

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall and via Zoom Video Conferencing

UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Chris Webb 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 Donna Porter, Susan Jansen, Seana Frint and Eric Neff in attendance. Eric Polkoski and Tom Renz were also present via Zoom. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

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

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 7/21/2020 Monthly Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to open the floor to public comments. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Public Comment Session – limited to 3 minutes

Ted Eastlund addressed the board regarding the increase in COVID-19 cases in our area. He had some recommendations that he hoped the board would implement.

Dave Scully addressed the board regarding what he sees as hypocrisy in the town government in regard to COVID-19 guidelines. He also asked why the town roads haven't been mowed and he's heard there has been turnover in the Hwy Dept. He also stated that he feels some members of the board don't represent all the people of Barnes and would like that addressed. He asked board members Eric Neff and Susan Jansen what was in the note that was passed between them at the May board meeting. Eric Neff stated the note simply said 'I can't believe I just did that' referencing her motion to cancel the parade. He stated that the Town of Grandview received approval from Bayfield County to hold their fireworks and Supervisor Neff requested that he provide proof that the Health Department ok'd it.

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to close the floor to public comments. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk Correspondence – the clerk reported receiving several timber cutting notices dating back to December of 2019, copies were available on the table. An email was received from Carol LeBreck in support of Mr. Eastlund's email as well.

Update on COVID-19-Tom Renz reported on increases in cases in the area and that there are cases quarantining in Barnes. Supplies of PPE continue to be maintained. Chair Webb reported that Bayfield County keeps track of area businesses on their website to keep public informed about Covid outbreaks.

Tom Renz reported that Sawyer County does a good job reporting cases and he wishes Bayfield County would do that. Sue Jansen asked Ted about the facemask mandate backlash (cyber-bullying) that Bayfield County Health Department experienced.

The clerk reported that Dorothy Mueller has resigned as an Election Official for the town. The clerk requested that Susanne Kalla, currently an alternate, be appointed as a regular Election Official.

Motion made (Jansen/Frint) to accept the resignation of Dorothy Mueller and appoint the alternate Susanne Kalla as a regular Election Official for the term ending December 31, 2021. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Review 2 year operator's license application from Jenneane Lois

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to approve the renewal of a 2 year operator's license of Jenneane Lois. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Review documents regarding request to open certain sections of County Hwy Y to ATV traffic. Paul Solberg of the Lake County ATV Club addressed the board asking that the board request permission from the County to open the Bayfield County portions of the trail to ATV usage.

Motion made (Frint/Neff) to authorize the town chairman to send a request to Bayfield County Highway Dept to sponsor a route on County Hwy Y from intersection of County Hwy Y and Lake Rd south to intersection of County Hwy Y and South Shore Rd in the Town of Barnes. Roll call vote taken, with Supervisor Neff voting yes, Supervisor Jansen voting yes, Supervisor Frint voting yes, Supervisor Porter voting yes and Chairperson Webb voting yes, motion carried.

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to authorize the town chairman to send a request to Bayfield County Highway Dept to sponsor a route on County Hwy Y starting from demarcation point 2.12 miles south of County Hwy Y and State Hwy 27 north to intersection of County Hwy Y and County Hwy N and portion of County Hwy N to State Hwy 27 to access trail. Roll call vote taken, with Supervisor Neff voting yes, Supervisor Jansen voting yes, Supervisor Frint voting yes, Supervisor Porter voting yes and Chairperson Webb voting yes, motion carried.

Consider ad placement in Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce's Hayward Lakes Vacation Guide- Supervisor Frint questioned the value of advertising due to the current pandemic and didn't know how much it's helped us in the past. She recommended not placing an ad for this year's guide.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve July vouchers

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to approve the July vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$473,292.77, \$572,493.75 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,551.73 is ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account, the Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$811.39 and a 6 month CD at Associated Bank with a value of \$100,395.55 for a total in all funds of \$1,148,545.19 with \$952.13 in interest earned.

Motion made (Porter/Frint) to approve the July Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report by Eric Polkoski

Completion of projects for month of August

- Cleaning and disinfecting of highway garage.
- Maintenance on equipment. Greasing and washing.
- Fabick Cat services on Grader and Loader.
- All most all the roads have been mowed. Could be making another pass on some of them.
- Brush mowing on some of the right of way on roads.
- Patched hole in blacktop roads.
- Grading of the gravel roads. Fixing washouts.
- Hauling gravel to washouts.
- Park maintenance and mowing at town park, cemetery and at Tomahawk Park.
- Cleaning up trees and debris from the storms.
- Flex Patch has been done on 2.73 miles of N. Barnes Road, scrub seal to be done the end of this week.

Chairperson Webb relayed the public comment received earlier about roads not being mowed and said they would be meeting with him to discuss further.

Review loan and borrowing resolution from the BCPL State Trust Fund Loan Program. Chairperson Webb read the Form of Record (resolution) to borrow \$100,000.00 for 5 years at an interest rate of 2.5% with annual payments of principal and interest.

By the provisions of Sec. 24.66 of the Wisconsin Statutes, all municipalities may borrow money for such purposes in the manner prescribed, and,

By the provisions of Chapter 24 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin is authorized to make loans from the State Trust Funds to municipalities for such purposes. (Municipality as defined by Sec. 24.60(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes means a town, village, city, county, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, town sanitary district created under Sec. 60.71 or 60.72, metropolitan sewerage district created under Sec. 200.05 or 200.23, joint sewerage system created under Sec. 281.43(4), school district or technical college district.)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Barnes, in the County of Bayfield, Wisconsin, borrow from the Trust Funds of the State of Wisconsin the sum of One Hundred Thousand And 00/100 dollars (\$100,000.00) for the purpose of financing roadwork and for no other purpose.

The loan is to be payable within 5 years from the 15th day of March preceding the date the loan is made. The loan will be repaid in annual installments with interest at the rate of 2.50 percent per annum from the date of making the loan to the 15th day of March next and thereafter annually as provided by law.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that there shall be raised and there is levied upon all taxable property, with the Town of Barnes, in the County of Bayfield, Wisconsin, a direct annual tax for the purpose of paying interest and principal on the loan as they become due.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that no money obtained by the Town of Barnes by such loan from the state be applied or paid out for any purpose except financing roadwork without the consent of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that in case the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin agrees to make the loan, that the chairman and clerk of the Town of Barnes, in the County of Bayfield, Wisconsin, are authorized and empowered, in the name of the Town to execute and deliver to the Commission, certificates of indebtedness, in such form as required by the Commission, for any sum of money that may be loaned to the Town pursuant to this resolution. The chairman and clerk of the Town

will perform all necessary actions to fully carry out the provisions of Chapter 24 Wisconsin Statutes, and these resolutions.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this preamble and these resolutions and the aye and no vote by which they were adopted, be recorded, and that the clerk of the Town forward this certified record, along with the application for the loan, to the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin.

Supervisor Jansen asked why a loan was being taken out and Supervisor Neff stated due to liquidity and favorable loan rates.

Motion made (Neff/Porter) to approve the resolution as read. A roll call vote was taken with Supervisor Neff voting yes, Supervisor Jansen voting yes, Supervisor Frint voting yes, Supervisor Porter voting yes and Chairperson Webb voting yes, motion carried.

Review Change Order #1 and Pay Application #2 from A-1 Excavating for the Denver Rd reconstruction project.

Motion made (Neff/Frint) to approve Change Order #1 in the amount of a reduction of \$11,133.95, making the total contract price \$160,402.05 (was originally \$171,536.00). Voice vote taken, motion carried

Motion made (Porter/Jansen) to approve the final payment of \$8,288.23 to A-1 Excavating for Pay Application #2. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Discussion regarding resignation of Tanner Weidner of the Highway Department. Clerk reported that an ad has been placed in the Ashland Daily Press and on Indeed for hiring a replacement. An ad for a part time Parks/Maintenance employee was placed as well. The clerk reported that a job description/list of duties is needed. Pat Johnston of the Parks Committee suggested that someone is needed for building/grounds maintenance including mowing of parks and the cemetery. The pay would be commensurate with their skills and experience. Pat will work with Sue Jansen and Eric Polkoski to develop the job duties.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to accept the resignation of Tanner Weidner as Highway Crewmember. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Monthly Report – Tom Renz

**Monthly report
August 16, 2020
Ambulance**

Since July 21

There have been eight ambulance calls

1 – Transport to Rice Lake

2 – Transports to Hayward

1 – Pulseless non breathing call

1 - No transport

2 – Fire department stand – by power lines down

1 – Trauma ATV crash helicopter contacted

EMT class is starting for Hallie and Ricky they went to Rice Lake last Wed. and completed their orientation.

I have also placed some calls searching for part time EMT's.

Fire

1 – Mutual aid to Drummond for Kitchen fire

1 – Structure fire that was reported after the cabin was already burned to the ground. No owners were home and no one noticed the fire until neighbor was walking buy and observed it gone

1 – Assist ambulance and set up landing zone for helicopter

I am also requesting to purchase a new air compressor for the town hall and office. A larger one that allows me to spray town hall in less time. The present one was purchased to do the inside of the ambulance and is perfect for the smaller area. When spraying the town hall it takes (approximately three hours) to get all the areas, chairs and tables.

BES building

I am waiting for when Larry Roecker has time to hook up the Generator

Review Change Order #5 and Pay Application #7 (Final) from Dave Cecil Builders.

Motion made (Jansen/Frint) to approve Change Order #5 in the amount of \$647.00 for an extra heat detector required by the State. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion made (Porter/Jansen) to approve Pay Application #7 (and Final) of Dave Cecil Builders in the amount of \$6,647.00. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Discussion regarding request to hire a part time EMT. Chairperson Webb asked Director Renz what pay rate was he thinking of for a part timer. He said he hoped he could get someone for \$14/hr. It was suggested that they be offered the current EMT rate of \$16/hr. Supervisor Jansen asked if this person would be on call. Director Renz said he would hope to have several EMTs on a call list. It was decided to use “substitute” instead of “part time”.

Motion made (Neff/Porter) to authorize Tom Renz to recruit substitute EMTs. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

a) Land Use Planning Commission –Seana Frint

1. Wisconsin Elite Sports c/o Marc Nelson of 2311 Birch Tree Trl: Class A Special Use for Tourist Rooming House.

The Commission tabled this application until more information can be obtained.

Jeff Johnson’s term ends 8/21/20 but is willing to continue serving.

Motion made (Frint/Jansen) to re-appoint Jeff Johnson to the Land Use Planning Commission for a 2 year term. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

b) Parks & Rec Committee –Pat Johnston

Review the Three Year Plan the Committee drafted. She thanked the volunteers, town board and committee members and especially Donna Porter for their continued support of the parks. She stated there are no costs included as part of this plan, but would like it to be considered during our upcoming budget sessions. Chairperson Webb thanked the Friends of Tomahawk Lake Park for all the work they do on the parks.

With the resignation of Susan Pagnucci, the Committee would like to make alternate Terry Kolberg a full-fledged member of the committee.

Motion made (Neff/Jansen) to appoint Terry Kolberg as a Parks & Rec Committee member. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

A request to add signage at Tomahawk Lake Park on the old and new ski trails that say “No Motorized Vehicles”. Chairperson Webb asked that Eric Polkoski check where signs are needed.

c) A.I.S. Committee – Chris Webb

Chairperson Webb reported on summer 2020 activities which included hours on the Eau Claire river channel, the Middle and Upper Eau Claire Lakes and Shunenberg Lake. They also worked on Tomahawk and Sandbar Lakes. The divers have worked out very well and they hope to have divers again next year. Alexis Kabasa has taken a full time job so Cristine Neff has replaced her as a diver. Clean Boats, Clean Waters goes thru Labor Day weekend and the Musky Tournament normally scheduled for the first weekend in October is uncertain. The committee is looking to combine grants next year instead of having individual grants for each lake. Expansion of the committee was proposed that would focus on the health of lakes, safety issues, high water issue, education of boaters, renters and residents and not just Aquatic Invasive Species.

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Items List and the Timeline.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer
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