

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
FOR – TOWN BOARD MEETING – March 10, 2020
At – NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL – 7:30pm
MINUTES

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Present were Chairman Rasmussen, Supervisors Jim Krueger and Jack McGregor, Treasurer Arlene Skultety, Clerk Laura Bjork and 6 others.

Agenda was posted in 3 places in town and noticed in the Daily Press. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from the previous Feb 11th meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried. The minutes from the March 3rd Work Meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to dispense the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #3255 through #3300. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING REPORT – Sarah Boles stated that the commission continues to work on the Contingency Emergency Plan. Mary D’Andrea will be resigning from the commission and the commission is looking for a replacement. They discussed adopting a Plan Commission Ordinance that identifies the number of members and the job specifications of the Plan Commission. The commission will continue to work on this. Chairman Rasmussen stated that Linda Kraft volunteered to serve as a Plan Commission member.

LIBRARY REPORT – The library report will be posted on the website.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF TOWN INSURANCE – Chairman Rasmussen stated that a motion was made at the last meeting to switch the insurance carrier to Rural Insurance. The current carrier had some concerns with the coverage that was offered. However, Rural Insurance assured the town that their insurance coverage was adequate for the town’s needs. Chairman Rasmussen stated that 74% of townships in WI use Rural! The Town Board agreed to continue the town’s insurance through Rural Mutual.

DISCUSSION OF BAYFIELD COUNTY FORESTRY WILDERNESS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Bayfield County offers a Town Road Aid program designed to improve problem areas on Town Roads that provide access to County Forest. There is \$90,000 available to assist Townships. The Town Board applied for assistance for the improvement of Wilderness Road access to Bayfield County Land, specifically milling and graveling Old Grade Road starting with County M to Job Corps Road, FR 919, about 2 miles.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ORDINANCE #42 ALARM ORDINANCE –

Some changes/updates need to be made to the Alarm Ordinance as there are charges associated. False alarms are a priority. The Fire Chief should be reporting false alarms to the town so the clerk can bill appropriately. The charges in the ordinance should also be reviewed. Dave Haan stated the alarm systems from Norvado send a signal to the alarm company who then sends to dispatch. The line was in use, so the people could not use the line to cancel a call. Grand View enforces the people who have alarms to have a second line (which costs about \$5/month), so they can use that line to dismiss the call. There is an option of mandating people with alarm systems to purchase a Knox Box (which costs about \$300-\$400), which allows the Fire Department a set of keys to they can clear the alarm immediately. He stated that it is not as big as a problem as it has been in the past. This will go to the Fire Department to evaluate and bring back to the board. There is an alarm application for the town as well. It was noted that Bayfield County has a very detailed Alarm Ordinance. The alarm application should have a sign off on receiving the ordinance. Supervisor McGregor will work on the ordinance in conjunction with the Fire Department.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE #50-20 AUTHORIZING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD VOLUNTEER FUNDS –

There was discussion on the original papers of incorporation and the official name and by-laws of the Fire Department. Supervisor McGregor stated that the paperwork needs to be in order. He stated that the board has two choices with the Fire Department funds: either create an ordinance allowing the Fire Department to control those funds or apply for a non-profit status. There was discussion on the depository, if it should be any public depository or specified. There was a correction made in Section VI A. Dave Haan stated that the Paul Feckner Memorial Scholarship is a separate account. Scholarships are given at \$500 per student, and the scholarship could be recurring if they are still enrolled in school and keeping their grades. More research will be done, and this will be brought back to the next board meeting. The Town Board requested that the Fire Chief be present at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A BAYFIELD COUNTY REQUEST FOR TOWN BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON A CLASS A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR JOHN & AMY STALTER FOR A SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT, LOCATED IN LOT 4, BLOCK 8, SUBDIVISION PLAT GOTTLAND RESORT, SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 43N, RANGE 6W, LOT 4, TOWN OF NAMAKAGON –

Supervisor Krueger stated that there is renovation being done on the property, and the owners will be renting afterwards, so they are applying presently. He is not sure about any inspections done by the county. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to recommend a Class A Special Use Permit to Bayfield County for John & Amy Stalter for a Short Term Rental permit, contingent upon County septic inspection with occupancy limits set and County health inspection and town inspection, along with the stipulations for short term rentals in the Town of Namakagon. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended the Short-Term Rental. MOTION carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF A SHORT-TERM RENTAL FOR HENRY BIGOTT FOR HANK’S LANDING – Supervisor Krueger stated that the county had all the paperwork done previously, so there is no information from them. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve a Short-Term Rental for Henry Bigott for Hank’s Landing contingent upon compliance with a County septic inspection, health inspection and town inspection. The Town Board agreed to write a letter to the county about communicating with the occupancy set on Short Term Rentals based on the septic inspection. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE #51-20 RELATING TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES PROVIDED TO ASSESSOR FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES – WI State Statute 70.47(7)(af) states that a municipality needs to provide by ordinance the confidentiality of information about income and expenses provided to the assessor. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Ordinance 51-20 Relating to Confidentiality of Income and Expenses Provided to Assessor for Assessment Purposes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

The Town of Namakagon, Bayfield County, does ordain as follows:

1. Adoption

This ordinance adopts by reference Wis. Stats. Sec. 70.47 (7)(af). Income and expense information provided by a property owner to an assessor for the purposes of establishing the valuation for assessment purposes by the income method of valuation shall be confidential and not a public record open to inspection or copying under Sec. 19.35 (1) of Wis. Stats.

2. Exceptions

An officer may make disclosure of such information under the following circumstances:

- a. The assessor has access to such information in the performance of his/her duties;
- b. The Board of Review may review such information when needed, in its opinion, to decide upon a contested assessment;
- c. Another person or body has the right to review such information due to the intimate relationship to the duties of an office or as set by law;
- d. The officer is complying with a court order;
- e. The person providing the income and expense information has contested the assessment level at either the Board of review or by filing a claim for excessive assessment under Sec. 74.37, in which case the base records are open and public.

3. Severability

The several sections of this ordinance are declared to be severable. If any section or portion thereof shall be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, unlawful or unenforceable, such decision shall apply only to the specific section or

portion thereof directly specified in the decision, and shall not affect the validity of any other provisions, sections, or portions thereof of the ordinance. The remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. Any other ordinances whose terms are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to those terms that conflict.

4. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and posting as provided by law.

Adopted this 10th day of March 2020 by the Town Board of the Town of Namakagon.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK – An updated employee handbook was presented. The Town Board scrutinized the handbook line by line. An updated version will be presented at the next Town Board meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE PLAN COMMISSION BOARD NUMBER – The Town Board discussed reducing the Plan Commission members from seven to five. The Town Board agreed to continue to keep the Plan Commission operating with a seven-member board, as it becomes easier to have a quorum at meetings.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF BEING A SPONSOR TO THE CHEQUAMEGON AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION – There was discussion on the advertising placed on the Trail Guide for the sponsorship. The Town Board would like confirmation of the advertising. It was noted that CAMBA promotes economic growth in the township. **MOTION** made by Supervisor Krueger to sponsor CAMBA with \$250. **MOTION** seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

APPOINTMENT OF A PLAN COMMISSION MEMBER FOR THE TERM MAY 2020 THRU APRIL 2023 – Chairman Rasmussen appointed Linda Kraft as a Plan Commission member to fill the term May 2020 thru April 2023.

REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE – A thank you letter was read from Cable/Namakagon Museum for the donation from the Town. The Town received a request from Rumble on the Lake for sponsorship. It was noted that Rumble on the Lake promotes economic growth in the township. **MOTION** made by Supervisor McGregor to sponsor Rumble on the Lake for 2020 with \$250. **MOTION** seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Dave Haan gave stats with the Fire Department for last year. A full report will be given at the Annual Town Meeting. Chairman Rasmussen noted that the Airport will be having a public informational meeting on March 25th at the Cable Community Center to discuss the clearing of land. Chairman Rasmussen thanked Mary D'Andrea for her service with the Plan Commission. Mary D'Andrea stated that the

Town Board might want to consider including language about driveway access for the Fire Department in the FYI Newsletter.

SET DATE FOR THE NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 14, 2020 @ 7:30pm. Annual Meeting April 21, 2020 @ 7pm.

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 10:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk