

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
Tuesday June 16, 2020
6:30 PM in the Barnes Emergency Services Building**

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 Donna Porter, Seana Frint and Susan Jansen and Eric Neff in attendance. Eric Polkoski, Roads & Property Foreman, was also present. Tom Renz was absent. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

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

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 5/19/2020 Monthly Board Meeting and the 5/6 Special Town Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to open the floor to public comments. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Public Comment Session – limited to 5 minutes

Vern Wilcox- the VFW has cancelled all activities on the 4th of July
Ted Eastlund – encouraged the board to cancel the fireworks and parade

Motion made (Porter/Jansen) to close the floor to public comments. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Petition to reinstate July 4th parade-Dave Scully

He stated that with all of the out of state people here, the virus is already here. The local businesses depend on the parade for much needed revenue. He takes the cancellation of the parade personally as a former service member. He said the 4th of July brings people together. He has a petition of 300 citizens (voters and property owners) who signed in favor of reinstating the parade. He stated that notes were being passed between board members during Mr. Eastlund's presentation at the last town board meeting, and no one knows why. Dave also said with all due respect, Mr. Eastlund is not a resident of Barnes and the board shouldn't let non-residents dictate what the Town of Barnes does. He suggested that the parade route be extended.

Fireworks and on-call hours – Tom Renz was unable to attend so he did not speak

Clerk Correspondence – The clerk reported receiving a letter from United Health Care stating they will be issuing a credit to our health insurance premium due to the COVID-19 health crisis. She also reported an email received from Dave Scully asking the board to re-instate the parade. She also received emails from Ted Eastlund regarding boat landing monitors and COVID precautions. Christine Neff filed an Aquatic Invasive Plant Incident Report that Curly-leaf Pondweed has been detected in Shunenberg Lake. Eric Neff sent a letter to Bayfield County Director of Health which he read below. An email was received from Carol LeBreck asking the board to cancel the parade. Chairperson Webb stated an email was received regarding complaint of early fireworks. Legality of Fireworks are the jurisdiction of State and County. Fireworks permits are required by the town

(none have been issued to date, however), however, the Sheriff's office should be notified of any violations. They are provided a list of permits that will be issued. The email also questioned authority over Short Term Rentals, but although Town reviews applications, rules for Short Term Rentals are also under State and County jurisdiction. Concerns should be directed to Bayfield County Health Department.

Discussion and action regarding 4th of July festivities

Motion made (Frint/Webb) to have the 4th of July fireworks as originally scheduled.

Discussion ensued with Supervisor Frint stating that most people are wearing masks and the fact that the event is held outside reduces the risks. A lot of people sit in their vehicles anyway and those that aren't comfortable can stay home. Supervisor Neff stated that he wants to protect our citizens. Several area towns have cancelled their displays and he's concerned that we'll draw a larger crowd with so many others cancelling. He wrote a letter to Sara Wartman, Director of Public Health for Bayfield County. See her reply:

To Whom It May Concern,

We have been getting questions regarding the safety of both small and larger events planned for the summer and fall months throughout Bayfield County. With the COVID-19 pandemic changing daily, there is always new information to review and consider as we move forward month to month with planning events.

At this time we still do not recommend any large events or gatherings, especially those that will draw people from out of the area. While Wisconsin has done a good job slowing the spread of COVID-19 and implementing social distancing practices, disease levels are rising in some states that opened earlier or did not implement social distancing. Large events that will draw people from multiple areas are still discouraged for two reasons. First, because more people from different areas can spread viruses in crowded areas and second, it is difficult to have public safety measures implemented with large groups of people who may not follow social distancing or mask wearing recommendations.

If event organizers plan to consider smaller local gatherings less than 250 people, the organizer must work on a COVID-19 prevention plan for the event or gathering and makes sure vendors and participants alike, follow COVID-19 prevention strategies such as:

- 1. Frequent handwashing – this means handwashing stations must be available for public and vendor use. We recommend any vendor (farmer market vendors included) have their own handwashing setup at their vendor location that only they use. Public handwashing stations should also be readily accessible. This can be the portable handwash station setups you rent from portable toilet companies or you can set up handwash stations.***
- 2. Avoid crowded areas - Events that keep vendors spread out and plenty of distance for people to walk and maintain physical distancing would be best practice. Do not set up any events where vendors are on the outsides and people are walking between two lines of vendors and cannot adequately space out. A better setup would be vendors towards the center and people walk through clockwise around them to minimize crowding. Several vendors could be set up this way to make smaller hubs that people could visit one hub and then another further away.***

3. **Promote mask wearing for both visitors and vendors in areas where people cannot maintain physical distancing. Vendors should also consider having a barrier for face to face interactions.**
4. **Disinfecting – all commonly touched areas ESPECIALLY PICNIC TABLES OR EATING AREAS *MUST* be disinfected regularly. You would need people whose main job would be to disinfect tables as people got up from eating. Extra tables and space between tables should be considered so people can sit further away from others.**
5. **Minimize waiting in line. Waiting in line for food or rides creates a crowded space where people can easily spread viruses if they are not wearing face coverings. Encourage the public to have one person order and pick up food for their family to reduce the number of people waiting in line at a time. Space out food vendors so multiple lines don't form in the same area.**
6. **Prominent Signage – Make sure your event has signs informing the public of what you are asking them to do, where the handwashing stations are, and asking those not feeling well to stay home.**

Again, due to the changing nature of the pandemic, we don't recommend any large gatherings at this time. We also do not recommend even smaller gatherings if your vendors or visitors are not following safety measures.

However, if you do plan to proceed with an event or gathering, please have your event organizer contact one or our Environmental Health Sanitarians to discuss event setup and which safety measures would be most effective at your location. Our phone number is (715)373-6109.

Sara

Sara Wartman, BSN, RN

Director / Health Officer

**Bayfield County Health Department
(715) 373-6109 ext. 3315**

Supervisor Frint said if she was going to get COVID, she would have had it by now with all the out of state people in the area. Chairperson Webb stated that the town doesn't advertise the parade or fireworks, but is there a way we could promote doing it safely while practicing social distancing. The Board should look for positive ways to address the situation, rather than with negativity. Supervisor Neff reiterated his concern for the safety of the citizens. He said it's not question of freedom, it's a public health issue. Supervisor Jansen encouraged everyone to get tested- it's being done in Drummond tomorrow, Wednesday 6/17, 11am-7pm and in Iron River on Thursday 6/18, 11am-7pm. Supervisor Porter said all it takes is one person and she's concerned about protecting our EMTs and volunteers.

It was proposed that fireworks could be done on Labor Day weekend, or people could be encouraged to stay in their vehicles for the parade. Chairperson Webb then called for the vote.

Roll call vote taken, with Eric Neff voting no, Susan Jansen, no, Donna Porter no, Seana Frint yes, Chris Webb yes. Motion did not pass.

Chairperson Webb asked for a motion to act on the petition received from Dave Scully

Motion made (Frint/Webb) to re-instate the 4th of July parade with social distancing recommendations followed.

Discussion followed regarding extending the parade route and contacting land owners regarding their willingness to allow people on their property. Supervisor Porter again suggested postponing the parade to a later date. In lieu of the parade, floats could be voted on in the park, leaving voting open for a week.

Roll call vote taken, with Seana Frint voting yes, Donna Porter no, Eric Neff no, Susan Jansen no, Chris Webb yes. Motion did not pass.

FOR CLARIFICATION, BOTH THE PARADE AND FIREWORKS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED ON THE 4TH OF JULY

Discussion regarding re-opening of public buildings following CDC guidelines.

Town Parks: Sanitizing of tables and play equipment is currently being done 2 times a week. The restrooms at Tomahawk and in the back of the Town Park do not have sinks. There is a shortage of hand sanitizer stations so we are not able to order any at this time.

Motion made (Porter/Jansen) that we do not open the public restrooms at this time.

Discussion followed and it was suggested that the one in the Town Park with running water be opened.

Voice vote taken, with all voting yes, motion carried.

Town Hall: a request has been received to be able to use the hall for card playing.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to keep the public buildings closed. This is primarily due to the lack of staff for cleaning as recommended by the CDC. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The Town Office will remain by appointment only. Bayfield County Planning & Zoning has re-started office time in the Town Office on Tuesdays from 10am-noon, appointments are recommended. All other public buildings and restrooms will remain closed.

Liquor Licenses

Motion was made (Frint/Porter) to approve the renewal licenses for Barnes VFW Post, Traut's Resort, The Windsor, Enchanted Inn, Cedar Lodge Steakhouse & Grille, Barnes Trading Post, P J's Cabin Store, R-C's Decoy Inn, Moonbeam Cove, Inc. (dba Crosswinds), KTKG, LLC (dba Robinson Lake Resort and Bar), Doorn's Inn and Ruckus Works, LLC. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion was made (Porter/Jansen) to approve the renewal license for Jim's Bait LLC. A roll call vote was taken with Supervisor Frint abstaining, all others voting yes, motion carried.

Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licenses

Motion was made (Frint/Porter) to approve R-C's Decoy Inn, Doorn's Inn, Barnes Trading Post and P J's Cabin Store's cigarette and tobacco products licenses. Voice vote taken, the motion carried.

Motion was made (Porter/Jansen) to approve the license for Jim's Bait, LLC for cigarette and tobacco product license. Roll call vote was taken with Supervisor Frint abstaining, all others voting yes, motion carried.

Operator's Licenses

Motion was made (Neff/Porter) to approve the 1 year operator licenses for Brenda Bakke and Kami Fesenmaier and the 2 year operator licenses for Mary Bollman, Robert Brennan, Gregory Dalbec, Kimberly Dalbec, Patrick J. Foat, Jr., Michael Frelichowski, Thomas Leamy, Tracy Levy, Amy Rice, Donald Scheer and Jean Scheer. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion was made (Porter/Neff) to approve the 2 year operator license Seana Frint. Roll call vote was taken with Supervisor Frint abstaining, all others voting yes, motion carried.

Chairperson Webb updated the board regarding the request to change the name of Buck N Bass Rd. An ordinance was presented changing the name to Lakeside Drive.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to approve the ordinance to rename Buck N Bass Rd to Lakeside Drive. Vote voice taken, motion carried.

The ordinance will be posted and the proper jurisdictions notified.

Update on sale of lot on Tomahawk Lake-Chairperson Webb updated the board on the access abandonment request. The DNR is routing the proposal for internal program reviews and she will get back to us in the next few weeks. A Class 1 Public Notice must be published, a public hearing held only if requested and then a final decision will be made by the DNR.

Discussion regarding Grab N Go meal service for seniors- Bayfield County is not recommending congregate meals reopen at any time so this is an option available. Pickup times are Mon-Thurs between 12:00-12:30pm at the Town Hall. The Clerk will follow up with the meal coordinator to see if there is interest.

Consider quote from Norvado for new online backup service at a cost of \$599/yr with a one time installation fee of 110.00. This is an upgrade to the current backup service which costs approximately \$300/yr. With the recent upgrades of computers and a server, a more robust backup service is needed.

Motion made (Frint/Neff) to proceed with the upgrade to the Carbonite software. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve May vouchers

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to approve the May vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The Treasurer's Report for April prepared by Clerk Bourassa was displayed for public view. The ending balance in the General Checking is \$456,722.88, \$571,525.19 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,606.36 is ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account,

the Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$859.17 and a 6 month CD at Associated Bank with a value of \$100,395.55 for a total in all funds of \$1,131,109.15 with \$764.32 in interest earned.

Motion made (Jansen/Frint) to approve the May Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report by Eric Polkoski

Completion of projects for month of June

- Cleaning and disinfecting of park equipment and shop for Covid-19.
- Regular maintenance on equipment. Greasing and washing.
- Mowing and brush mowing on the roads.
- Put flags up on the poles.
- Patched hole in blacktop roads.
- Grading of the gravel roads.
- Denver Rd project will be complete this week.
- Waiting on a date from Brad with Fahrner when they will be flex patching on Barnes Rd the last 2.73 miles.
- Started leveling the topsoil out at new emergency building.
- Put up COVID-19 signs at our town hall, office, parks and public fishing docks.
- Removed a slope on Barnes Rd and placed it in a low spot in the road.
- Working on a culvert inventory on all of the roads.

