

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, Sept. 19th, 2023  
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

## UNAPPROVED

Supervisor Seana Frint 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 Eric Neff, Dave Scully, Jim Frint in attendance in the Town Hall, Chairman Tom Renz was absent. Interim Clerk Judy Bourassa verified public notice. Brett Frierhood and Jeff Jordheim were also in attendance in the Town Hall, Brock Frierhood was absent.

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

Supervisor Seana Frint asked for a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 08/15/23 Monthly Board Meeting and the 8/1, 8/16 and 8/21/23 Special Board Meeting minutes.

The clerk requested that the agenda be amended to include consideration of an ad in the Bayfield County Visitor Guide at a cost of \$600.

*Motion made (Neff/J. Frint) to approve the amended agenda and the minutes of the 8/15/23 Monthly Board Meeting and the 8/1, 8/16 and 8/21/23 Special Board Meeting Minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Public Comment Session – Pat Johnston asked the board to consider planting a tree with a plaque in the Town Park in honor of Marcia Wellnitz, a long-time EMT, Parks & Rec Committee and AIS Committee member. Marcia served the Town of Barnes for many years in many capacities and we would like to honor her memory. Supervisor Seana Frint said the board would consider it at a future meeting.

Clerk Correspondence – the new clerk/treasurer, Lisa Meyer was introduced. The clerk informed the board that Lisa will be attending a WTA workshop tomorrow and an election academy in November; a thank you note was received from Chequamegon Children's Theater for the recent donation; The County Clerk sent notice of the recent adoption of an amendment to Title 13-1-26 and 13-1-62A; Planning & Zoning Dept. approved the town's request to build Public/Municipal Structure (for salt/sand) on town property with conditions; Senior Meals at the Town Hall have been re-instated on Thursday only – reservations required (715-373-3396); Bayfield Co. Administrator sent a letter advising of listening sessions regarding the proposed County Comprehensive Plan Update – one will be held in Cable on 9/27 from 5-7pm in the Cable Community Center; they also sent a letter regarding public WIFI now available at the County courthouse & Highway garage; The DNR sent notice of applications for entry into the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program; The WI Dept. of Safety & Prof. Services conducted an audit of our UDC inspector, Rob Lietha, and found that the records were properly organized and maintained; Bayfield Co. Health Dept. sent water sample results for the well at Tomahawk Lake Park and the well at the Town Garage and they were acceptable;

The Bayfield County Visitor & Recreation Guide-we've placed an ad in this guide in past years.

*Motion made (Neff/J. Frint) to approve a ¼ page ad in the Bayfield County Visitor Guide. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The clerk reported that the contractor has been contacted by the engineering firm regarding the air conditioner at the Emergency Services Building that isn't working properly.

The clerk requested the board's approval for Lisa Meyer to attend the WTA Convention Oct 22-24.

*Motion was made (Scully/S.Frint) to approve Lisa Meyer attending the WTA Convention at a cost of \$200 plus hotel. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The August vouchers were reviewed.

*Motion was made (Neff/J.Frint/) to approve the August vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$309,837.87; \$1,072,800.23 is the ending balance in the Money Market account with \$679.14 interest earned; \$4,275.75 is the ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account after all expenses/reimbursements have been paid; The PayPal account has a balance \$5,794.23; Taste of Barnes account has balance of \$4,132.15 and the Tax Collection Account had a balance of \$3,894.37 for a total of all funds of \$1,396,602.45.

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

Highway Dept Report-Jeff Jordheim

### **Roads/Property Report**

Roads: Patching ongoing, new road name signs are on order. Sand is being hauled for salt-sand as time allows. Update on Lake Road Rehab and box culvert decking. RROW committee met with Zech from M & P on the design and time frame. Zech will be updating the town with current pricing. Lake Road rehab, will start next month on finding funding. Design has been completed by Morgan & Parmley.

Parks: Signs are on order for parking @ Tomahawk.

Equipment: Head plow for the wheel loader snow plow is at the manufacturer for replacement, or repair. Truck 42: Needs to be repaired as rust has taken over on the under box. Going to Arnie's in Hayward.

Property: Salt/sand shed covering is to be shipped on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Three days to build.

An agreement with the Town of Drummond to maintain Wilderness Rd and S. Wilderness Rd was reviewed. Barnes will pay for all maintenance work; in exchange, Drummond will pay the Rate per Mile to Barnes.

*Motion was made (Neff/Scully) to approve the maintenance agreement with the Town of Drummond. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Citizen Requests for Service were reviewed. Tami Suwanski requested maintenance of 73 Road which has been completed (gravel was added and graded). Todd Kronebusch would like to purchase fill sand from the sand/salt project from the Town. There currently isn't a policy so the WTA could be consulted, so the board would like to table the issue until more information is

obtained. Bob Paszak requested repair of the walkway to the pier on Mimi Lake. The DNR should be consulted so Jeff will reach out to them.

Safety issues regarding mowing right of ways was discussed. The Foreman requested that the public stay away from the tractor during mowing operations to prevent injury.

The Foreman would like to add some part time snow plow drivers.

Brock's report was read by Judy Bourassa

### ***Monthly Fire Dept. Report***

Calls: 7 calls  
-1 MV crash  
-1 UTV Fire  
-1 Carbon Monoxide call  
-1 lift assist for EMS  
-1 LZ for EMS  
-1 UTV for EMS call  
-1 Fire Alarm

New Engine is still being built, not much of an update since the last meeting. They are still building the body.

Emergency Apparatus and Maintenance conducted pump testing. Tender 1 pass, there were some issues that they fixed while they were here. Engine 1 failed the pump testing. Fixed some items, but not all. The rest of the items to be fixed on the Engine are scheduled to be completed in 2-3 weeks.

Searching for grants to apply for.

Working on upcoming budget items for next year.

### ***Monthly Ambulance Dept. Report***

It has been a busy month with 14 calls since the last meeting. Two of these were fire related with the rest medical calls. Notably we had one day with 2 calls and one with 3 calls. All of these calls were covered without needing mutual aid thanks in part to the full-time staffing as well as the volunteers responding. There were no calls into Highland.

AJ has switched to a Tuesday through Friday schedule starting last week. This provides at least one full-time working Monday-Friday. Jennifer has completed the process with the State and has received her license. Her start date will be September 26th. Greg Strasser and Hallie Skweres started the online Hawthorne EMR class last week. Once they complete the class they will be able to apply for licensing without needing to take the National Registry exams. Dawn Piburn has resigned from the department.

After several months the new scoop stretcher was supposed to ship on Friday and should be arriving shortly. The Zoll monitor has been upgraded for CO monitoring and is back in service. The ambulance was returned from maintenance, however had an additional check engine code and has gone back to Pomasl. Replacement parts needed to be ordered which added a couple days but it is expected to return this week. Six new pagers have been purchased using FAP funding and will be handed out as needed. Four new portable radios have been ordered which will be compatible with the new WISCOM system.

I was notified of the passing of one of our former EMTs at the end of August. Out of respect for the family I am not currently releasing additional details, however the ambulance department and other agencies may be involved in a future memorial service.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports:

Land Use Planning Commission:

Jill Tonn of 52003 Witch's Bay Rd has submitted a Class A Special Use application to park an RV on the property. The Land Use Planning Commission did not approve or deny the request because they had some questions that still weren't answered. Supervisor Neff referenced the applicant's comments and recommended approval.

*Motion made (Neff/Scully) that the Class A Special Use application of Jill Tonn be approved. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Todd Kronebusch of 50635 Martin Rd has submitted a Class A Special use application to add fill sand at his property. The Commission did not have any issues with the request and recommend approval.

*Motion made (S.Frint/Neff) that the Class A Special Use application of Todd Kronebusch be approved. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

Chris Webb was unable to attend so Supervisor Neff updated the board on the activities of the A.I.S. Committee, BAISS boat operations and grants. The Committee is looking for additional members and volunteers as some current members will be retiring in the near future. They are asking for lake property owners to consider volunteering. The clerk requested on Chris's behalf that the board approve the draft Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Plan Addendums 1, 2 and 3 for the Eau Claire Lake chain and asked for public input.

*Motion made (Neff/S.Frint) to approve the draft Plan Addendums 1, 2 and 3. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Chris Webb and Tom Renz will be attending the Town of Gordon's Town Board Meeting in October to discuss AIS efforts on the Lower Eau Claire Lake.

The timeline was reviewed-no changes needed.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 PM.