

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 16, 2022  
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

## UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Tom Renz called the Monthly Town Board Meeting in the Town Hall to order at 6:31PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Seana Frint, Eric Neff, Dave Scully and Jim Frint in attendance in the Town Hall. Clerk Judy Bourassa verified public notice. Jeff Jordheim, Brett Frierhood and Brock Frierhood were also in attendance in the Town Hall.

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

Chairman Renz asked for a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 7/19/2022 Monthly Board Meeting and the minutes of the 7/7 and 7/19/2022 Special Board Meetings and to dispense with the reading of those minutes.

*Motion made (Neff/J. Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes as listed. Voice vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.*

*Motion was made (Neff/S. Frint) to move agenda item 18b – A.I.S. Committee to item 5. Voice vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.*

A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

The committee is requesting the board approve the Aquatic Management Plan for Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lakes.

*Motion made (Neff/Scully) to approve the Aquatic Management Plan for Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lakes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

She reported that a Lower Eau Claire Lake Early Detection Rapid Response Grant is being applied for and we are coordinating with Douglas County. The cleaning station on the Lower that Douglas County is installing is not up and running yet. Curly leaf pondweed was found in the Lower and some hand pulling was done since the DASH permit wasn't received timely.

Results of the Tomahawk Lake chemical treatment- Cris Neff took a video of the lake and Chris Webb would like to get that posted on the town's website. They had good results from the treatment with the exception of the 3<sup>rd</sup> area due to windy conditions, however, the chemical drifted into an area that was infested and there is evidence of plant die off. If the DNR will allow it, they would like to treat the lake again next year. The lab reports will be posted on the website and provided to the board as well.

Arrow alum and wild horseradish has been found on private property on the shoreline of the Middle Eau Claire.

Both Barb Clements and Julia Lyons have been doing a good job with Clean Boats, Clean Waters and scheduling volunteers.

Requests for suggestions for public information sharing – the website has been updated to display current information. One option would be a Welcome packet and/or a packet to be provided to the short-term rentals in town.

Appreciation picnic for volunteers – A.I.S. volunteers are invited to the September 17<sup>th</sup> event along with the town employees and their families. It will be from noon-4pm at the Town Park.

Public Comment Session –there were no public comments

Clerk Correspondence – the clerk reported receiving an email from David Del Forge advising that he no longer plans on coordinating the Vatten Paddlar race; a letter from Bayfield County Planning & Zoning regarding an upcoming public hearing on 8/18 at 4pm for an ordinance amendment to amend Title 13 (Sec.13-1-63) at the request of the Town of Russell; letters were received from Northwood Technical College announcing a vacancy on the Tech District Board; A bid notice was posted for double chip sealing on Pine Chip Dr.-bids are due by 8/19 at noon; timber cutting notices were received for land owner Futurewood Corp for 6 parcels.

Supervisor Scully updated the board on the municipal campground – unfortunately, his application for the grant was not received by the deadline so we will not be considered for the grant this year. We will re-apply again next spring with a new plan that will be scaled down (possibly 20 sites for Phase 1) and he is looking to get approval from County zoning.

A draft lease agreement with WI DOT regarding a road salt storage facility to potentially be built on Town-owned land was reviewed. No action will be taken at this time. Supervisor Scully suggested looking at other town-owned land as options for the salt shed.

The Comprehensive Plan Update Committee has been formed with the addition of members Diane Rupnow and Barb Clements. A pre-planning meeting is scheduled for 8/18 at 6:30pm via Teams.

*Motion made (Neff/Renz) to appoint Diane Rupnow and Barb Clements to serve on the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to open the floor. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Chris Webb said she'd like to see more of County Rd N be open to commercial businesses. She would like to be considered to be appointed to the committee

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to close the floor. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*Motion made (Neff/Scully) to add Chris Webb to the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Review of a Short Term Rental Ordinance. The town attorney has reviewed it and Chairman Renz would like the board to adopt it. The ordinance requires owners to apply for a license by December 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022 and pay an annual fee of \$300 (not prorated) due January 1, 2023 and renewable annually provided there have been no violations. They must also have the proper permits and licenses as required by state law. They will also be required to maintain a registry of renters and are subject to the restrictions as specified in the ordinance. A copy of the ordinance will be mailed to all current short-term rental property owners and is also on the town website and posted at the Town Hall.

*Motion made (Renz/Neff) to open the floor. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

It was asked if the short term rentals are on VRBO or AirBnB. Chairman Renz responded that there are several services that offer rentals including North Country Vacation Rentals, Vacation Rental by Owner (VRBO)...

*Motion made (Renz/Neff) to close the floor. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*Motion made (Renz/Neff) to adopt the Chapter 19 Short Term Rental Ordinance as presented. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Discussion regarding placing an advertisement in the 2023 Hayward Lakes Vacation Guide. Supervisor Neff proposed a ¼ page ad with an updated ad design.

*Motion made (Neff/Scully) to place a ¼ page ad in the Hayward Lakes Vacation Guide with the updated ad design at a cost of \$550.00. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Discussion regarding two proposals received from Plunkett's Pest Control for Asian beetles and carpenter ants for \$327 and \$225, respectively. There are infestations in the Town Park restrooms and some issues in the Town garage. These are one time proposals which can be renewed if needed.

*Motion made (Neff/J.Frint) to accept the proposals from Plunkett's at a cost of \$552.00. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Consider Dawn Piburn's 2 year operator license application

*Motion made (Renz/S. Frint) to approve the 2 year operator license for Dawn Piburn. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Supervisor Scully reported rock movement at the bridge between the Upper and Birch Lakes. The work was being done by the Lake Rd Bridge and he was concerned about the pressure being put on the channel bracing. This was work that a private property owner was having done.

Update on the South Shore Bridge Project – The contractor is requesting that the project be delayed until spring due to a re-design needed for the bridge pilings. There would be no change in the overall cost as the contract has been awarded. Discussion followed with the board unwilling to postpone the project and unhappy with the delay (originally scheduled to start after the Vatten Paddlar, then postponed to August 8<sup>th</sup>).

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to NOT agree to postpone the S. Shore Bridge Project until the spring of 2023. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve July vouchers

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to approve the July vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$524,578.99 which includes deposits of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter General Transportation Aid and funds transferred from the Money Market account for the electrical work at the Town Park and the Tennis/Pickleball court re-surfacing and transfers of

approximately \$18k to the EMS sinking fund. \$923,993.10 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account; \$3,171.31 is ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account after funds were transferred from the Paypal account and all expenses paid out. The Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$2,049.39, there are still two refund checks outstanding; the PayPal account has a balance \$4,930.44 after registration fees were transferred to the Vatten Paddlar account and the new account for Taste of Barnes has a balance of \$4,164.00 for a total of all funds of \$1,458,723.23 with \$1,011.24 in interest earned so far this year.

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to approve the Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Highway Dept. Report – Jeff Jordheim

### **Roads & Property Report July Road/Equipment Report**

**Roads: Mowing operations are on going**

**Grading is ongoing as weather allows. We are keeping track for hours for re-grading of roads that have been tore up by certain user group.**

**Gravel is being placed as needed from prior storm damage**

**Parks: Parks are looking great. Thanks to Loren.**

**Transfer site: Transfer site employees are working very hard to get it to cash flow better.**

**New Cardboard baler is on order, should arrive close to Halloween.**

**Equipment: John Deere grader is having issues. But McCoy has been very helpful and going out of their way to keep it going. Warranty is covering it.**

**Truck # 42: I am still getting quotes on new drive tires. Hard to get as well.**

**Grader Blades: Are getting hard locate as well. I will be placing an order this week.**

1. Discussion regarding Delmore's proposal for culvert count. No action taken, it will be part of the 2023 budget discussion.
2. Discussion regarding baler/concrete-the baler will be delivered in late October so a 12'x12'x8" concrete pad will need to be poured since now the baler will outside.
3. Discussion regarding the well at the Town garage-Paul Anderson hasn't come out yet, the pump may need to be replaced.
4. Discussion regarding Carney Rd. The residents would like it to be a town road but it doesn't meet road standards- no action taken at this time, Roads & Right of Way Committee will discuss at their next meeting.

### **Monthly report Fire**

Agenda Items:

-discussion and possible action on new SCBA units

Calls:

1 call-request for UTV and Landing Zone

-Pump testing was completed last week, fixed the primer motor and tank fill valves on Tender 1.

-Fire Inspections for the first half of the year were completed. 2 had violations but were corrected upon re-inspection. 1 has violations, has for the past few years, will be trying to contact them and see if we can get them corrected.

-Still working on trying to get equipment back from inactive members. Have rough draft of a certified letter that I will be sending to Tom and Dave to see if they have any input.

-The turnout gear that was ordered back in March, finally arrived with the wrong department name on the back. It has been sent back for repair.

*Motion made (Renz/Scully) to authorize the purchase of 4 SCBA units per the quote received (\$47,585.60) using funds from the Emergency Services Sinking Fund. Roll call vote taken, with all members voting yes, motion carried.*

## **Monthly report Ambulance**

6 calls since last meeting.

The offer for the 3rd EMT position was declined as the applicant's situation had reportedly changed. A couple individuals have expressed interest in applying and have been directed to the application, but none have been received so far.

Ambulance personnel will be helping with security for the upcoming Ruckus in the Woods.

The 4th of July fundraising report has been completed and as requested a copy has been included.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

Roads & Right of Way Committee – Jim Frint

The committee has recommended that the board double chip seal Pine Chip Drive which would last about 10 years. Town of Highland has had good results with it. Bids are currently being requested with the bid opening scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm. If a bid is accepted, the work would be completed this fall.

Land Use Planning Commission: Seana Frint

*Motion made (Renz/Neff) to appoint Jeff Johnson to another 2 year term terminating 08-21-2024. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Chairman Renz reviewed the Timeline –no changes needed

*Motion made (Renz/J.Frint) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

**Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer**  
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