

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday July 21, 2020

6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall and via Zoom Video Conferencing

UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Chris Webb called the Monthly Town Board Meeting in the Town Hall to order at 6:30PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Donna Porter, Susan Jansen, Seana Frint and Eric Neff in attendance. Judy Bourassa, Eric Polkoski and Tom Renz were also present via Zoom. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

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

Motion made (Neff/Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 6/16/2020 Monthly Board Meeting and the 6/16 and 6/19 Special Town Board Meetings and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

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

Public Comment Session – limited to 3 minutes

Jenna Galligan, candidate for Bayfield County Treasurer, spoke regarding the election on 8/11 and her candidacy. She is currently the deputy treasurer (for the past 4 years) working under Dan Anderson, the current Treasurer, and encourages everyone to vote.

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

Clerk Correspondence – an email was received from Ted Eastlund regarding the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in our region and recommended that the town encourage local establishments to follow preventative guidelines. Lloyd Pickering also sent an email regarding COVID-19 in our area and also encouraged compliance with guidelines. Krissy Keister emailed the town chair regarding her concerns about high water and jet skiers on Island Lake. Katherine Stewart emailed a letter sent to the Eau Claire Lakes Association regarding the oak wilt disease and best practices to protect the oak trees. A citizen request for service was made by Jack & Carolyn Sweeney for no wake signs to be in the bay of the Upper by the boat landing. Jean Richmond emailed regarding her opposition to the rescission of the water/jet ski ordinance.

Consider shredding company quote –Clerk Bourassa received a quote from Confidential Records to destroy documents no longer needed to be retained at a cost of \$125 minimum charge for up to 300 lbs and anything over that would be charged at \$.20/lb.

Motion made (Porter/Jansen) to approve the shredding by Confidential Records of approved documents. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve June vouchers

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

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$417,646.83, \$573,987.09 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,551.73 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 \$1,094,440.37 with \$858.65 in interest earned.

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

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report by Eric Polkoski

Completion of projects for month of July

- Cleaning and disinfecting of park equipment and shop.
- Maintenance on equipment. Greasing and washing.
- Mowing 2 passes on roads.
- Brush mowing on some of the right of way on roads that need it.
- Patched hole in blacktop roads.
- Grading of the gravel roads. Fixing washouts.
- Park maintenance and mowing at town park, cemetery and at Tomahawk Park.
- Cleaning up trees and debris from the storms.
- A huge thank you to everyone that helped this past weekend with the storm cleanup to get the roads opened back up so quickly.

It was requested that the brush pit be opened over the next couple of weeks so that people can dispose of their tree debris and Eric agreed he will open it up every day the rest of this week. A trail cam will be installed so it can be monitored.

Denver Rd will be closed beginning this Thursday (thru Sunday) to make a culvert repair, including re-paving due to settling and adding gravel to the shoulder. The silt fence will be removed as well.

Zech Gotham of Morgan & Parmley joined via Zoom. He confirmed that the actual price for the Denver Road project will be less (by approximately \$10,000) than the original contract.s

Review Pay Application #1 from A-1 Excavating for the Denver Rd project

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to approve payment to A-1 Excavating in the amount of \$152,113.82. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Review the updated quote for a brush mower since the one previously approved is currently unavailable. The cost would be \$900 more than the amount budgeted. Supervisor Jansen asked Eric if he received quotes from others and he said he did, but these were the least expensive options.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to approve the purchase of the open front, standard flow mower at a cost of \$6,700.00. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Discussion regarding hiring of Parks/Maintenance employee. Eric would like the board to consider hiring a part time employee to help with the mowing and snow removal. With the resignations of Bob Brennan and Leevi Frint, these duties have been absorbed by Highway crew. Chair Webb asked if Eric was looking to hire someone now or would this be in the 2021 budget. Eric Neff pointed out that we budgeted for Bob's wages for the entire year and we have additional budget funds since Jerry's hours have been less than anticipated. Eric will work with Pat Johnston on a job description and will work with the clerk to get it advertised for approximately 24 hours per week.

Supervisor Jansen reported that due to power loading of boats, the dock at the Upper Eau Claire boat landing needs some repair. Eric will check on it. Supervisor Frint said she had a request regarding the Turtle Lake boat landing but the board was not sure if that was a town boat landing or belongs to the Potawatomi Property Owners Association. This will need to be researched.

Consider proposals for loan for Highway maintenance project(s). This would be to finance the North Barnes Road project (contracted with Fahrner Asphalt Sealers). Proposals were received from Associated Bank of 2.74% for 5 years (fixed rate) and the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (Wisconsin's trust fund) of 2.5% for 5 years.

Motion made Neff/Webb to authorize the loan application to the Board of Commissioners for \$100,000 for 5 years at 2.5%. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The board requested that Eric take down the flags and they be looked at to see if any need to be replaced. He said he has replaced 6 last week and repaired some of the poles and clips. He suggested that banners be purchased to replace the flags. The board asked for a quote to be presented at the next board meeting. Supervisor Jansen thanked the Highway crew for their hard work cleaning up the trees down and debris removal.

Monthly Report – Tom Renz

Monthly report
July 20, 2020
Ambulance

Since May 19

There have been twenty two ambulance calls

10 – No transports or respond with fire

3 – transports to Hayward with Sawyer County intercept

1 transported to Hayward with Great Divide Intercept

3 transported to Hayward

1 – transport to St. Lukes with Mayo Intercept

1 – transported to Essentia Health

1 – Trauma call Helicopter transported to Essentia

1 – Contacted Grodon Wascott for Mutual Aid as ambulance was already out on call one EMT

Responded to scene and assisted

1 – unable to fill call only one EMT responded due to 2 EMT's being out sick with Fever association

one EMT responded and assisted on scene

There are two applications for ambulance I request to be approved. Classes will be held on line thru Bluejeans and then skills will be in person and practicing all social rules and masks required.

Fire

- 1 – Mutual aid to Drummond for garage storage shed fire
- 1 – Mutual aid to Iron River for equipment fire in the Town of Hughes
- 1 - MV crash
- 1 – Report of Explosion Pickerel Lake area - no incident located
- 1 – Propane Tank leak
- 2 – Landing zone secure
- 3 – Power line / tree on line incidents
- 1 – House struck by lightning electrical issue

Also have 2 applications for fire for approval and I recommend both be approved they both have completed the training.

BES building

The pad for the generator was poured by Kent Mackey and myself with Kent doing a majority of the work and supplying equipment. The Generator has arrived. The Generator was donated and paid for by Enbridge.

Thank you Enbridge. Tom

1. Request approval to add Hallie and Robert Skweres to the Fire Department and Hallie Skweres and Ricky Renz to the Ambulance Department

Motion made (Jansen/Frint) to approve adding Hallie Skweres and Robert Skweres to the Fire Department. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion made (Frint/Neff) to approve adding Hallie Skweres and Ricky Renz to the Ambulance Service. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Supervisor Jansen asked if we are supplied with PPE and he assured the board that we are well-stocked.

Supervisor Porter asked Tom if the donations received for the 4th of July fundraiser are to be returned or the donators contacted. Tom said it can be discussed at the next Ambulance meeting. They did get a raffle license so plans are in the works for a raffle and the funds could be used for that event.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

- a) Land Use Planning Commission –Seana Frint
 1. Time to Rest (Robert Gerber) of 52970 Conners Rd: Class A Special Use for short term rental.

Discussion ensued regarding complaints that have been received on some of the short term rental properties. These complaints need to be directed to the County Health Department who regulates the short term rentals. It was discussed that it's the responsibility of the owners to make sure the renters are made aware of any rules and regulations. Supervisor Neff would like the Town to take action reporting to the County of any issues with short term rentals. Chairperson Webb would like to get Sara Wartman, Bayfield County Health Director, to attend one of our board meetings so we could get her perspective on this issue.

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

b) Parks & Rec Committee – Susan Pagnucci has resigned from the Committee.

c) Cemetery Committee – Susan Pagnucci has resigned from the Committee.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to accept the resignation of Susan Pagnucci from the Parks & Rec Committee and the Cemetery Committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The Parks & Rec Committee will be presenting a two year plan at the August board meeting. Plans include a storage building at Tomahawk Park.

d) A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

1. Update on summer activities-invasive species removal continues and the divers are working well together. Volunteers are still needed on the BAISS boats. Supervisor Jansen reiterated that shoreline erosion continues to be an issue on the Upper Eau Claire Lake for property owners and would like the AIS committee to address this issue. She would like boaters to stay away from the shoreline and concentrate their jet-skiing and water-skiing activities to the middle of the lakes

e) Transfer Site Committee – Sue Jansen

1. Consider request to send mailing to all property owners regarding recycling –Bob Simonsen requested this because it's been a problem with people putting non-recyclable items in the recycling. The board suggested printing flyers and they could be handed out at the Transfer Site rather than sending a mailing (which could be costly) and updating the website with information regarding recycling to encourage compliance. Purchasing signs was discussed and the board requested that a quote be obtained and they will discuss it further at a future meeting.

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Item List and the Timeline. The Emergency Action Plan needs to be reviewed and finalized. Chairperson Webb would like a plan for Propane tanks explosions to be included.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer
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