

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES  
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday March 17, 2020  
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall**

**UNAPPROVED**

Chairperson Chris Webb called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order at 6:30PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Tom Emerson, Donna Porter, Seana Frint and Susan Jansen in attendance. Judy Bourassa verified public notice.

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

*A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 2/17/2020 Monthly Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.*

Public Comment Session –Pam Toshner spoke about graffiti being painted on the Lock and Dam bridge on South Shore Rd and wondered if it could be used as an art project to deter graffiti. Chairperson Webb stated that that bridge will be replaced in the next few years so that will be considered.

Chairperson Webb recognized Tom Emerson for his service to the Town as a Board Supervisor as his term is ending next month. He thanked the board, saying he learned a lot as a board member and was happy to serve.

The Town of Barnes Response and Preparation for the COVID-19 Pandemic Notice of Services Changes or Reductions document was read by reviewed. A “Frequently Asked Questions & Answers” document was also reviewed and will be posted and distributed. The hours and days of operation at the Transfer Site were discussed, possibly reducing to one day per week. It was decided to continue the schedule as is (open Wed & Sun, 8-2pm).

*A motion was made (Frint/Porter) to direct the clerk to post the documents at the regular posting Sites, on the Facebook page, Town website and distribute to local establishments. The clerk will addition information regarding absentee/early voting. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.*

Review bids received for Denver Rd Project –Zech Gotham of Morgan & Parmley presented the results of the 6 bids received with A-1 Excavating, Inc. being the low bid. He recommends that the Town Board award the project to A-1 Excavating, Inc.

*A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to accept the low bid for the Denver Rd Project from A-1 Excavating, Inc. at a cost of \$171,536. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.*

The start date is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>, with a break over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday (the road would be graveled so it can be used during that holiday weekend). The project needs to be completed by September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Correspondence-A Notice of Violation and Order to Correct was received from Bayfield

Commented [ToB1]:

Commented [J2R1]:

County Planning & Zoning in regard to a garage at 52445 Lake Rd owned by Jerry Wekkin; a letter approving Allen & Tamaira Suwanski and Anthony & Carolyn Suwanski's Special Use application; an email from BCPL regarding lower interest rates for State Trust Fund Loans; an email from Quickbooks regarding upgrade needed.

Update on FireWise Grant-Chairperson Webb reported that there was a meeting on FireWise but no board members were able to attend due to short notice. Vern Wilcox has not responded to her emails so she doesn't have an update at this time. Tom Renz reported that he had to complete quite a bit of paperwork and he has not been contacted. He wants to be involved in the educational process.

Discussion regarding request to purchase town property-the interested party is out of town until the end of April and DNR permission is required since it is lake property (Tomahawk Lake). The town electors would have to give the town permission to look into selling the property at the Annual Meeting so Chair Webb asked the Town Board if this is something they want to have on the Annual Meeting agenda. A minimum bid would be required which would cover all costs the town might incur.

*A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to add the potential sale of a 30' strip of property on Tomahawk Lake to the Annual Meeting agenda. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Discussion regarding road name change request- an email was received to request that the town change the name of Buck N Bass Road. Towns can change the name of town roads with an ordinance but the county has final approval.

*A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to proceed with the re-naming of Buck N Bass Road. Voice vote was taken, motion carried.*

Discussion regarding purchase of Fingerprint timeclocks at a cost of \$429 per unit and an additional fee of \$189 per unit for the software. It was decided to continue to look at other options.

Discussion regarding CD maturing-the 6 month CD with Associated Bank

*A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to renew the CD for another 6 month term. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Review Norvado proposal for a new "server" in the Town Office and a router in the Town Hall

*A motion was made (Emerson/Jansen) to authorize the proposal from Norvado for a new server for the Town Office. (The router is a separate cost.) Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Review Rural Mutual Ins. Renewal of Business Owners and Worker's Compensation policies

*A motion was made (Emerson/Porter) to approve the renewal of the insurance policies with Rural Insurance in the amount of \$28,584. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve February vouchers

*A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to approve the February 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 \$586,781.58, \$576,758.37 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account, \$1,733.04 ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account, the Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$979.17 and a 6 month CD at Associated Bank with a value of \$104,001.55 for a total in all funds of \$1,270,253.71 with \$397.66 in interest earned.

*A motion was made (Emerson/Porter) to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Highway Department -Monthly Roads Report presented by Eric Polkoski –

### Completion of projects for month of March

- Out maintain the roads from snow, icy and debris.
- Regular maintenance on equipment. Greasing and washing.
- Cleaning up the right ways. Removing all the hazard trees.
- Benching and widening the roads. Opened up the haul route.
- Signed up for some training and seminars for the highway crew.
- Working up at Tomahawk Park cleaning up park.
- Clearing the right away of Honeymoon Trl.
- Starting to work on right ways on West and East Idlewild Lake Rd.
- Putting up road signs back up after winter that were damaged.

Supervisor Emerson commented on the snow pile plowed in front of the BAHA building. He isn't sure if that was the Town or Bayfield County. The clerk will follow up with the Foreman. Chairperson Webb reported that she spoke with Bob Brennan regarding his duties and what duties can be distributed to Highway and Emergency Services employees. He is willing to continue mowing but would like to give up the cleaning of the Town Office and Hall.

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

### **Monthly report**

**March 17 , 2020**

### **Ambulance**

**There have been five ambulance calls**

**1 – Town of Highland w mayo intercept**

**2 – transports to Hayward**

**2 – no transport**

**All members were trained on COVID 19 Virus and how we will handle those cases that either represent systematic to or confirmed to have CPVID 19.**

**EMTS have also had training on Alzheimer's and dementia training making us a dementia friendly community.**

**Along with all the CORVID 19 safety issues in place and in order to provide safety to our emergency responders I have implemented a rule that anyone entering the Emergency Services building in non-page situation are required to wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before any other activity.**

**The alarm system has been improved with one change. There also needs to be a heat sensor added to the bathroom which will be done in the next couple weeks.**

## Fire

**No calls for the Fire Department.**

**The Fire Department also took part in COVID 19 training and Alzheimer's training.**

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

a) Parks & Rec Committee- a fundraising letter has been proposed by the Friends of Tomahawk Lake Park which could be sent with a mailing of FireWise information.

1. Consider request to budget \$5,000 for a contribution to the Friends of Tomahawk Lake Park for the purchase of equipment for trail maintenance and Memorandum of Understanding

The MOU changes recommended by the Town's attorney were reviewed. This was tabled after discussion as it was decided that the FTLP will review the changes and it will be addressed at the next meeting.

*A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to table the approval of the MOU to a later date. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

2. Discussion regarding Health Infrastructure Grant-potential funds awarded could be used towards the purchase of maintenance equipment to enhance the walking and skiing trails at Tomahawk Park.

*A motion was made (Jansen/Frint) to authorize a grant application to be earmarked for Tomahawk Park. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

3. Discussion regarding Town Park Use Agreement with Ruckus in the Woods

The agreement signed from last year was reviewed and Supervisor Jansen suggested that a 2% fee be charged for the use of the park since it is a for-profit event. No decision was made.

b) Transfer Site Committee- Sue Jansen

1. Free Day and 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday (hours on the 5<sup>th</sup>)

Free Day – The committee recommends 4 attendants be working plus 1 person to operate a backhoe. 3 roll offs would be needed. They also recommend that televisions be excluded. They estimate the cost to the town would be \$1,000-\$1,500 so it was suggested that it be postponed for 2020. It will be addressed later this year so it could be included in the 2021 Calendar of Events.

Since the 4<sup>th</sup> of July falls on a Saturday this year, which is a day the Transfer Site is normally open, the committee would like the board to consider opening another day or extend the hours.

*A motion was made (Porter/Frint) to extend the hours on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> to 8am-4pm. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Chairperson Webb reviewed the Action Item List and the Timeline.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer  
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