
- The highway crew is working very well together and now are at full staffed.

Update regarding purchase of new gas pump and card reader-Eric will contact T&D Enterprises to schedule the installation for later in the spring.

Fire & Ambulance Departments-Monthly BES Reports presented by Tom Renz –

Monthly report

January 21 , 2020

Ambulance

There have been nine ambulance calls

5 – no transport

1 – Mutual aid to Gordon

1 – vehicle crash transported to Hayward

1 – transported to Hayward w Sawyer County intercept

1 – Carbon monoxide

Fire

1 – motor vehicle crash

1 – Carbon monoxide alarm

Irene and Leah have been busy organizing at the BES building. They have also been working on the wildland grant. They will be finishing up on \$48,289.00 grant for new wildland/rescue vehicle. This is a 50/50 grant. This grant, if we are allowed, will get rid of two ATVs, one snowmobile and the patient rescue sled.

I also attended the Town of Highland meeting, they had some requests. One of them I provided which was list of EMTs. The second was they did not want to be responsible for an unpaid bill. I refused to change this in the contract as we are responsible for Town of Barnes tax payers and they should be responsible for their own. The other was wording where only medical services or transportation were provided and I refused to change that also.

I also have provided all with a list of proposed changes to the billing.

I request the Town to approve the changes to page one. On page 2, I request that this be changed to \$100.00 and that it only be applied in those cases where there have been two prior calls of no transport at the same residence in the same calendar year.

I would also like the Towns Board's permission to move forward to put together a form of community type EMT service that people can request of our EMTs Monday through Friday. This will not be the complete program and the request would have to come from the citizen.

Tom would like the town's permission to move forward with a Community-type EMT service which would be requested by citizens. This may be a blood pressure check, changing of bandages, welfare checks... this would be provided at no cost. The citizen/patient would have to sign an agreement prior to receiving the services.

Supervisors Frint and Porter stated their support of the proposal. Chairperson Webb requested that a proposal be put together and presented at a future meeting.

Discussion regarding ambulance fees

LifeQuest Services has made recommendations for rate increases for BLS Base Rate (from \$500 to \$675 for residents, i.e. taxpayers, \$600 to \$775 for non-residents) and BLS 2 Base Rate (from \$500 to \$700 for residents, \$600 to \$800 for non-residents). Rates have not been increased for several years. A charge for Mileage increase was also presented, increasing from \$12.50 to \$13.75 for residents, \$13.50 to \$14.25 non-residents. The cost for Procedures, such as Oxygen (increase \$50 to \$60) and Spinal Immobilization (increase from \$100 to \$200) would be increased as well. The board requested that the definitions of residents and non-residents be clarified.

A motion was made (Porter/Frint) that the board approve the increases in our BLS rates, Mileage and Procedures as recommended. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Tom Renz asked about who should have access to the Highway building since all of the Fire and Ambulance Department members currently have access. Tom will work with Eric to determine who should have access to the Highway building.

Review Dave Cecil Builders Pay Application #6 for Emergency Services Building in the amount of \$55,300.31. \$6,000 is being held for work yet to be completed.

A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to authorize payment to Dave Cecil Builders for Pay Application #6 in the amount of \$55,300.31. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

a) Parks & Rec Committee-

Tomahawk Lake Park project completion. The grant payment request was submitted and funds received in December. The total expenses for the project totaled \$178,703.92 which included over \$58,000 in donated labor and equipment (this includes highway department labor and equipment). We received \$50,000 in grant funds.

A new brochure will be designed with an updated map. The Friends of Tomahawk Park is holding a meeting for anyone interested on February 1st at 10am in the Town Hall. It will be followed by an event at the Park.

A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to back pay the employees who worked on the ice rink at a rate of \$17/hr. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

PLEASE NOTE, THIS MOTION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RESCINDED AT THE 1/27/2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AND A CORRECTED MOTION WAS MADE

Going forward, the employees will be paid at a rate of \$17/hr for the rest of the season. It will be re-addressed before next season.

b) Planning Commission– Tom Emerson

1. Jason Hartung of 49475 E. Shore Rd-Class A Special Use application for short term rental
2. Amy & Timothy O’Neil of 3490 Lake Rd-Class A Special Use application for short term rental.
3. Adam & Martha Bennis of 2500 Bony Lake Rd-Class A Special Use application for short term rental.

A motion was made (Emerson/Frint) to approve the applications of Jason Hartung, Amy & Timothy O’Neil and Adam & Martha Bennis subject to county septic compliance. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

d) Transfer Site Committee – Susan Jansen

1. Discussion regarding proposed “Free Day”. It was suggested that it be discussed at a future committee meeting and not be done in 2020. It would then be able to be added to the calendar of events for 2021.

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Item List and the Timeline.

The clerk reminded the Board that next month's meeting will be on MONDAY, February 17th due to the election on Tuesday, the 18th.

A motion was made (Frint/Jansen) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

**Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer
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