

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, January 12, 2021
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 8 others.

Agenda was posted at the Town Hall and on the website and the Daily Press was informed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from the December 8th, 11th, and 15th were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the December 8th, 11th and 15th Town Board minutes and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #3729 through #3789. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – None.

Library Report – The Library report will be posted on the website.

Discussion and possible action on opening Chicago Avenue as an ATV/UTV Route – A petition was received by the Town Board that had at least 2/3rd's of the property owner's signatures in favor for the opening of Chicago Avenue. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve opening Chicago Avenue as an ATV/UTV Route. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Discussion and possible action on Ordinance # 32 ATV and UTV Route Ordinance # 32 – The change in the ordinance was the addition in Section II to request in writing an opening of a route two weeks prior to a regular scheduled Town Board meeting. The request must include a petition with two-thirds of the property owner's signatures of the requested route in support of opening the route. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the changes to the ATV and UTV Route Ordinance #32 as written in the attachment to minutes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Discussion and possible action on Snowmobile Route Ordinance # 17 – The change in the ordinance was the addition in Section II to request in writing an opening of a route two weeks prior to a regular scheduled Town Board meeting. The request must include a petition with two-thirds of the property owner's signatures of the requested route in support of opening the route. Section VI date changed from April 30th to March 31st.

Section VII added enforcement by Town Enforcement Officer. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the changes in Snowmobile Route Ordinance #17 as written in the attachment to minutes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Discussion and possible action on the Town Hall remodel/repair project – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the town budgeted for Town Hall Roof repairs and kitchen remodeling. Also, the timbers in the garden are rotted and need replacement. It was noted that any contractors hired need to file a W9 and Certificate of Insurance with the clerk before the job begins.

Discussion and possible action on violations to Ordinance # 22B Class B Weight Limits – Chairman Rasmussen called the contractor in violation and they explained that they were only going through Namakagon with unloaded trucks. The loaded trucks were entering on a different route. The Town Board agreed in order to give a citation, the loaded trucks would need to be identified.

Discussion on Community Club Organization – Clerk Bjork stated that the Community Club Organization may want to look into becoming a tax-deductible organization. If they were to do that, then donations could be tax deductible. There were many donations received this year. Supervisor Krueger stated that this organization is not affiliated with the town, so it would be their decision. The information will be passed along to the Community Club.

Discussion and possible action on Ordinance # 55-20 to Appoint the Town Treasurer – An elected position is elected by the electors and the wage is set by the electors. The treasurer needs to be a resident of the Town of Namakagon. An appointed position would be appointed by the Town Board and the wages would be set by the Town Board. The position could be filled by anyone and the term would be set by the Town Board. The treasurer and clerk position has become complicated with paper filing and keeping up with laws and regulations, and they both do not represent the town by votes at the meetings. Many townships have switched to appointed because of these differences. The question for approval of the appointment will go to referendum in April. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve Ordinance #55-20 to Appoint the Town Treasurer as written in the attachment to the minutes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Resolution 2021-01 Amending the 2020 Budget – Any time the expenditures go over the budgeted amount, an amendment needs to be made. The Conservation & Development and Other Financing Uses Expenditures were over budget. The Conservation & Development over budgeted expenditures were due to increased room tax expenditures. The Other Financing Uses over budgeted expenditures were due to refunded taxes, reimbursement to the Community Club for donations and a payroll adjustment. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Resolution 2021-01 Amending the 2020 Budget as written in the attachment to the minutes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Discussion and possible action on the 2021 Road Construction projects – Chairman Rasmussen spoke with Bayfield County regarding the work to be done on County M from Namakagon to Cable, approximately 11 miles. The bids for this project are due this week. The project will be funded with 80% federal and 20% local money. The total project will cost approximately 10 million dollars! He was told that the project end date would be in the fall. The town is planning on working on Birch Bend, pulverizing and blacktopping, which will cost approximately \$330,000. This project would be funded with TRIPP money and local money 50/50. If awarded the project, the town would have 2 years to spend the money on the project. The town is also considering Garmisch Road. This will be a project working with the Forest Service for a portion of the road as they are looking at taking out a hill near the new parking lot. This project would also use TRIPP funds. The town is also considering Lake Five Rd, which would also be funded partially by TRIPP funds. Treasurer Skultety mentioned that Bear Point Road is getting bad.

Discussion and possible action on destruction of materials from the records room – The Town passed Ordinance #49 to Adopt the WI Municipal Records Schedule. There has been a list of items submitted to the WI Historical Society for destruction according to the ordinance schedule. The town has received an email stating they are not interested in the material. The town discussed if the Cable/Namakagon Historical Society might be interested. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to allow the destruction of these materials, contingent upon the official declining offer from the WI Historical Society and to be reviewed by Chairman Rasmussen. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Review Correspondence

- a. **Cable/Namakagon Area Historical Society and Museum request for support** – The Town Board agreed to support the Cable/Namakagon Area Historical Society and Museum with \$250.

Public Comment – Ed Hilz had inquired about having virtual meetings through Zoom. The Town Board agreed not to offer virtual meetings. The meetings will continue to practice 6’ social distancing and require masks. There was some discussion on boats that create a wakesurf. There was discussion on how to regulate them. The town cannot control activities on the lake and an ordinance would not be enforceable. This issue has been brought before legislature. If there are issues, the DNR should be contacted. It was noted that if they are doing this close to the shoreline, it will create shoreline erosion.

Set date for the next Board meeting: February 9, 2021 @ 7:30pm.

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk