

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
2016 BUDGET HEARING,
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS,
and MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
Tuesday – November 17, 2015 at 6:00PM
At Barnes Town Hall**

(UNAPPROVED)

At 6:02PM Chairman, Tom Krob called the Annual Public Budget Hearing to order. Roll call was taken with Town Supervisors Christine Webb, Donna Porter, Julie Bohl, and Tom Emerson present establishing a quorum. Also present were Brenda Bakke, Clerk-Treasurer, Bob Lang, Roads and Properties Foreman, and Tom Renz, Ambulance Director and Fire Chief. Bakke verified public notice. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was then said by all.

Discussion of the 2016 Proposed Town Budget – Tom Krob reviewed the proposed budget figures for the Town of Barnes for 2016. Krob explained the increase in General Government expenses is due to the 2016 revaluation assessment the town is required to have periodically. This is planned as an exterior revaluation of all properties.

Dave Schiess asked about the Conservation and Development increase. Webb explained the Conservation increase is for the DASH boat and divers to control the aquatic invasive species in the lakes.

Motion made (Tom Renz/Linda Frank) to adjourn the Public Budget Hearing. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

The Public Budget Hearing adjourned at 6:11PM.

At 6:11PM the Special Town Meeting of the Electors was called to order. There were no comments or input regarding the proposed budget or tax levy given by the Electors. Krob presented the choices for the method of voting on the 2015 tax levy, i.e. standing, hand count, or secret ballots. Attendees agreed on hand count for recording votes. Vote counters were asked for with Tom Renz and Dave Schiess volunteering to count votes.

Krob read the language of Resolution R15-01 as follows: “BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the qualified electors of the Town of Barnes here assembled in a Special Town Meeting this 17th day of November, 2015, to adopt the 2015 town tax levy to be paid in 2016 in the sum of \$502,166.00 which will be levied for the purpose of Operating Expenses for the year 2016.”

Motion made (Tom Renz/Florence Prickett) to adopt Resolution R15-01 approving the 2015 tax levy to be paid in 2016. Vote by show of hands taken with 16 voting yes, and 0 voting no. Motion carried.

Motion made (Linda Frank/Chris Webb) to adjourn the Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

The Special Town Meeting of the Electors was adjourned at 6:15PM.

At 6:15PM Chairman Krob called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order.

Motion made (Bohl/Porter) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 10/20/2015 Monthly Board meeting, and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Town of Barnes 2016 Budget –

Krob asked the other Board members if there were any changes they felt should be made in the 2016 Budget. No changes were suggested or requested.

Motion made (Webb/Bohl) to adopt the Town of Barnes 2016 Budget. Roll call vote taken with Webb, Emerson, Bohl, Porter and Krob voting yes to adopt the 2016 Budget. Motion carried.

Public Comment Session – There were no public comments.

Voucher's Approval –

Motion made (Bohl/Emerson) to approve October vouchers. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Reports provided by Brenda Bakke.

Treasurer's Report -

Motion made (Webb/Porter) to approve the October Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Clerk Correspondence

Adoption of Resolution 15-02 Treasurer's Tax Collection Bond: Annual Town obligation to Bayfield County of amount over Treasurer's Bond for property taxes.

Motion made (Webb/Emerson) to adopt Resolution R15-02 for the Tax Collection Bond. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Appointment of Poll Workers for the 2016-2017 elections –

Bakke reported all the current poll workers want to continue their work for the Town on elections, and that they work well together and are a strong team. Staffing for the upcoming 2016 elections was discussed and required election training. The decision of whether or not to have alternate poll workers was tabled.

Motion made (Webb/Porter) to re-appoint the current election workers, Lu Peet and Mary Sadenwasser as Chief Election Inspectors, and Linda Frank, Beverly Lowrey, Dorothy Mueller, and Florence Prickett as Election Inspectors. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Posting of Town notices per 2015 Wisconsin Act 79 enacted 11-11-2015 which allows towns to post public notices on their Internet site and one other site in the town. Current posting sites were discussed and which would afford the most public access. The Town currently posts notices at State Bank of Drummond on Hwy 27, Webb Realty on County N, and on the bulletin board outside the front of the Barnes Town Hall.

Motion made (Porter/Krob) to open floor to public comment. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Carol Labreck stated she thinks we should post at the bank and at the Town Hall, as well as our website.

Motion made (Porter/Krob) to close floor. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion made (Webb/Bohl) to make it policy to post Town notices at the State Bank of Drummond on Hwy 27, the Town Hall, and Town website. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

The condition of the bulletin board outside the Town Hall was discussed. The Board agrees to replace or repair Town Hall bulletin board for posting Town notices.

Copies of the forestry cutting notices were placed at the Town Hall entrance for public review.

TOB Department Head Reports:

The Highway Department Monthly Roads Report was presented by Bob Lang.

Lake Rd. improvement project was discussed and the recommendation made that the project be postponed until 2017 in order to save money on the project.

Motion made (Webb/Emerson) that we delay the Lake Rd. project until 2017. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Placement of waterway braces – The timing for placement of the waterway braces was discussed with the decision to continue as we are and make the decision annually based on weather as the timing of the water freezing varies each year.

Fire & Ambulance Departments Monthly Reports were presented by Tom Renz. We currently have one person in EMT training. Due to a change in the law, ambulance runs will be able to be made by one EMT and a trained first responder in the future. Renz reported he will notify interested parties and the Board when the forty hour training will be available.

Constable – Monthly Report from Constable Mike O’Keefe was presented by Tom Krob.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports:

Aquatic Invasive Species Committee: Lee Wiesner reported that the DASH boat is being stored in the BAHA garage. Work on it will resume again in April. It is planned to use the DASH boat in June for extrication of Curlyleaf pondweed, and Eurasian milfoil later next summer in George and Tomahawk Lakes.

Tourism Committee

Town Facebook Page – Krob presented Facebook pages used by some other towns and suggested that Barnes start their own Town Facebook page. The Board discussed possible uses for a Town Facebook page.

Motion made (Krob/Bohl) that we start a Town Facebook page for Barnes. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Transfer Site Committee: Tom Emerson

Emerson reviewed revenues and expenses through October 31, 2016. He explains that we are charging less than it costs us to have our appliances, electronics, etc. picked up and hauled away pinpointing specific items that cost the Town money to get rid of. Emerson suggests that we charge the same amount that we are charged for removal of these items. The Board agrees to table further discussion of Transfer Site charges until next month.

Brush pile opening and closing dates –

Because of the nice weather people have wanted to continue to dump brush yard debris later this year. *Motion made (Krob/Emerson) that we keep the Transfer Site brush pile open when the road is passible at the discretion of the Transfer Site Attendant. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.*

BAHA

Donation of historical items, i.e. Indian Princess (Margaret Algrim) Picture and Centennial Town Sign. The Board discussed donation of these items.

Motion made (Webb/Porter) that the Indian Princess picture (Margaret Algrim) be donated to BAHA, but we keep the Town Centennial sign in the Town Hall. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion made (Bohl/Porter) to adjourn the Monthly Town Board meeting. Voice vote taken with no opposition. Motion carried.

The Monthly Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:08PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Brenda Bakke, Clerk-Treasurer