

(UNAPPROVED)

**TOWN OF BARNES
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 6:00pm**

At 6:00pm the Public Hearing was called to order by Tom Krob, Chair. Roll call was taken with Chris Webb, Donna Porter, Julie Bohl, and Tom Emerson present representing the Town Board to establish a quorum. Also present were Brenda Bakke, Clerk-Treasurer, Bob Lang, Roads Department Foreman, and Tom Renz, Fire Chief and Ambulance Director. Bakke verified public notice. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was then said by all.

Motion made by (Webb/Porter) to approve the agenda. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

The proposed recreational amendment to the Land Use Plan was explained by Tom Krob. Krob discussed the current efforts being made by the Town to obtain grants to make recreational improvements. Webb states she would like the wording of the amendment changed to reflect all sports and recreation, not just quiet sports. The language should be left open if we are going to go for grants. Krob discusses where the wording “quiet sports” came from. Webb and Krob agree that the wording “quiet sports” should be eliminated. Mike Tremblay says as head of the snowmobile club they would like to see the wording open.

Patti Joswick brought up the Tourism Committee stating they want to add to the recreation in Town, and a possible camp ground at Tomahawk Park. Krob states that the Town is not pursuing a camp ground there, just some upgrades to the park i.e. water, trail improvement, adding playground equipment and picnic tables, etc.

General discussion of other ideas listed followed. At the end of the discussion the Public Hearing ended.

Motion made (Bohl/Emerson) at 6:20pm to recess until 6:30pm. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY
TOWN BOARD MEETING
Tuesday – February 17, 2015 at 6:30PM**

At 6:30pm the regular Monthly Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Krob. Bakke verified public notice.

Motion made (Bohl/Emerson) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 01/20/2015, 01/27/2015 and 02/03/2015 Board Meetings, and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

No public comments were made.

Motion made (Porter/Bohl) to approve January vouchers. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Bakke presented the January Treasurer’s Report.

Motion made (Webb/Porter) to approve January Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Bakke reminded everyone of the upcoming Spring Election on April 7, 2015. Locally we have the Town Chair and two Supervisory positions on the ballot plus some state judicial positions. Polls will be open 7:00am – 8:00pm at the Barnes Town Hall for voting.

The new forestry notices were read by Bakke.

A new operator license application for Richard Renz was brought to the Board for approval.

Motion made (Porter/Webb) to approve Richard Renz operator license application. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

An update of QuickBooks multi user pricing for software and direct deposit costs for payroll was provided by Bakke. This was taken as information only by the Board. No decision was made at this time.

Bakke discussed the need for a drop box for outside the new town office. The drop slot at the old office was used frequently for returning the town hall keys, turning in employee timesheets, leaving correspondence, and dropping off property tax payments. Townspeople have expressed a need to have this again. Request was made for approval to purchase a MailBoss Curbside Locking Mailbox to be used for this purpose. It will be clearly labeled as a drop box for the Town of Barnes.

Motion made (Porter/Bohl) to approve the purchase of the MailBoss locking mailbox to be used as a drop box outside the town office. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding pricing for a new computer for the Clerk-Treasurer and networking the office computers. Decisions on computer purchases, software and networking will be considered after Norvado comes for a networking consultation, and is able to advise what our options are and what may be the best way to achieve our data goals.

The Highway Department Monthly Roads Report was read by Bob Lang. Lang and the Board discussed the request to purchase a hot water pressure washer for maintaining the town equipment.

Motion made (Webb/Bohl) to approve the purchase of the hot water pressure washer from Northern Tool for the amount of \$3,500.00. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

The Fire & Ambulance Department Reports were presented by Tom Renz. Renz questioned what the insurance deductible for replacing a lost hand radio is, and will work with the town insurance company to get a claim processed.

The Monthly Constable's Report from Mike O'Keefe was read by Krob.

Land Use Planning Commission - Gene Ratzel explains that the commission made an in-depth review of Jeanne Riese's application for variance filed with Bayfield County to allow her to rebuild her existing residence w/loft in same location with an exception to setback of 39 ft. from OHWM (Ordinary High Water Mark) of Upper Eau Claire Lake and 4 ft. from north property line. After

consideration of the physical aspects of the site, the Land Use Planning Commission recommends approval with the north side yard setback of 10 ft. and shoreline variance setback of 39 ft. Jeanne Riese spoke explaining the history of her property, why the exceptions were necessary due to the physical constraints of the lot, and actions she has taken to be able to build her new home. The Board discussed and recommends that all attempts be made to increase the setback on the north side from the proposed 4 ft. to 10 ft.

MOTION made (Webb/Porter) to approve the variance to build 39' from the OHWM with the agreement that there will never be living quarters in the garage. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation Committee – Donna Porter presents grant opportunities that have been researched and may be available for the Town of Barnes once the Parks and Recreation LUP amendment is approved. She expressed that resurfacing the tennis court should be the first priority due to the poor state of the surface. It is damaged due to age.

Krob discussed possible grant money available for Barnes.

Upon review of the proposed LUP amendment, the Board agrees that revisions should be made to sections 7-5, 7-6, and 7-7 to strike out the second tether ball, take out quiet sports under Tomahawk Park and on the 3rd page take out silent sports.

MOTION made (Krob/Bohl) accept Parks and Recreation amendment with the above specified changes. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Roads & Right of Way Committee –Tom Emerson presented the Mission Statement approved by the Roads and Right of Way Committee to the Board for their approval.

Roads and Right of Way Mission Statement:

The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Town Board, and performs duties authorized by the Town Board regarding Roads and Rights of Way.

Ongoing duties include assessing potential projects involving maintenance and improvements of roads. The committee serves as a point of contact for the citizens of Barnes.

The committee will establish policies and standards, to be approved by the Town Board, and inform the public as to the required activities of the Town in regards to public roads and rights of way.

Motion made (Porter/Bohl) to adopt the mission statement for the Roads and Right of Way Committee. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Bakke is to add the Mission Statement to the town website.

Roads Standards to be presented at a later date per Emerson.

Transfer Site Committee – Tom Emerson reports the new compactor is due to be shipped Tuesday February 24 and installed March 3, 2015.

A “Bulletin Board” page in The Blog has been suggested. Webb will discuss in more detail with Lu Peet and it will be brought up again at a later date.

An Open House at new office building will be discussed further at a later date. No final decision made.

Last Month’s Meeting Follow-up –

Town Board Issues Timeline Log was reviewed. There were no new issues on the log, and it has been updated and old items removed.

Motion made (Webb/Porter) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Brenda K. Bakke, Clerk-Treasurer