

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES

MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024
6:30 PM at the Barnes Town Hall

APPROVED

At 6:30PM, the Monthly Board Meeting was called to order. Chairman Tom Renz, Supervisors Seana Frint, Dave Scully, Jim Frint and Eric Neff present at the Town Hall, establishing a quorum. Roll call to establish a quorum and clerk Meyer verified public notice.

All present said pledge of allegiance to the flag

*Motion made (Eric/Dave) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 1/16/2024 and 1/23/2024 Monthly Board Meeting and Special Meeting to dispense with the reading of those minutes.
Motion to amend agenda by (Eric/Dave) to add AIS update on grants.*

Public Comment Session – Courtney Mashlan informed the board that she met with the garden club and they are willing to help out with a community raised garden and also getting help building the garden beds from the school woodshop. She stated she is working on grants that would have a 50% cost share and the possibility of adding a dog park and break stations on the Nip-Tuck trail that has yet to be completed.

-Clerk Correspondence

- There will be a public hearing Feb 29th 9am at the Bayfield County Board Room in regards to a variance requested by Stephen & Denise Faltus, 2915 Walter Rd. seeking to reduce the setback from the East lot line from 20ft to 5ft.
- New phone system at the town office

-Address budget issue's/confirm accounts and amounts for all outstanding issue's. Clerk Meyer brought up the following:

1. According to the "Balance Sheet Adjustment" spreadsheet created by Judy on 12/28/23 there should be a \$350,000 surplus from 2022 that was to be re-allocated. Where is this going? *Chairman Renz stated that the money was to stay in the savings and NOT be re-allocated.*

2. \$200,000.00 was budgeted in 2023 acct #57220-A Fire Truck Outlay, no expenses paid out of that expense account in 2023, no budget in that account for 2024. Is the \$200,000 surplus from 2023 part of the 2022 surplus of \$350,000.00 mention in issue #1? *Chairman Renz stated that the Fire Truck was to be paid for with the sinking funds and any additional from savings.*

3. \$160,000.00 was budgeted as income for the sale of highway equipment for 2024. That equipment was traded as opposed to sold. Whatever this income was to cover will not be covered by this for 2024.

4. There is currently \$114,000.00 in the 57331-H Highway Equipment Outlay account. Per the budget notes \$100,000.00 of this was to go to 101B Highway Sinking Fund to start saving for a truck.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to open the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

Chairman Renz asked Chris Webb if we needed a resolution to approve the movement of the budgeted \$100,000.00 in expense acct. 57331-H to the sinking fund and Chris responded a motion would be necessary.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to close the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to approve moving the \$100,000.00 from account 57331-H Highway Equipment Outlay to 101B Highway Sinking Fund to start saving for a truck

-Adopt Resolution #24-02 Budget Amendment to the 2024 Annual Budget

A motion was made (Dave/Eric) to adopt R24-02. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-Adopt Resolution #24-03 Budget Amendment to the 2024 Annual Budget

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to adopt R24-03. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-AIS grant update with Chris Webb – Chris stated that we did not get a grant for Tomahawk/Sand Bar and that funds would need to come from AIS sinking fund in order to do the necessary treatments. She also mentioned that there is a real need for volunteers to join the committee as this will be her last year chairing that committee. They are also down a few members and there is a need for volunteers in many areas of the AIS.

-Discuss of Town FaceBook page with clerk Meyer – Lisa brought up the fact that many towns in WI are currently being sued for violations of the 1st amendment due to FaceBook and the fact that a town page has to be created from a personal page makes it difficult to keep control of as people leave positions. The fact that it is considered a town record and the clerk is responsible for records retention is a risk with this platform.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to open the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

Several residents commented that the risks were not worth the reward and Jordan Frierhood commented that possibly someone could start a community page like they have in Hayward and post the same type of information without the risk.

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to close the floor. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

The board agreed that they see the ease of using social media to get word out about Town business but until we have a policy in place for dealing with a FaceBook page, the page will be deleted for now and the board will re-visit at a later date.

-Discussion and possible motion to remove positive pay from the General checking account at Associated Bank

A motion was made (Jim/Seana) to remove positive pay from the General checking account at Associated Bank. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-Review bids for town owned land for sale

A motion was made (Eric/Dave) to accept Mike Keniry's bid of \$61,000.00 for parcels #2587 and #38895. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-Review and sign auditors 2023 Management Representation Letter

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to accept/sign auditors 2023 Management Representation Letter. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-Approval – January vouchers

A motion was made (Dave/Eric) to approve January vouchers. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-Treasurer's Report

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to approve the Treasurers Report. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

-TOB Department Head Reports:

a) **Highway Department** – Monthly Roads Report-Jeff Jordheim

Roads: Culvert inspections will begin when weather allows. This is now required by the State.

