

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
Special Town Board Meeting-Closed Session, and
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024

5:30 PM at the Barnes Town Office

6:30 PM at the Barnes Town Hall

UNAPPROVED

The **Special Town Board Meeting** in the Town Office was called to Order by Chairman Renz at 5:30pm and a Roll Call was done to establish a Quorum with Dave Scully, Seana Frint and Jim Frint in attendance. Eric Neff arrived at 6pm. Clerk Meyer verified notice.

A motion was made (Dave/Seana) to approve the Agenda. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Closed Session: As the governing body for the Town of Barnes, the Town Board will go into a closed

Session, pursuant to the following: employee review/employee issues

- a) Wis. Stat § 19.85(c) “considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.”
- b) Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f) authorizes a closed session for: Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

A motion to go into closed session was made by (Tom/Dave). Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to return to open session at 6:25pm. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to increase Courtney Mashlan’s hourly rate from \$22.77/hr to \$27/hr also any newly hired EMT’s will get a starting rate of \$25/hr. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to adjourn. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

At 6:37PM, the Monthly Board Meeting was called to order. Tom Renz, Supervisors Seana Frint, Dave Scully, Jim Frint and Eric Neff present at the Town Hall, establishing a quorum. Roll call to establish a quorum and verification of public notice.

All present said pledge of allegiance to the flag

Motion made (Dave/Eric) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 12/19/2023 and 12/22/2023 Monthly Board Meeting and Special Meeting to dispense with the reading of those minutes

Public Comment Session – Resident Cal Wise brought to the board’s attention that he would like Tomahawk Lake Road paved. Doug Westerberg informed the board about the town hall doors being unlocked. The board stated the hall is a warming area in case resident’s furnaces go out and needs to remain unlocked in these cold temps.

Clerk Correspondence- Clerks office is very busy posting tax payments.

Guest speaker-Mark Abeles-Allison from Bayfield County to make a presentation about the proposed USDOT RAISE grant the county is applying for on Hwy N from 27 to A. Mark explained the road would allow logging traffic to run in the spring as the road would not be restricted during the spring thaw. He also stated a 3’ right of way to widen N.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to open the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Several residents asked Mark questions.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to close the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Chairman Renz stated that there are businesses along that route that have parking lots right up to the road that might have concerns. Mark asked that everyone fill out a survey and send any letters of support to Bayfield Co.

Consider Rezone application for Sarah Carlson/Laura Waterhouse, 3295 Bony Lake Rd.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to approve rezone application for Sarah Carlson/Laura Waterhouse, 3295 Bony Lake Rd. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Consider Land/Use permit application for Andre and Jodi Drinkwine, 3723 Schiess Rd.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve Land/Use permit application for Andre and Jodi Drinkwine, 3723 Schiess Rd. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution 24-01 Budget Amendment to the 2023 Annual Budget.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve Adoption of Resolution 24-01 Budget Amendment to the 2023 Annual Budget Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Discuss and possible action on the sale of town owned property in Potawatami behind campground-60 acres.

A motion was made (Tom/Seana) to approve the sale of town owned property in Potawatami behind campground-60 acres. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Chairman Renz asked that the clerk put out bid notice so a decision could be made at the 2/20/24 monthly board meeting.

Approval – December vouchers

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve December vouchers. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Treasurer reported that there is a balance of \$288,908.00 in the General checking account. \$831,200.72 in the Savings account, \$594,268.84 Tax account, \$3,471.75 in the Van Paddler account, \$6,469.52 in the PayPal account and \$4,132.15 in the Taste of Barnes account.

A motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by (Tom/Dave). Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

TOB Department Head Reports:

A.) Highway Department

Monthly Transfer Site Report-Jeff Hong

Jeff Hong stated that the transfer site was closed on Sun 1/14 due to cold weather and that residents were going in the side gate. Also stated that the maintenance budget for the transfer site was already over budget due to \$1200 in maintenance has already been needed.

Highway Agenda Items:

1. Discussion/Action on signing of contract to place order for equipment for plow truck

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to open the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A discussion of extended warranty, specifics of contract, steel prices took place.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to close the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion to approve the signing of the Monroe contract to place order for equipment for plow truck without the extended was made by (Tom/Dave). Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

2. Standard Operating Procedure: Highway/BES. Discussion/Action

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to open the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Jeff Jordheim stated his point regarding being available on ambulance calls to make sure driveways/roads were passable before the ambulance arrived. Brett Frierhood stated that there could be some HIPPA violations and that the best thing to do would be to have the highway dept. available at the town garage and come out if called as opposed to going on the call.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to close the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Monthly Roads Report-Jeff Jordheim

Equipment: John Deere grader is at Falls having equipment installed. Truck 33 has broken AC/PS pump bracket. Chevrolet says it is now obsolete, scrap yards are unable to locate. I am looking for a junk Duramax for parts.
Jeff would like to use the Motor-grader-wheeled back hoe for trade and not auction item. The pricing is very similar so the department would get about the same value either way.

Buildings: Getting quote for new garage door. One new door has been replaced already.
Roads: Plowing continues
The town hall needs to have the furnace replaced estimated cost \$6,800
The water at the BES building needs to be tested. There are black specks that are clogging up filters and visible in the water.

B.) Fire Department

Agenda Items:

1. Request to place notice for bids for QRV

Chairman Renz informed that bids are not required but that steps to make sure we are paying a reasonable price should be made.

Monthly Fire Report – Brock Frierhood

1/16/2024

Calls: 2 calls

-1 Carbon Monoxide

-1 EMS assist

New Engine is still being built. Body is expected to be back from paint this week. Unknown timeframe for completion.

Received the fire inspections for the second half of 2023. Checking with violations to see if they have corrected them.

New AFG grant cycle is open on January 29th. Waiting for the Notice of Funding Opportunity to become available and start working on this.

C.) Ambulance Department

1. Appoint/approve Les Luder to the position of Ambulance Training Officer

A motion was made (Dave/Tom) to approve Appoint Les Luder to the position of Ambulance Training Officer. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

2. Approve job description for Assistant Ambulance Director

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve job description for Assistant Ambulance Director. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Monthly Ambulance Report – Brett Frierhood

There have been 7 calls since the last meeting. 2023 ended with a combined total of 108 calls which is an increase over previous years. There have been 3 calls so far in 2024.

Job postings have been made for the open full-time EMT position. The posting has been made in several ways and additional methods are being looked in to.

Hallie completed the EMR class in December and applied for and received her EMR certificate under the new rules that do not require National Registry certification. We are currently waiting on approval of her credentialing agreement by the Medical Director for her to be placed on the roster and respond to calls.

19) Review Timeline – Chairman Renz stated that he would like to get a Fire Commission established. Added the action date of June 2024 to the timeline.

A motion was made (Eric/Dave) to adjourn. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM

Submitted by: Lisa Meyer, Clerk-Treasurer
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