Update on the Denver Road Project- culverts have been installed, gravel laid and rip rap installed. The beam guard has been installed and paving will take place on either 6/18 or 6/20. Anticipate the paving being completed by the end of next week along with shouldering and pavement markings. The project should be completed ahead of schedule.

The scrub seal quote from Fahrner Asphalt for north Barnes Road was reviewed at a cost of \$106,432. Chairperson Webb suggested that the board consider this further in a future meeting. The flex patching was already approved at a cost of \$27,968.

Resignation of Parks & Cemetery maintenance staff member, Bob Brennan. The board regretfully accepts the resignation. A search for a part time replacement will ensue.

Fire & Ambulance Departments-Monthly BES Reports - Tom Renz was absent so no report

Policy demo-due to Tom's absence, this was not presented

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

a) Road & Right of Way Committee- Eric Neff

The committee recommends Option #4 for the final design selection for the South Shore Bridge.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to accept the recommendation of the RROW for Option #4. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

b) Land Use Planning Commission –Seana Frint

1. James Sarazin & Ann Felter of 50690 Peninsula Rd: Class A Special Use for short term rental.

Motion made (Frint/Neff) to approve the application for a Class A Special Use for short term rental. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

2. Robert & Sharon Wahman of 48705 Clearwater Rd: Request for an (after-the-Fact) Conditional Use permit (in a shoreland w/wetlands) to allow 2 existing residences to remain on the property in an R-1 zoning district.

Motion made (Frint/Porter) to approve the After-the-Fact Conditional Use permit for Robert & Sharon Wahman. Voice vote taken, motion carried

3. Tom Prickett of 39126 Homestead Av, North Branch, MN: Class A Special Use application to build an outhouse on Parcel #2735 owned by James & Florence Prickett in an F-1 zoning district.

Motion made (Porter/Neff) to approve the Class A Special Use application of the Pricketts for an outhouse. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

4. Stageberg Family Cabin LLC on Martin Rd – Rezone from R-3 to R-1 application

Motion made (Porter/Neff) to approve the Re-zone application of Stageberg Family Cabin LLC. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

c) Parks & Rec Committee – Pat Johnston

1. Review Purchase Order for brush mower

Chairperson Webb thanked the Lybecks for their donation of funds for the purchase of the brush mower. The mower has been ordered and awaiting delivery.

Motion made (Neff/Porter) to approve the purchase order of the finish cut mower. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Pat Johnston thanked the Lybecks for their generous donation in order to purchase the mower. She requested that the Hwy Dept. brush the trails at Tomahawk and then Marc Lybeck has offered to mow them. The P&R Committee will work with the Friends of Tomahawk Lake Park to schedule a work day. It will be posted on the Town's website when it's scheduled. A thank you note will be sent to the Lybecks by the Town.

d) A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

1. Recommendation to hire two certified divers

Motion made (Frint/Neff) to hire two certified divers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

2. Clean Boats, Clean Waters start date was Friday, June 5th, boat volunteers are needed. Shoreline Monitors volunteers are needed, they document time spent looking for invasive species.

e) Transfer Site Committee – Sue Jansen

1. Consider request to adjust fees charged for recycled items

Sue Jansen said they would like to charge for TVs and computer monitors the amount that we pay Roy's Enterprises to dispose of them. They would be able to weigh them so they can charge appropriately.

Motion made (Jansen/Frint) that we charge the rate of \$.50 per pound for TVs and computer monitors effect immediately. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

2. Discussion regarding hours over 4th of July holiday

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) that the hours at the Transfer Site be 8-4 on Sunday, July 5th and 8-2 on Monday, July 6th. The Transfer Site will be closed on Saturday, July 4th. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

EMS Committee- Guy Johnston

The Committee is recommending that the Town of Barnes develop a Fire and Ambulance Commission. This will be considered at a future meeting. Guy recommended all Board Members read the book purchased regarding Fire Commission functions.

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Item List and the Timeline.

Motion made (Jansen/Porter) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer
Ph.: 715-795-2782 Email: clerk@barnes-wi.com Fax: 715-795-2784