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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Thursday June 9, 2022

UNAPPROVED

The Special Town Board Meeting was called to Order by Chairman Tom Renz at 6:31pm. Roll Call was taken with Supervisors Jim Frint, Eric Neff, Seana Frint and Dave Scully present. Clerk Judy Bourassa verified public notice. Roads and Property Foreman Jeff Jordheim was also present.

Motion made (Neff/Scully) to approve the Agenda. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The picnic (beer) license application by the Eau Claire Lakes Business Association for the Taste of Barnes event to be held in the Town Park June 17-18 was reviewed. Discussion followed with Chairman Renz reporting that the town donated \$1,000 towards the event and it is sponsored by the town. Supervisor Scully said The Taste of Barnes would like to have a designated account for income and expenses for the event. The clerk will contact Associated Bank to open an account.

Motion made (Renz/Scully) to approve the picnic license for the Eau Claire Lakes Business Association for the Taste of Barnes event. Voice vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Discussion regarding Robinson Lake Resort's recent request for a campground on their property. Supervisor Scully said he considered resigning from his position after the meeting and that he felt the Dalbecs were disrespected. He read a letter he wrote and the text is below:

To the Town Board and the residents of Barnes,

I am writing this letter after having time to digest and reflect on the vote that took place last board meeting in reference to Mr. Dalbec's campground proposal. I believe my vote was the right one for the right reason and that reason is strictly lack of proper planning. I have asked Mr. Dalbec to iron out his plans and bring it back before the LUPC again.

What has struck me the most was the utter lack of respect shown to Mr. Dalbec and his Wife. We can all disagree on issues but in my eyes we should respect others opinions and ideas. During the meeting there was clapping and stating things that can potentially harm his business, and that I cannot stand for. I am disappointed in myself and the board for allowing the meeting to turn into a slanderous attack on Robinson Lake Resort.

From that meeting along with my campground meeting which took place on the 3rd showed me that there are some people who would rather not have anyone come to Barnes, more specifically any one using the Lakes. I have heard complaints that range from added campfire smoke, more atv/utv traffic on the roads, or more boats on our lakes to name a few. I do respect everyone's opinion, and have fought for that right, but I also have fought for peoples rights to utilize the assets that our Town has to offer.

Bottom line is this, the lakes are owned by the people of Wisconsin and the Supreme Court has stated that as well. Our lakes are pristine and I want to keep it that way, but also we cannot as a town dictate who, what kind of vessel or what time they can and cant operate it. The State of Wisconsin has laws in place that regulate all of that, and if anyone sees a violation I say contact the DNR or Sheriff's Department.

In conclusion I believe we as a Town need to be cognizant that not one persons opinion or beliefs are more or less important than anyone else's. I ask that instead of being vitriolic over an issue, we discuss them in a civilized manner. Threats, intimidation and or comments that can harm others or businesses have no place at a Town Board meeting or elsewhere for that matter. We all chose to live here for one reason or another, so lets work together on ways we can improve the lives of all property owners and not just our own.

SINCERELY,

Dave Scully

In response, Chairman Renz said everyone has the right to the freedom of speech and many of the comments were in the public comment session which is open to anyone and everyone.

Discussion regarding electrical service at the Town Park. Chairman Renz said the upgrades to the park are not just for specific events and are needed for safety reasons.

Motion made (Renz/Neff) to go with Roecker Electric option #4 at a cost of \$20,847 and use funds from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act). Roll call vote taken with Supervisors Scully, S.Frint, Neff, J. Frint and Chairman Renz voting yes, motion carried.

The Town has received approximately \$40,000 in ARPA funds so far with an additional \$40,000 to be received in 2022. The board had already approved the primary service to be performed by Dahlberg Light & Power at a cost of \$7,169.45.

Motion made (Renz/Scully) to adjourn. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm

Judy Bourassa, Town of Barnes Clerk-Treasurer Phone: 715-795-2782 Email: clerk@townofbarneswi.gov