

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 19, 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 6:30pm. 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. Clerk Judy Bourassa 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.

*A motion was made (Scully/J. Frint) to approve the agenda.*

The chair requested that the agenda be amended to move item 15) a2, Recycling compactor proposal to item 6 since Jim Whittinghill of Republic Services was in attendance. Item 16) a1, Pinnacle Properties, was moved to item 7 on the agenda since the agent, Carol Kangas, was in attendance.

*A motion was made (S. Frint/Scully) to approve the agenda with the requested changes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*A motion was made (Neff/S. Frint) to approve of the 9/21 Monthly Board Meeting and the 9/14, 9/22 & 9/30 Special Town Board Meetings and to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Public Comment Session – Jim Bakken spoke regarding the “Healthy Lakes” grant program that is currently in progress, this includes the installation of fish sticks. He commended the AIS committee and the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program and the support the Town Board have given to both. An updated educational brochure designed by the Friends of Eau Claire Lakes Area (FOECLA) was reviewed by the board.

Susan Jansen spoke regarding the campground proposal, asking if cottages are required and what the cost might be, including water and electric. She also wanted details about outhouses and asked if a public information meeting would be held, and yes, Supervisor Scully said there will be a meeting open to the public. He stated that the campground proposal is “not set in stone” but there will be quotes and information presented at the meeting.

Wayne Kolberg spoke regarding Lake Road and the speed of traffic, he says since the road was improved, speed has increased, including by large trucks. The usage of ATVs and UTVs has also increased as well as an increase in bicyclists and pedestrians. He said the Town of Gordon is using a “driver feedback” sign to make people aware of their speed and encourages the town to look into it.

Clerk Correspondence – no correspondence

Jim Whittinghill of Republic Services addressed the board regarding the installation of a new recycling compactor. A concrete pad would need to be installed at a cost of \$1,700-\$3,500 and

electrical would need to be run. This would replace the 8 recycling containers currently in use at the Transfer Site and result in a cost savings. The purchase price would be \$48,442.71 and requires a 5 year agreement or it could be rented for \$843 per month and requires a 10 year agreement with an annual fixed 4% increase for either option. It could be implemented after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for budgeting purposes.

The board decided to table any action on this issue until the Town Attorney can be consulted regarding the length of a public contract. The board can discuss it further at an upcoming budget session.

1. Pinnacle Properties Mequon LLC of xxxx E. Eight Mile Lake Rd-Class A-Special Use permit for a re-zone (not shore land grading for driveway). This was tabled at last month's meeting but agent, Carol Kangas, addressed the board requesting re-consideration.

Carol Kangas, agent for Pinnacle Properties of Mequon LLC (now Mark Gierl), addressed the board regarding the board's recent tabling of his Re-Zone application. It was tabled due to the insufficient setbacks not meeting zoning requirements.

*A motion (Renz/Scully) to deny the re-zone application for Mark Gierl in the present form. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes (to deny), motion carried.*

The Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Prevention Initiative is requesting contributions of \$150.00.

*A motion was made (Neff/Scully) to donate \$150 to the CWD Prevention Initiative. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Health Insurance policy needs to be updated to reflect the recent change in the probationary period to 365 days.

*A motion was made (Renz/Scully) to update the Health Insurance Policy as noted. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Overtime Policy was reviewed. Some employees have requested to receive overtime pay instead of earning comp time. The Comp Time in lieu of Overtime policy states a prior agreement/understanding is in place with the employees that they will accept compensatory time in lieu of cash payment for overtime since they signed the acknowledgment when they received their Employee Policy Handbook.

BRICK Ministries, Inc. is requesting a donation of 5-10% of our ARPA funds for building renovations.

*A motion was made (Renz/S. Frint) to decline to make a donation to BRICK Ministries, Inc. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

A proposal from Norvado for Wi-fi in the Highway garage was reviewed. Network equipment would be leased at a cost of \$62 a month, after an initial fee of \$137.50.

*A motion was made (Neff/S.Frint) to accept the Norvado lease proposal for the garage Wi-fi. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Town Attorney is recommending an easement (access) search be done on the two parcels (#2587 & 2589) owned by the town at a cost of \$150.00 so they could possibly be offered for sale.

Any sale of land needs to be approved at an Electors meeting (Budget Hearing in November or Annual Meeting in April).

*A motion was made (Renz/Scully) to authorize the town attorney to initiate the Easement (Access) search at a cost of \$150.00. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The clerk requested that agenda item 11, Resolution #21-06 Budget Amendment, be tabled.

*A motion was made (Renz/Scully) to table Resolution #21-06. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Resolution of Inclusion under the Wisconsin Retirement System regarding Eligible Employee Participation and Prior Service was reviewed. The Eligible Employee Participation Option provides a one-time offer to current eligible employees to elect or waive WRS participation. The Prior Service Option determines if the employer (the Town) will or will not pay the cost of providing prior service credit for WRS-eligible employees who worked for the employer before the WRS effective date. The Town will not participate in the Health Insurance, Group Life Insurance and Income Continuation Insurance at this time.

*A motion was made (Scully/J. Frint) to select Option 2 of Eligible Employee Participation. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*A motion was made (Renz/Scully) to select the Prior Service Option that the employer will NOT pay the cost of providing prior service credit. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Vouchers approval – discussion/motion to approve September vouchers

*A motion was made (Neff/S. Frint) to approve the September vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Judy Bourassa

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$451,870.77 which reflects the recent payment to Northwoods Paving for the E. Robinson Lake Rd and Bony Lake Rd projects. \$876,123.58 is the ending balance in the Money Market Account which includes interest of \$71.67. \$3,414.92 is ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account. The PayPal account has a balance \$4,556.67 and the Tax Collection Account has a balance of \$822.91 for a total of all funds of \$1,336,788.85 with \$717.79 in interest earned so far this year.

*A motion was made (S. Frint/Scully) to approve the Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Highway Dept. Report – Jeff Jordheim

## **Roads/Equipment Report for Oct. 20**

Rabbit Hutch

Completed for the year. One culvert installed at 27. Two loads of dense base used. Another two loads of dense to be used on the North end.

Windsor Intersection/Lake Road project is set to go mid-summer 2023, pending funding. Borings have been done, with three inches to six inches of cold mix throughout the project. DNR have completed their study.

West Idlewild Lake Road stump removal is now complete, which allow our snowmobile friends to be off the road in that area.

Grading is going to continue until freeze up. Mowing will also continue.

Lake Road chip seal has been completed and is swept, as has the town garage lot.

Storm damage on Hall Road has cleaned up and hauled to the brush site.

Salt has been hauled.

#### Parks

Mowing of grass and leaves will be picked up and hauled to the transfer site.

Tree has removed and placed for pick up.

#### Cemetery

Mowing will continue as well as the pine needles picked up and placed in a pile for composting;

#### Equipment

Truck #42 has been in the shop for replacement of the steering pump and works good. Unable to repair it in the town garage as the town does not have a pressure gauge to set the pressures correctly. Plows will be going through the shop in the coming days.

An invoice from Delmore Consulting for PASER rating updates was reviewed. This is a one-time fee for the 2021 PASER rating update.

*A motion was made (J. Frint/Scully) to pay the invoice from Delmore Consulting in the amount of \$2,500. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Foreman is suggesting that the John Deere mower be sold since we purchased the zero turn mower.

*A motion was made (Renz/Neff) that we put it up for sale on the Wisconsin surplus site and any funds received being distributed back to the departments that paid for the zero turn mower. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Foreman would like the board to authorize advertising for the hiring of a full time crewmember. The clerk will work with the Foreman on an ad.

The Foreman reported an administrative order on the Petroleum System inspection recently done. He has ordered the parts and will notify the inspector of the repairs.

Fire Department Report – Brock Frierhood

## Monthly report Fire

0 Runs

I am going through the Lexipol procedures again to make sure everything is good before I send out to the members.

I am working on submitting a grant for a fire extinguisher prop to use for a fire prevention program within the community and surrounding areas.

Ambulance Department Report – Brett Frierhood

## Monthly report Ambulance – Oct. 2021

8 calls since the last meeting. 1 was covered by Iron River due to limited staffing.

EMT job description has been revised. Presented for approval.

No applications were received for the posted Full-Time EMT position. Jake Coleson has expressed interest in moving from part-time to full-time at a proposed wage of \$25/hr. He is content with the standard benefits package, and although not contingent on it, would like to see the Town move to the Wisconsin Retirement System.

Even though expenses are over-budget, there are some remaining expenses expected to the end of the year. They are primarily for expiring medications and medical supplies that are or are soon to be expired. An approximate cost is being compiled to be presented at the meeting.

State Ambulance Inspection was performed on Wednesday. The inspection was passed and the ambulance remains in service, however two defects were noted which require correction within 10 days. These items are carrying registration and insurance information and securing all items and equipment. These items are being corrected as well as additional items that were pointed out but not documented in the official inspection report.

The updated EMT job description was again reviewed by the board.

*A motion was made (Scully/Neff) to approve the updated EMT job description. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

No applications for the full time EMT position have been received by the deadline, though a current part time EMT, Jake Coleson, has expressed an interest. The board will be interviewing Jake Coleson for the position.

Ambulance Director reported that there are some “essential expenses” needed for 2021 that total \$1,200.00 that he will need to purchase, which includes expired medications.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

Land Use Planning Commission: Seana Frint

2. Jay Wilson of 54307 Kaufman Rd-Class A Special Use permit for a dwelling in an F1 zoning district.
3. Jason & Tammy Rhode of 5625 E. Eightmile Lake Rd – Class A Special Use permit to extend permit for RV on property.

*A motion was made (Neff/Scully) to approve the Special Use permit for a dwelling in an F1 zoning district for Jay Wilson. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*A motion was made (Neff/S.Frint) to approve the Special Use permit for Jason & Tammy Rhode. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Roads & Right of Way Committee – Jim Frint – no meeting this past month

A.I.S. Committee – no report

Parks & Rec Committee - Pat Johnston

Update on a new snowshoe/fat tire bike trail at Tomahawk Lake Park that needs to be marked and the kiosk needs an updated map. The map will be added to the Town's website.

Update on skating rink – Pat asked if the board wants to do the repairs to the boards and the crack in the concrete this year – Tom and Dave will look at it tomorrow to see what is needed. She also asked who will flood the rink this year. Chairman Renz said the board will discuss it as part of the next budget session.

Transfer Site Committee – Dave Scully

The camera has been re-connected at the Transfer Site so the previously approved purchase of a new surveillance camera is not needed.

Chairman Renz reviewed the Timeline. A "Taste of Barnes" event, scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in June to be held at the Town Park, was added.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.

**Submitted by: Judy Bourassa, Clerk-Treasurer**  
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