

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013

AT TOWN HALL, 3360 COUNTY HIGHWAY N, BARNES, WI

[APPROVED]

Agenda

1. Roll Call to establish a Quorum/ Verification of Public Notice

Chairperson Lu Peet called the February Monthly Board Meeting to order at 6:30p.m. Roll Call was taken to establish a quorum; members of the Board present were: Jack Meinke, Chris Webb, Mitch McGee, Donna Porter and Lu Peet. Also in attendance was Town staff: Steve Baldwin, Clerk-Treasurer; Brenda Bakke, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer; Bob Lang, Roads & Property Foreman; and Tom Renz, Fire Chief & Ambulance Director. Baldwin verified for Peet that the meeting notice had been posted per State Statutes.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Peet led the assembly in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Motion to approve the Agenda, approve the minutes of the January Board Meeting, and to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Supervisor McGee requested to amend the agenda by moving #9-b, the Transfer Site Committee Report, to #5 due to the attendance of representatives from Waste Management and Allied Waste Services.

Motion by Supervisor Donna Porter to approve the amended Agenda, approve the minutes of the January 15th and February 6th Board meetings and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Motion seconded by Supervisor Chris Webb. Motion carried.

4. Drummond School District

Sue Widmar, a Drummond school board member, and John Knight, Drummond School District Administrator, were here regarding the Drummond School Referendum which will be on the April 2nd Spring Election Ballot. John explained the current financial status of the school district and the reasons for the upcoming referendum. The Drummond Area School Board District is requesting \$500,000.00 over the next four school years (2013-14 through 2016-17) from taxpayers. This equates to \$22.50/\$100,00.00 property valuation per year, or \$90.00 total over the four years. Attached is the Drummond Area School District Referendum Fact Sheet which explains the referendum in more detail and answers commonly asked questions. Baldwin stated that it would also be added to our Town web site. An informational meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Drummond School Library.

5. Transfer Site Committee

Jeff Wolfe representing Waste Management and Michelle Ladehoff representing Allied Services were in attendance to answer any questions regarding their respective proposals for trash/refuse pick up at the Transfer Site. The Board committed to reviewing both proposals

before the March Regular Board Meeting so a final decision can be made regarding a new contract. The current Waste Management contract expires September 30, 2013. Lang cited that Allied Services will come on an "on call" basis if needed thus eliminating the Highway Dept. taking their equipment to the Transfer Site to try to compact the dumpster contents if filled prior to the scheduled pick up.

6. Vouchers Approval

Clerk-Treasurer Baldwin noted that this month's paid Vendor vouchers were significantly higher than usual due to monies paid out for the Park equipment (\$6,684.00) and new truck chassis (\$94,723.00) for the Highway Dept.

Motion by Supervisor Donna Porter, seconded by Supervisor Jack Meinke, to approve the vouchers as presented; Motion Carried.

7. Treasurer's Report

- a) Clerk-Treasurer Baldwin read the attached Treasurer's report. It was noted that the Sinking Fund General Savings was higher due to the temporary deposit and holding of property tax payments until they are sent on to Bayfield County.
- b) Property tax payments are 95% processed. Payments received at the end of January are being entered now. Everyone should see their check clear the bank by the end of the week.
- c) **Primary Election – Tuesday, FEB. 19th:** Voting is at the Town Hall, 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- d) **Timber Cutting Notices** – There were 9 new timer cutting notices this month. 7 are owned by Lyme St. Croix Timber Company, and 2 are owned by Robert Rucker.

8. January Meeting Follow-Up:

- a) **Kevin Shriver's request for Triathlon at Tomahawk Park in May.** Shriver provided additional information about the proposed Triathlon for discussion including a route plan, advertising ideas, liability insurance, safety/law enforcement, and event time. After reviewing same, Town responsibilities and requirements were decided upon as to require event insurance and to have people stationed at all places where contestants cross any legal roads for traffic safety purposes.

Motion by Supervisor Jack Meinke, seconded by Supervisor Mitch McGee, to approve the Triathlon with two stipulations: (1) a certificate of insurance must be provided to the Town prior to event; and (2) Shriver will coordinate with Tom Renz, Public Safety, on all safety needs. Motion Carried.

Town Clerk's office will write a letter to Shriver informing him of the approval contingent on the above requirements.

- b) **New Town Banners - Marcia Ritter** - Ritter explained the goal of the committee. Lang suggests we make our own brackets and mounts for the flags. The Highway Dept. would put up and take down the flags. The flags would stay on the mounts and be stored on the Town property. Ritter asked if contributions people made for this fund raiser would be tax deductible. Baldwin will follow up and get an answer on this. Committee will report on their progress at the March Monthly Board Meeting.

9. Department Head Reports

- a) **Highway Department - Bob Lang read the following monthly report:**

Winter has finally arrived. Although we haven't had any major snow storms, we've received enough to keep us plowing on a regular basis. We have used over double the amount of salt/sand we did last year, but we should have plenty to make it through the season. Since we have been using the old plow truck more, we have been plagued with a number of break downs this last month. As it turns out, none have been major, but it demonstrates the need to replace this equipment regularly. Speaking of which, Dave and I went to Universal Truck last month and inspected the new truck. Other than a couple of minor issues, everything checked out. They will start working on it in a couple of weeks, and I anticipate it being delivered by the end of March.

Speaking of equipment issues, our brusher tractor repairs haven't been 100% successful. We will continue to work on it as time allows. We had to replace the batteries in the Loader last week and we are trying to resolve an alternator issue on that machine. FabCo Caterpillar was here to take care of a few minor warranty issues with our backhoe. It seems to be a very solid machine that has served us well so far.

I received a phone call from Kraemer Construction, the company that crushed the gravel in Del Jerome's gravel pit. They are planning to reclaim that pit this summer. That means we have to haul our 2,000+ tons of gravel out of there before the end of June. It is my intention to put the majority of that gravel on Rabbit Hutch Road and 43 Road. We are going to put the new truck to good use immediately!

- **Motion to approve Kevin Dudley as an alternate Seasonal Snow Plow Driver.** Kevin Dudley is already a seasonal Highway Dept. employee and Lang stated that he knows how to operate all of the equipment; no training is necessary. Bob has reviewed the routes with him.

Motion by Supervisor Mitch McGee, seconded by Supervisor Meinke, to approve Kevin Dudley as an alternate seasonal snow plow driver; Roll Call Vote – All voted yes. Motion Carried.

- **Approval for Gravel Contract – Lang presented a 3 year, 2013-2015, contract with Milestone Materials/Northwoods Paving to obtain crushed gravel to haul at the cost of \$6.45 per ton.**

Motion by Supervisor Jack Meinke, seconded by Supervisor McGee, to approve the new Milestone Gravel Contract as presented; Roll Call Vote – All voted yes. Motion Carried.

- **New Sand Pit – Motion to authorize Bob Lang to act on behalf of the Town with Bayfield County Zoning and others for a new Town Sand Pit to be constructed in the SW quarter of Section 28.T.45N-R.9W.**

Motion by Supervisor Chris Webb, seconded by Supervisor McGee, to authorize Bob Lang to act on behalf of the Town with Bayfield County Zoning and others for a new Sand Pit. Motion carried.

- **P.P.O.A. Roads Project** – Board reviewed Bob Lang's February letter regarding the Roads Project planned for 2013 that was sent by Dawn Pittman with the Association's February mailing. (See attached).
- **Point-O-Pines Rd.** – The Board reviewed Bob's January 31st letter to Point-O-Pines Rd. property owners for the meeting scheduled March 16th at the Town Hall.
- **Cell Phone Issue:** Bob Lang is currently using his personal cell phone and monthly minutes for Highway Department business. Lang requested \$30.00 per month cell phone allowance rather than incur the expense of a new cell phone contract.

Motion by Supervisor Jack Meinke, seconded by Supervisor McGee, to approve \$30.00 per month cell phone allowance for Bob Lang; Roll Call Vote – All voted yes. Motion Carried.

b) Fire and Ambulance Departments – Tom Renz read the following monthly report:

Ambulance

We had 6 ambulance calls last month:

- 2 transports to Hayward
- 2 transports to Essentia Health
- 1 stand by for fire
- 1 Beaugard Lake Road intercepted with Gold Cross

We have been looking at ambulances and I have put together some bids specs which will be attached. I am hoping that at next Town Board meeting in March that we can award the contract so hoping to meet like at 5:30 or 6:00 to do that.

Fire

We have had two calls.

- 1 – garage fire on Island Lake Road
- 1 – Respond to assist the ambulance.

The Board discussed the possibility of starting the March meeting early to review the ambulance quotes if necessary.

c) Constable – No report available.

10. Committee and Commission Reports

- a) TOB Buildings Maintenance Committee** – Mike Tremblay reviewed the attached committee report that summarized the committee’s work and meetings of the last 6 weeks, their three alternatives to resolve the Town Hall kitchen and office annex issues and their recommendations. The committee recommends that the most cost-effective option is to build a new replacement office building rather than attempt to repair the old office annex and that the next step would be to authorize the committee to engage an engineering firm to review and develop a specific plan and cost estimate; this service would cost an estimated \$2,550-3,000.

Motion by Supervisor Chris Webb, seconded by Supervisor McGee, to approve the Committee pursuing alternative #3, review and select an Engineering firm to finalize a plan and costs; and pay for this service from the Town of Barnes Building Maintenance Sinking Fund. Roll Call Vote – All voted yes. Motion Carried.

- b) Aquatic Invasive Species Committee** – 1) Lee Weisner provided the updated plan for MEC and UEC Lakes. Matt Berg will be hired to survey the weed issues. Treatment is planned for the early spring. Lakes will be re-surveyed in July.
- First 2013 meeting is scheduled on Monday, February 18th at Barb Romstead’s residence.
 - **Resolutions: R-2013-01 & R-2013-02 for Grant applications for Middle Eau Claire & Upper Eau Claire Lakes as requested by DNR presented for approval and signatures in accordance with Grant requirements.**

Motion by Supervisor Jack Meinke, seconded by Supervisor Porter, to approve and sign Resolutions R-2013-01 and 2013-02 for Grant applications. Roll Call Vote – All voted yes. Motion Carried.

c) Cemetery Sexton & Committee – no activity to report.

d) Parks & Recreation Committee – The new park equipment was delivered and is currently stored in the Town's 'Conservation Club building, awaiting spring installation; it was paid for, as previously authorized by the Board, from the TOB Parks Sinking Fund.

e) Land Use Planning Committee – No meeting was required, so no report.

11. Public Comment Session

Lee Weisner asked what the exact location of the Sand Pit would be to the Parsonage and Church. Bob Lang answered that it would be 150 yds. Behind the Parsonage and that only sand would be dug there, no crushing, etc.

12. Town Board Issues Timeline Update – The Board reviewed the issues timeline and there were no new updates other than on the Smart Road litigation. Supervisor Webb and Baldwin discussed that he had removed the Planning Commission appointments done earlier in the year, but they will be relisted since it is how the appointment terms are recorded and tracked by the Board.

13. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Jack Meinke, seconded by Supervisor Porter, to Adjourn the February 12th, 2013 Monthly Town Board Meeting; Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Bakke, Town of Barnes Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Dated this 12th Day of February, 2013

Updated this 8th Day of March, 2013
By Stephen C. Baldwin, Town of Barnes Clerk-Treasurer