

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
FOR – TOWN BOARD MEETING – May 13, 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 3 others.

Agenda was posted in 2 places in town and on the website and noticed in the Daily Press. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from the previous 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 Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #3301 through #3385. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING REPORT – No report as there was no meeting in April or May.

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ASSESSOR CONTRACT –There were two contract proposals submitted: Nordquist Appraisal (\$13,000/yr.) and Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc (\$7,900 for 2021, \$7,950 for 2022 and \$8,000 for 2023). MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the contract with Associated Appraisal Consultants for the three years. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF BIDS FOR PULVERIZING AND GRADING 2.47 MILES OF OLD GRADE ROAD – There were 3 bids submitted: The Kraemer Company \$22,252.24; WK Construction Co., Inc. \$12,586 and Pitlik & Wick, Inc. \$17,290. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the bid from WK Construction for pulverizing Old Grade Road for \$12,586. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ORDINANCE #42 ALARM ORDINANCE – Tabled.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE #50-20 AUTHORIZING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD VOLUNTEER FUNDS – There was information received from Wisconsin Town’s Association that stated an Ordinance needs to be in place before the Fire Department can hold volunteer funds. The Town Board agreed to work on an ordinance and the Fire Department will need to work on by-laws before approving this ordinance. It was noted that all mutual aid agreements need to be updated.

RESOLUTION 2020-02 TO AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT CHECKS – Tabled.

RESOLUTION 2020-03 EMERGENCY DECLARATION RELATED TO COVID-19 – Emergencies were declared as is stated in the Ordinance. The Town has the right to declare an emergency per WI Stat. 323.11. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Resolution 2020-03 Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, state governments, and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020 Bayfield County declared an emergency due to the spread of COVID-19, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Wisconsin declared a Health Emergency in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Namakagon (Town) has been working to protect the health and well-being of its residents and employees from the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare for the impacts the disease is likely to have on the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Namakagon (Town Board) has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the Town in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. S.323.11 the Town Board of the Town of Namakagon, by this resolution, finds and declares that an emergency exists within the Town of Namakagon, Bayfield County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the Town due to the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Town Board may order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the Town of Namakagon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board rules regarding meeting attendance are hereby suspended during the period of emergency and the Town Chairman and the Town Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Town Board remotely, and the Town Board shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the same in compliance with all other applicable laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, based upon the information available to the Town Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall be limited to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist in the Town of Namakagon.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 53-20 TO APPOINT ALTERNATE MEMBERS FOR THE BOARD OF REVIEW – The Town Board was encouraged to pass this Ordinance by WI Town’s Assoc. in case there was a conflict of interest during a Board of Review. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve Ordinance 53-20 to Appoint Alternate Members for the Board of Review. MOTION second by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Whereas, s.70.47(6m)(c) authorities the appointment of alternate members to serve on the board of review when standing members are removed from individual cases;

Now therefore the Town Board of Namakagon, Bayfield County does ordain as follows:

1. ADOPTION

Pursuant to Wis. Stats. 70.47(6m)(c) and 70.46(1), the Town Board hereby provides for the appointment of alternates to serve on the Town Board of Review in the event a standing board member of the Board of Review is removed or unable to serve for any reason.

2. APPOINTMENTS

The following electors of the Town of Namakagon are hereby named as alternates in the order indicated to serve as alternate Board of Review members:

Alternate 1: Arlene Skultety

Alternate 2: Michael D’Andrea

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

The appointments made un this ordinance are for the Year 2020 Board of Review proceedings and succeeding years until such appointments are rescinded by action of the Town Board and effective upon posting as provided by law.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF POSTING PLACES IN TOWN –

Evergreen was a posting place for the requirement of posting 3 places in town (as well as the Town Hall and Lakewoods), but when COVID-19 shut down the businesses, it could no longer be a posting place. However, the requirement currently is if posted on the web, only one other posting site is necessary. There was discussion on placing a sign in the triangle on Dam Road for postings. The usage of Lakewoods posting place was discussed. The Town Board agreed to post on the web and at the Town Hall only, which fulfills the requirement of the law.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS FOR THE TOWN –

There were several options through Square. The best one for the town would be to purchase a terminal at a cost of \$299. There would be no monthly fees, but there would be a fee of \$.10 for every swipe, plus 2.6%. There were a couple of inquiries last year for credit card payments. The Town Board agreed that the need was not great enough to pursue, however, if the need became a bigger demand, they would consider again,

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK – The handbook was presented. The Board made a few changes to the handbook. The Town Board agreed to send to an attorney for approval and then reconsider final approval afterwards.

Chairman Rasmussen appointed Karen Pliska as an Election Worker for the term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE – The Town Board received the Notice of Investigation for Enbridge pipeline in Bad River Reservation.

The Town Board discussed the yearly placement of a Portable Toilet at the Town Hall and the Town Board agreed to have it at the Town Hall again this year.

The Fire Department handed in a quarterly report, which was read.

The Cable Natural History Museum is holding a Summer Benefit and reaching out for support. The Board has already supported them this year through membership.

T&K violated road restrictions this past week. The Town Board agreed to send a warning letter to them.

The town crew requested a pallet of crack filler and an applicator to be ordered for the crack sealing that was in progress. The Town Board agreed to order.

Correspondence was received from the Chequamegon Forest Service stating that meetings will be cancelled due to COVID-19.

Supervisor Krueger stated that he had residents complain about the zoning process through Bayfield County. The zoning issues continue to be a problem.

PUBLIC COMMENT – JoAnn Schultz reported that lots of people came out to vote on election day, and everything went smoothly. Chairman Rasmussen reported that the Lions Club has notified the Chamber that they will not participate in the 4th of July parade.

Set date for the next Board meeting June 9, 2020 @ 7:30pm. Board of Review will be held on May 20th from 5 to 7pm. The Annual Town Board meeting will be held on July 14th at 7pm.

MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to go into Closed Session at 9:19pm pursuant to S.19.85(1)(c) of the WI Statutes for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the Governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The board will reconvene in open session to take necessary action as required and resume regular town business.

MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger at 9:27pm to reconvene in open session to take necessary action as required and resume regular town business. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 9:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk