

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

APPROVED

The Special Town Board Meeting in the Town Hall was called to Order by Chairperson Webb at 2:00pm and a Roll Call was done to establish a Quorum with Donna Porter and Seana Frint in attendance via Zoom and Susan Jansen and Eric Neff in attendance in the Town Hall. Tom Renz and BJ Skweres were in attendance in the Town Hall. Clerk Bourassa verified notice via Zoom.

A motion was made (Porter/Neff) to approve the amended Agenda which includes the audit proposal from Bauman Associates. Roll call vote taken, motion carried.

Tom Renz asked for the board's approval to make repairs to the ambulance. One estimate is for \$5,786.67 for the recent damage and the other for a previous accident (that wasn't repaired) with an estimate of \$2,688.00.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to authorize the repairs to the ambulance at a cost of \$8,474.67 (less the deductibles) and the cost to replace the windshield that was damaged and has been repaired. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding pricing BJ Skweres has obtained for fuel, propane and lubricants. The board reviewed the comparison. Supervisor Neff reminded the board that Midland's quote would also include an annual rebate of approximately 5%.

A motion was made (Porter/Neff) to accept the proposal from Midland Services (subject to no other proposals from any valid vendor received by January 8th) for propane, fuel and lubricants. A roll call vote was taken with all members except Seana Frint voting yes, motion carried.

A discussion as held regarding the request by the Barnestormers Snowmobile Club to only plow one lane of Pickerel Lake Rd, Conners Rd and W. Idlewild Lake Rd. An email received from a resident on Pickerel Lake Rd asking that the board continue plow both sides of their road. Supervisor Jansen said it's a safety issue and would like both sides of the roads to be plowed. Supervisor Neff was concerned about snowmobiles on the road at night and their bright headlights might be confusing to vehicle drivers. Chairperson Webb said W. Idlewild Lake Rd hasn't been plowed in the past, unless hunters or property owners request it. Fire Chief Renz said there could be issues for Emergency Services if roads are only plowed one lane.

A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to reject the one lane plowing of Conners Road. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Jansen/Porter) to reject the one lane plowing of Pickerel Lake Rd from Conners Road to Hwy 27. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Jansen/Neff) to suspend plowing temporarily of W. Idlewild Lake Road until further notice. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

An agreement with the Town of Drummond from 2011 regarding maintenance of Wilderness Lake Rd. was reviewed. The Town of Drummond would need to request that the Town of Barnes maintain and plow the Drummond portion of the road-no board action taken.

A purchase order for portable worklights was reviewed. Supervisor Jansen would like the Highway Department to start keeping an inventory of shop supplies. Tom Renz asked to be recognized and said he has a connection at Milwaukee Tools and might be able to get a better price.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to approve the purchase of portable work lights at a maximum cost of \$800.00. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

The clerk asked about the invoice from Jerome Excavating Contractors for transporting the salt/sand mix from South Shore Gravel to Barnes salt shed.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to approve payment to Jerome Excavating Contractors of \$1,200. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A discussion regarding the purchase of signage for sand/gravel bucket limits, Transfer Site day/hours of operation and installation of braces in the channels was discussed.

A motion was made (Jansen/Neff) to approve the purchase of a sign for the Transfer Site at a cost of \$233.28. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to order a sign for the salt/sand/gravel bin up to a cost of \$90. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

The Highway Department is requesting that the town purchase signs stating that braces in the channels will be installed on November 1st. BJ Skweres would like the signs be posted on two bridges and on the channels. The board tabled this so they can check with the DNR before installing any signs.

BJ Skweres asked about installing a "No Parking" sign on Lake Rd by the bridge where people are parking on the Birch Lake side of the road. It's causing difficulty for the plow trucks to plow along the road. The board gave their approval to install a sign.

BJ Skweres left the meeting.

The board reviewed the 2020 budget versus Year to Date and budget amendments were discussed. Resolution #R20-09 to amend the 2020 budget. Chairperson Webb read the resolution:

Resolution for Budget Amendment to the 2020 Annual Budget

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Barnes, Bayfield County, Wisconsin to amend the previously adopted 2020 Annual Budget, as per the procedure defined in Section 65.90(5) (a) of the Wisconsin State Statutes.

General Government Account 51000 shall be reduced to by \$18,000 and Public Safety Account 52000 be increased by \$18,000.

Budget Account 51000	General Government	-\$18,000.00
Budget Account 52000	Public Safety	\$18,000.00

Adopted this 30th Day of December, 2020.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to approve Resolution #20-09 moving \$18,000 from the General Government Account 51000 to the Public Safety Account 52000. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

The Focus on Energy grant award was discussed. We are currently only eligible to receive \$1,853.00 and our estimated costs, including labor, total approx. \$15,000.00, however, we would then be eligible for other grants if we upgrade the lighting. The installer thought we should be eligible for more and is working with Leah to re-submit the application in the hope of receiving more funding. The board agreed we should not return the materials (and avoid a \$300 re-stocking fee) and they will be installed at a later date.

Supervisor Jansen requested that the board set a date for a meeting to review and develop policies. It was scheduled for Tuesday Jan. 5th at 5pm.

An audit proposal from Bauman Associates of Eau Claire was received for the 2020 Audit at a cost of \$4,525, the 2021 Audit at a cost of \$4,650 and the 2022 Audit at a cost of \$4,800.

A motion was made (Neff/Jansen) to accept the proposal from Bauman Associates for audit services for a 3 year period. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Closed Session: As the governing body for the Town of Barnes, the Town Board will go into a closed session pursuant to the following:

- a) Wis. Stat § 19.85(c) "considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility."
- b) State Statute 19.85(f) "Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations."

A motion was made (Jansen/Neff) to go into closed session at 3:30pm. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Jansen/Neff) to return to open session at 4:28pm. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Jansen/Neff) to adjourn. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:31pm

Judy Bourassa, Town of Barnes Clerk-Treasurer
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