

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday – December 17, 2019
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Chris Webb called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order at 6:35PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Tom Emerson, Donna Porter and Susan Jansen in attendance. Seana Frint was absent. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

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

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 11/19/2019 Budget Hearing, Electors Meeting and Monthly Board Meeting and the 11/11, 11/13 and 11/26 Special Board Meetings and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

Public Comment Session –there were no public comments

Clerk Correspondence-A letter was received from Bayfield County Planning & Zoning regarding the revised after-the-fact conditional use application from Laura Lynn Case (et al).

Approval of the Final 2020 Budget-this item was tabled and will be addressed at a special town board meeting prior to December 31, 2019.

2 year operator license applications for Christina Carlson, Donn Bergquist, James Clemmer, Elizabeth Baldwin and Sherry LePage were reviewed.

A motion was made (Porter/Emerson) to approve the 2 year operator licenses for Christina Carlson, Donn Bergquist, James Clemmer, Elizabeth Baldwin and Sherry LePage. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk Bourassa asked the board to appoint Florence Prickett as Chief Inspector and Bev Lowery, Dorothy Mueller, Diane Menard and Laurie Balousek and Election Inspectors and Laurene Peterson and Susanne Kalla as Alternates for the January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021 term.

A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to approve the appointments of Chief Inspector, Election Inspectors and Alternates as requested. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The Town Advocacy Council membership renewal was discussed.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to approve the renewal of the Town Advocacy Council membership at a cost of \$196.25. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk Bourassa requested that the board appoint an alternate Board of Review member since her 2 year term expires 12/31/19.

A motion was made (Porter/Emerson) to appoint Tami Hoff as the alternate Board of Review member for a 2 year term beginning 1/1/2020. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes, motion

carried.

Resolution R19-11, Appointment of an Emergency Management Officer was reviewed.

A motion was made (Jansen/Emerson) to appoint Fire Chief Tom Renz as the Emergency Management Officer effective 12/17/19 for a term ending on 12/31/21. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes, motion carried.

The vacation policy was reviewed. It will take effect January 1, 2020. The clerk will re-word the Vacation Benefits policy for the Employee Policy Handbook and it will be reviewed for final approval.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve November vouchers.

A motion was made (Emerson/Porter) to approve November vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

Treasurer's Report prepared by Clerk Bourassa was displayed for public view. The ending balance in the General Checking is \$430,749.45, \$483,534.33 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,931.09 (no change) ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account, \$515.11 (no change) in the Tax Collection Account and a 6 month CD at Associated Bank with a value of \$100,000.00 for a total in all funds of \$1,016,729.98 with \$9,127.91 in interest earned year-to-date.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to approve the November Treasurer's Report. Voice taken, motion carried.

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report presented by Eric Polkoski

Completion of projects for month of November/December

- Ski trail has been groomed a few times.
- We have brushed some of the right of way in Potawatomi.
- Switched grader over for winter.
- Helped assist our Ambulance with an emergency call.
- Put gate and fence back up at the transfer site because someone ran it over.
- Opened the Northern roads with the V plow on loader.
- Been out benching and widening the roads when we can.
- Been out plowing, scraping, sanding roads non-stop. We have been short staffed this entire season. We have received a record amount of snow for the month of December.
- Tanner has been learning as we go since we have been shorthanded.
- We are short a guy since Taylor has informed me that he no longer wanted to be employed by the Town of Barnes. He stated that it was too much of a pay cut for him.
- Maintenance of all equipment.

The Highway Foreman is requesting that the board endorse a plowing policy that only blacktop roads will be plowed for 3" or less snowfall; snowfalls over 3" of snow would be a full plow (all roads, including gravel roads). This will be posted on the Town website.

The Foreman stated that they have lists of roads and the order in which they are plowed. Variations to that order cause delays.

A discussion was held regarding the comp time accrued by Eric.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to pay out 120 hours at \$25.50 per hour of comp time to Eric Polkoski. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Fire & Ambulance Departments-Monthly BES Reports presented by Tom Renz

Monthly report December 17, 2019

Ambulance

1 - transported to Hayward
1 – Duluth transported by Gordon Wascott
1 -Motor Vehicle Crash Hwy 27 no transport
1 mutual aid to iron river patient transported to Ashland
1- Highland lift assist no transport
Irene and Leah are busy working on inventory items, grants and entry inventory in to the system.

Fire

1 – Motor vehicle crash Hwy 27 assisted EMS

BES Building

Emergency building is getting there. The fire alarm, Electrician and HVAC guy will be there Wed and Thursday finishing their stuff then the cleaning people will be in and clean from top to bottom. Irene and Leah will then paint floor and stairs and then wait for occupancy permit and occupy.

Review Dave Cecil Builders Pay Application #5 for Emergency Services Building in the amount of \$83,796.75. The remaining balance to finish is \$60,679.18 which includes \$47,725.43 of retainage which will be held until the punch list is completed.

A motion was made (Porter/Emerson) to authorize payment of Pay Application #5. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Update on the new Emergency Services Building – the building is 97.36% complete. A punch list has been created and those items will be worked on over the next few weeks.

Ambulance Director Tom Renz read the contract with Town of Highland increasing our fee from \$4,000 to \$6,000 for a 3 year contract which will be auto renewed. This has been accepted and signed by the Board of Highland.

A motion was made (Porter/Emerson) to accept the contract with the Town of Highland. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

a) EMS Committee – Guy Johnston –

The committee met with John Podlesny of the Iron River Police and Fire Commission who shared their town's experience. The EMS Committee will be meeting next year to explore creating a fire and police commission in Barnes by reviewing a handbook "Wisconsin Police and Fire Commission" and seeking out the experiences of other towns.

Jim Krook has resigned from the committee so they are looking for another member. The committee would like to continue and remain active to address any issues that may come up.

A motion was made (Jansen/Emerson) to accept Jim Krook's resignation from the EMS committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

- b) Parks & Rec Committee-
Tomahawk Lake Park project update-the signs have been delivered and the payment request has been submitted for reimbursement.
Mary Krook has resigned from the committee

A motion was made (Porter/Jansen) to accept the resignation of Mary Krook from the Parks & Rec Committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

- c) Planning Commission– Tom Emerson
 1. Daniel Steinhauser of 2295 Lake Rd - Class A Special Use “after the fact” application for shoreline grading.

A motion was made (Emerson/Porter) to approve the “after the fact” application subject to the additional fees Bayfield County will assess. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

2. Todd Holmstrom of 54755 Silverwolf Dr - Class B application to allow a horse on the property.

A motion was made (Emerson/Porter) to approve the application to allow the horse on the 5 acre property. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

There will be vacancies on the Planning Commission in April so interested parties are encouraged to complete an application.

- d) A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

Jim Krook has resigned from the committee

A motion was made (Porter/Jansen) to accept the resignation of Jim Krook from the A.I.S. Committee. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Two proposals from Matt Berg for surveys on Sand Bar and Tomahawk Lakes at a cost of \$4,362 and Middle and Upper Eau Claire Lakes at a cost of \$1,987 in 2020 were reviewed.

A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to approve the proposals for surveys to be done in July 2020. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Item List and the Timeline.

A motion was made (Porter/Jansen) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer
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