

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, August 17, 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.

The 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 July 13th and 27th meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the Town Board minutes from July 13th and 27th and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #4055 through #4095. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – There was no meeting.

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

Walleye Stocking Fund - – Mike D’Andrea gave an update on the Walleye for stocking the lake. They are growing and therefore, more feed is needed. A total of \$30,000 has been received in donations, but another \$20,000 is needed. He is requesting the support from the Town Board. There will be approximately 40,000 Walleye put into the lake. This process has been a huge endeavor. Anyone is welcome to contact Mike D’Andrea to help clip fins at the Red Cliff Hatchery. Chairman Rasmussen stated that the town will find funds to support this project.

Birch Point Road bridge - The bottom timbers on the bridge are rotting out. The Road Crew was wondering if it was possible to rent equipment and hire help for sheet piling. Chairman Rasmussen stated that there should be funds available for the project. He will look into. It was noted that the bridge is still safe and there is plenty of time for the repairs.

Opening Bids: re-staining and painting of Town Hall - A bid was received from Arm & Hammer Builders of \$4,425.00. The expense was not budgeted for this year. The board will consider adding to the 2022 budget.

Revisions to Ordinance #43 Adult Entertainment Ordinance - Minor changes were made to the ordinance, including spelling errors and a correction on the fees. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the changes as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Revisions to Ordinance #44 Citation Ordinance, along with the Citation Form – Revisions were made to the Citation Ordinance to allow for due process for violators, according to the law. The ordinance and citation form were reviewed and approved by an attorney. Supervisor McGregor suggested adding the Date to page 2 (2) on the Citation Form. There was discussion on putting

the Citation Form into a formal book for accountability. The Town Board requested the Clerk to send this ordinance and the form to Bayfield County and ask what they would prefer.

Ordinance #56-21 Access and Maintenance of Town Records, along with the Open Records Request Form – The Ordinance was presented, and it was reviewed and approved by an attorney. The Ordinance allows the town to have a policy for open records requests and charge for time and materials. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Ordinance #44A. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Revisions to Ordinance #26 Landfill Ordinance – While the Town Board was diligently working on the Fine and Fee Schedule at a work meeting, it was noticed that this Ordinance as well as the Junk Vehicle Ordinance should be combined into the Public Nuisance Ordinance. This will be drafted and presented at the next Town Board meeting.

Approval of the Fine and Fee Schedule - The schedule consolidates all fees and fines charged by the town. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the Fine and Fee Schedule as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried. This will be published on the website.

Discussion on Wake Ordinance - Supervisor Krueger stated that there have been complaints about wake boats on the lakes. He stated that towns are doing their own thing rather than waiting for the DNR to come up with rules and regulations. Sawyer County approved an Ordinance that models the issue that is being confronted. The wake boats have to be 700' from shore. Anything within 750' of shore has to be less than a 2' wake. A warden or recreational officer for the lake would need to agree on the ordinance so it can be enforced. The areas of enforcement would be the easy areas to enforce, i.e., narrows and areas that could result in severe damage. If the Town of Namakagon pursued, the Town of Grand View would also have to agree as lakes are shared. The town will continue to pursue.

Communications between the Town of Namakagon and Bayfield County Zoning - Chairman Rasmussen stated that the Town Board met with Bayfield County Zoning. Supervisor Krueger stated that many topics were discussed, but not resolved. There are certain variances that are bypassing the town. In the past the town was very involved in the decisions, but now the Board of Adjustment has decided that they do not need town approval. There is a lot going on, and the town wants to be involved. The issues are still happening. There are currently 13 lawsuits against the county. The County needs to work with the property owners. Instead, they are looking for violations rather than helping the property owners. The town will continue to attempt to resolve the issues with the county.

Pre-buy for fuel – Chairman Rasmussen stated that Midland was at \$1.44. Superior Fuel \$1.59, and Ferrellgas at \$1.79. It was mentioned that Como was at \$1.59, and the Coop was at \$1.26. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to pre-buy fuel from Midland at \$1.44, including the transfer site. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

American Rescue Plan Act Funds – Clerk Bjork explained that WI Towns Association came up with a calculation to determine if towns have a loss revenue for ARPA funds. To have a loss revenue, the growth factor needs to be less than 4.1%. WI Towns Association is working on a

formula with the Department of Revenue to determine the actual amounts that contribute to the growth factor.

Library room sponsorship – The cost for a library room for the Town of Namakagon was priced at \$30,000, which could be budgeted over 3 years. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the library room sponsorship for \$30,000 over 3 years. The MOTION failed. Supervisor McGregor suggested working it into the budget before approving. A verbal commitment has been made to budget this sponsorship, but the town needs to make sure the funds are there.

Visitor’s Guide Ad update - An updated ad was presented and approved by the board.

Discussion of 2022 Budget – A preliminary budget was presented. The Fire Department presented a budget to the board. The board will take time to review the presented budget and meet again on September 7th to discuss further.

Review Correspondence:

Cable Area Fall Fest -MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve a \$300 Sponsorship for Cable Fall Fest. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Chequamegon Children’s Theatre - The play has already past, so the town will wait until next year.

Public Comment – Kathy Sill stated that kids are jumping off Namakagon Bridge and Anderson Island. She inquired on installing “no jumping” signs at the bridges. Chairman Rasmussen stated that is a county issue.

Mike Jacobs thanked the board and Road Crew for help cleaning up after the storm.

There was a question regarding regulations on parked campers. There is an ordinance that limits parking campers for 90 days, then they need to be moved.

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

Work meetings: September 21, 2021, 1pm and September 28, 2021, 1pm

Comp Plan Meeting September 1, 2021, 7pm

Fire Department Open House June 11, 2022

Community Dinner September 2, 2021

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 10:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk