

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 20, 2021
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

UNAPPROVED

Chairperson Tom Renz called the Monthly Town Board Meeting in the Town Hall to order at 6:40PM. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Seana Frint, Eric Neff, Dave Scully and Jim Frint in attendance in the Town Hall. Deputy Clerk Tami Hoff verified public notice. Jeff Jordheim, Brett Frierhood and Brock Frierhood were also in attendance in the Town Hall.

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

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

Chairman Renz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/15/2021 Monthly Board Meeting and the minutes of the 6/1/2021 Special Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Motion made (Neff/Scully) to approve the minutes of the 6/15 Monthly Board Meeting and the 6/1 Special Town Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Public Comment Session – limited to 3 minutes – there were no public comments

Clerk/Chair Correspondence – A letter from Bayfield Co. Planning & Zoning stating they denied Robert Anderson, Sr's After-the-Fact request for a 2nd residence and allowing a short-term rental with conditions including converting residence back to a bunkhouse and paying additional fees; letters were also received approving the re-zone requests for Mountaineer Properties, LLC and Milo Properties, LLC; an email was received from Becky O'Rourke requesting a new rule be instituted to keep politics out of the parade; the Friends of Eau Claire Lakes provided documentation to the board regarding the installation of water level gauges and the data received; a citizen complaint was received from John Hanson regarding the bright lights on the new ESB building requesting that they be deflected down or come on when the alarm goes off.

David Delforge provided via email a recap of the Vatten Paddlar race- there were 93 participants and 69 boats, not as many as 2019, but very close. Total income was \$6,755, made up of donations by various businesses and private parties as well as registration fees and t-shirt purchases. The total expenses were \$5,340 which included prizes for the winners.

Presentation by Delmore Consulting- Jeff Delmore

This company provides comprehensive road management services which includes Road Surface Mapping and Condition Report, including PASER ratings and WISLR updates at a cost of \$13,500 and Culvert Location, Condition Rating and Mapping Service at a cost of \$13,900. They offer a \$2,500 discount for all services for a total cost of \$24,900. The software only can be purchased for \$2,500. The proposal will be considered during the upcoming budget session meetings.

Review of the Grievance process in regard to the recently amended Town Roads and Right of Way Policy- Carol LeBreck filed a grievance in regard to the 3 trees designated to be removed and asked

the board to reconsider the decision to remove them. Supervisor Scully said the 10 ft rule should be the same for all roads (edge of the roadway) and to stick with the policy. Supervisor Neff said the amended policy should be applied to all future cases, but the policy that was in effect at the time should follow the previous policy. Supervisor Neff made a motion to keep the trees but there was no second to the motion so the motion failed.

Taste of Barnes proposal – Dave Scully –this was tabled, will be on August agenda

A discussion regarding the Holiday pay policy was held. The Employee Policy Handbook states eligible employees Holiday pay will be ‘multiplied by the number of hours you would normally have worked on that day’, however, employees working four 10 hours days are only being paid for 8 hours. Clerk Bourassa’s position is that if we pay employees for 10 hours of Holiday pay they will be paid 80 hours per year (8 paid Holidays annually) whereas employees working 8 hour days only receive 64 hours of Holiday pay per year. The policy needs to be clarified/changed as the board sees fit.

Motion made (Neff/Renz) to amend the Holiday Pay policy to define holiday pay as 8 hours. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Chairman Renz and Clerk Bourassa will work on amending the Holiday Policy.

A discussion regarding the payment of phone stipends to the clerk/treasurer and Road crewmembers of \$30/month was held. Chairman Renz would like to do discontinue the stipends. It was decided to review the stipends at the budget session meetings to determine if they will be continued.

An email from Leo Carlson of Norvado was received regarding a proposed project in the Lower Eau Claire Lake area that would serve approx. 37 residents of Barnes using funds from the ARPA grant. They are asking the Town to pledge financial support of \$500 to \$1000. A letter of support is requested by July 18th, however, the grant does not need to be submitted until July 27th.

Motion made (Neff/Scully) to pledge \$1,000 of our APRA funds to Norvado for the Lower Eau Claire Lake area project. Roll call vote taken, motion carried with all members voting yes.

The deputy clerk will send the signed letter via email.

Enrollment of full time employees in the Wisconsin Retirement System was discussed. Application is due by November 15th with an effective date of January 1, 2022. Eligible Employee Participation Options and Prior Service Options were reviewed.

Motion made (Renz/Neff) to authorize the Town Chair to sign the Resolution of Inclusion under the Wisconsin Retirement System and Designate the Clerk as the Agent. Roll call vote taken, motion carried with all members voting yes.

The 1 year Operator licenses for Haley Rasmussen, Joseph Roman and Connie Richards were reviewed.

Motion made (Renz/Neff) to approve the 1 year Operator licenses for Haley Rasmussen, Joseph Roman and Connie Richards. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

The Paycom payroll service needs the Town Board to advise them regarding the areas for geo-fencing. These are areas set up in which employees need to be in order to clock in to record their time worked. Areas including the Transfer Site, Town Garage, Town Office and Emergency Services Building as well as the various boat landing sites need to be included.

Motion made (Renz/Neff) to designate geo-fenced areas for the Transfer Site, Emergency Services Building, Town Garage/Office Complex and the boat landing sites. Voice vote taken motion carried.

The clerk will work with Paycom to get the geo-fencing set up.

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve June vouchers

Motion made (Renz/Neff) to approve the June vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$662,628.04. \$808,938.63 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account. \$5,916.04 is ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account with additional sponsorship checks and registration fees received. The Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$1,779.16, there is still one refund check outstanding; the PayPal account has a balance \$4,018.88 (all TLP donations) for a total of all funds of \$1,483,276.75 with \$491.94 in interest earned so far this year.

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

Highway Dept. Report – Jeff Jordheim

Roads & Property

Roads

County Forestry money is being used on West Church west of Moore Road to County line road. Should be completed this week with the hauling of 1 ¼ rock.

Mowing operations are on-going with Loren on the new mower and John on the older/yellow John Deere.

Rabbit Hutch is being worked on as weather allows, dry is a good thing to grade the HUTCH. The grader and skid steer will return there is week to pick rock and continue to grade. Culverts will be installed at a later time.

Shouldering will start on Robinson/Bony when trucks become available with Northwoods Paving doing the work.

Equipment

Truck 42 needs to go into shop for steering issue. Possibly a steering box may have went bad
New Holland brush tractor works great. Also, it will pull the Frint Road Groomer just fine.

Transfer Site-met with salesman from republic, in checking prices for our dumping fee per week, he explained that it may well be worth buying another compactor for recyclables. Meaning it would less trips for them to come and empty the recycle bins every week. Jim is getting some numbers together now.

Fuel pump is back up and working.

In checking on updating our system now to go to a four-digit number, which would be the same as the door code and employee number, and to pump gas/fuel is between \$11,000-12,000. Not going to happen while I am here. Employees are just going to have to remember two sets of numbers

Fire Department Report – Brock Friermood

Monthly report Fire

1 wildland fire
1 lift assist for EMS
1 False alarm

Helped out with the Vatten Paddlar. Ruckus in the Woods in coming up, the organizer has asked the fire department to volunteer and help with security as in the past.
The side by side has had all of its lights installed, also a decal was installed stating “BARNES FIRE & EMS”
Bayfield County dispatch began doing auto-aid paging for structure fires. With this, they will page us and then the two next closest departments for any confirmed structure fire. This will aid in getting neighboring departments here a little quicker.
I submitted a grant for a prop for fire extinguisher training for the department and community.
Bayfield County fair is coming up, going to see if any members want to volunteer to help with the smoke trailer.

Ambulance Department Report – Brett Friermood

Monthly report Ambulance

12 Ambulance calls since the last Board meeting. 1 wildland fire with the Fire Department and 11 medical. Busy 4th of July weekend with 6 calls. 1 call not fully staffed, handled by other service through coverage agreements.

Both Dawn Piburn and Sonja Von Frank have received their State licenses. Dawn has been working part-time as needed.

The coverage and mutual aid agreement with Gordon-Wascott is now in place with the requested change from the last meeting.

The new pagers have been received and handed out as needed.

Event coverage was provided for the Vatten Paddlar with no responses during the event.

Current roster: 11 EMTs, 1 EMR, 1 EMT Trainee, 1 EMT Student.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

Land Use Planning Commission: Seana Frint

1. Jesse Miller of 48665 Stone Rd-After-the-fact Class A Special Use permit for shoreline grading
2. Daniel Jeartran of 5830 Smith Lake Rd – Class A Special Use permit for extended RV placement

Motion made (S. Frint/Neff) to approve the after-the-fact permit for Jesse Miller. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Motion made (S. Frint/Neff) to approve the Special Use permit for Daniel Jeartran. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

A.I.S. Committee –BAISS operations. Clean Boats, Clean Waters. Shoreline Monitoring –Chris Webb was unable to attend so no report

Parks & Rec Committee - Pat Johnston wants to thank all the A.I.S. volunteers and divers

Update on Town Parks – Pat reported that the use of the parks is up. The cracks in the tennis courts is a liability and the committee is looking into fixes but it probably needs to be replaced. She asked how much money was in the sinking fund. The committee has picked out a heater for the warming house and will be meeting with Larry Roecker about installing it – will submit a purchase order after that. The “back” entrance to Tomahawk Lake Park (on Barnes Road) isn’t well defined and a sign may be needed.

Roads & Right Of Way Committee: Jim Frint was unable to attend the meeting so there was nothing to report

Chairman Renz reviewed the Timeline. The clerk will update by removing the grader and add the update to the Holiday Policy. Chairman Renz said he would like Brett and Brock Frierhood to plan an Open House of the Emergency Services Building on Labor Day weekend.

Motion made (Renz/Neff) 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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