Equipment: Waiting on grader to be delivered. John Deere mower will be going out for sale towards the end of the month.

QRV: Is now the parks dept truck. Repairs have been made so the window, tailgate are operable again.

Buildings: Cameras are on order for the buildings. Will be installed upon arrival. They will cover a majority of the town park as well.

Salt/Sand building has been inspected and noted to the DOT.

Equipment/ Fire Hall: Started working on trucks and repairs are being made.

Plumber has been contacted to install a whole building filtration system.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Discussion/action on a Discontinuance of a road(s) in the Meyers/Worthington in the Tomahawk Lake Park. Maplewood and the Private Drive. Also, combine lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 into one lot on block 19. Approve R24-04 Discontinuance of Maplewood Rd/Private Drive.

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve R24-04 Discontinuance of Maplewood Rd/Private Drive change sec 19 to block and schedule the Hearing for April 15, 2024 at 6:30PM. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

2. Approval to replace the Chevy 1-ton pickup with 2023 Ford F150 from Stevens Point Ford \$86,600.00 with funds from account 57331-H Highway Equipment Outlay after Resolutions R24-02 and R-24-03 are approved. Otherwise the Highway Dept. is requesting the funds for the purchase be taken from the money market savings surplus from 2022 (\$350,000).

A motion was made (Dave/Tom) to approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford F450 for \$85,538.00 from acct. 57331-H Highway Equipment Outlay. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

b)**Transfer Site** – Monthly Transfer Site Report-Jeff Hong

Had one 40yd. trash compactor picked up on Tuesday the 13th of February.

Two bails of cardboard picked up.

New warming building except for some steel is finished.

Looking into some new fencing for the site as old fencing is down in spots and needs replacing.

Also if weather permits, will be filling in pot holes in driving lanes with gravel.

c) Fire Department – Monthly BES Report – Brock Frierhood

-Calls: 2 calls

-1 Carbon Monoxide

-1 vehicle fire

New Engine is still being built. I have put the latest pictures on our Facebook page. The last timeframe I received was 6 weeks, that was a couple weeks ago.

New AFG grant cycle is open, working on this to get submitted by the end date.

Working on another grant for a slip-on tanker unit.

Annual DNR training is tomorrow night. Lack of snow this winter will make for an early wildland season.

Will be prepping and getting things ready for this.

Picked up the new QRV, working on getting it into service.

Highway crew has been doing maintenance on the small equipment and Tender 1.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Nomination/approval of Jennifer Peterson to secretary/treasurer

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve Jennifer Peterson to secretary/treasurer. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

2. Nomination/approval of Richard Renz to training officer

A motion was made (Eric/Dave) to approve Richard Renz to training officer. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

3. Approval of membership for Jake Schiess

A motion was made (Dave/Tom) to approve membership for Jake Schiess. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

4. discussion/approval to sell slide-out unit out of QRV to Lake Nebagamon Fire Department

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve the sale of the slide-out unit out of QRV to Lake Nebagamon Fire Department Treasurers Report. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

d) Ambulance Department – Monthly BES Report – Brett Frierhood

There have been 5 calls since the last meeting. There were no calls into Highland.

I received an application for the full-time EMT position from a local individual. An interview was conducted, however after checking with the Town's insurance company they would not insure the individual due to a driving related conviction. A discrepancy was found with a job posting created through the Wisconsin EMS Association where a credit card charge was placed but the posting was not processed. I contacted WEMSA about it and after looking into it they are not able to explain what happened but have offered a free posting with upgrades in its place. The upgrades will provide a lot more visibility of the posting which I hope will bring in more candidates.

The Bayfield County Ad-hoc EMS Committee has not had any meetings yet. At the last update work is being done related to the EMS study commissioned by the County which will be the first task for the Committee.

I am currently working on entering data for the Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection System. This program is gathering data from all ambulance services nationwide over a 4 year period which will be used to determine recommendations provided to congress regarding Medicare reimbursement rates. Our 1-year collection period ended at the end of December and all data needs to be entered and certified by the end of May.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approval of Damian Von Frank to Join Ambulance as an EMR

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve Damian Von Frank to Join Ambulance as an EMR. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

2. Approval of Ricky Renz to Join Ambulance as an EMR

A motion was made (Tom/Dave) to approve Ricky Renz to Join Ambulance as an EMR. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

3. Appointment of Sonja Von Frank as Assistant Ambulance Director – *This agenda item was tabled for a future meeting*

- Review Timeline

Update the Employee/Volunteer Picnic to Sat. May 11, 2024

- Adjourn

A motion was made (Tom/Eric) to adjourn. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Submitted by: Lisa Meyer, Clerk-Treasurer
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