

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, September 7, 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 10 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 August 17th meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the 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 #4096 through #4130. 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 when received.

ATV Route from South Garden Avenue to Sunset Lane - There was no one to represent this request. Sarah Boles mentioned that there is a need for more speed limit ATV signs. There was discussion on the problems with ATVs on Missionary Point, which is closed to ATVs.

Revisions to Ordinance #44 Citation Ordinance, along with the Citation Form - An updated Citation Ordinance was presented. The Citation Ordinance was reviewed by Kay Cederberg, Clerk of Courts in Bayfield County. There was discussion on the Citation Forms, which several options were presented. Mike Jacobs questioned how the citation ordinance will work with ATV users riding on unopened roads and how this relates to Short-Term Rentals who are not obeying the ordinance. The Town Board responded that the Short-Term Rental owner has different consequences for not being compliant according to the Short-Term Ordinance. However, if ATVs are being used on unopened roads, then it becomes the problem for who is driving the ATV. Bayfield County Sheriff's Department can also give citations on town ordinances. This will be addressed at the work meeting on September 21, 2021.

Revisions to Ordinance #26 Landfill Ordinance - A preliminary ordinance was presented. The Town Board will need to study the possible changes. This will be addressed at the work meeting on September 21, 2021.

Discussion on Wake Ordinance – Supervisor Krueger stated that a letter was sent to Grand View to see if they would be supportive of the ordinance. Tabled to the next Town Board meeting.

Communications between the Town of Namakagon and Bayfield County Zoning – Supervisor Krueger and Clerk Bjork will be working on a response to the county.

American Rescue Plan Act Funds - Laura Bjork stated that the ambulance will be requesting more funds this year, specifically to cover a new ambulance. If that cost is broken down per parcel, it exceeds ARPA funds for the Town of Namakagon. This will need to be considered for budgeting purposes.

Library room sponsorship - Town Board determined that the board would like to support, but they need to find the funds in the budget.

Discussion of 2022 Budget – An updated budget was presented. A few changes were made to the budget. Tripp funds #43534 was lowered to \$140,000 in expectation to do Birch Bend Road (\$85,000) and Garmisch Road to Lost Land Lake Road (\$200,000). Tripp/LRIP funds would be 50% of the cost. Road Construction #53315 was lowered to \$300,000. A generator expense was added of \$10,000 to 51600-E. The Library Room expense of \$10,000 was removed from #55110, as the board contemplated making only two payments for the \$30,000; half in 2023 and the other half in 2024.

Review Correspondence

Chronic Wasting Disease Prevention Initiative – The Town Board decided not to support this initiative.

Clerk Bjork stated that Sy Wera is planning the anniversary for the Fire Department next year and came into the office and asked if the Town Board would be interested in supporting the Fire Department with the cost of food. He had stated that the Fire Department might hire a food truck. Clerk Bjork had mentioned that he might want to consider talking with the Lion's Club and the Community Club to help with the food.

Public Comment Brad Palmer expressed concerns about the rental property issues with ATVs on Missionary Point. Three of the six first places on Missionary Point are rentals. There were issues a while ago with a rental, and he called the owner, who took care of the problem. But the town is saying that the owner is not responsible for the issue; the responsibility is the person driving the ATV. Supervisor Krueger stated that if there is a problem with the rental unit, there is a property manager that should be contacted. If the property manager does not take care of the issue, the town would like to know the problem, and they can contact the property manager. Brad Palmer asked who is accountable when the ATVs come through and disregard the laws. Supervisor Krueger stated that if the ATVs are driving on unopened roads, then a citation could be issued. The property manager could be contacted and try to help correct the problem. On the road, it is the renter's problem as long as the rules are communicated appropriately from the owner. Mike Jacobs asked if a letter was sent to 23180 Missionary Point Road in regards to the ATV issues that are going on there. Treasurer Skultety stated that a letter was sent to the owner, who corrected the false advertisement. Mike Jacobs requested that the ordinance add language that ATVs stay on trailers. That way violations would be easier to determine. Supervisor Krueger stated that he didn't think that could legally be done, and he added that he wasn't sure how to enforce that. It was noted that the ordinance stated that trailers cannot park on the grass to help manage the occupancy of the rental. Supervisor McGregor stated that the town cannot limit the laws more than the state laws that exist. Supervisor Krueger stated that if there is a violation, call the Sheriff's Department.

Russ Pagen asked who would enforce the wake ordinance? Supervisor Krueger responded that the County and the DNR would be responsible.

Adrian Wydeven stated that he is part of the Board of Adjustment. He stated that when they review cases, they do consider town input. Supervisor Krueger stated that the town received a letter from Rob Schierman that referred to a meeting back in May from the Board of Adjustment which stated that the town board opinions “muddy the waters”. The Town Board wants to know what is going on in the town and wants to have input. The treatment of zoning to property owners is also an issue. Zoning is not working with the property owners and therefore agents are not representing people. The county ordinance states that the county works with the property owners, which is not what is happening.

Set date for the next Board meeting October 12, 2021 @ 7:30pm.

Work meetings: Tues, Sept 21st 1pm and Tues, Sept 28th 1pm

Community Dinner Thursday, September 9, 2021 @ 6pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 10:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk