

**TOWN OF NAMAKAGON**  
**For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, September 8, 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 10 others.

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

The minutes from the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and August 24<sup>th</sup> 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 #3528 through #3586. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING REPORT** – Supervisor Krueger reported that the Plan Commission discussed all the Bayfield County Zoning requests, and all were compliant with the Comp. Plan.

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

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE** – Heather Ludzack reported that the chamber went through a lot of changes in the last year. There was a lot of debt, so there was some creative accounting and reduced staff. The Chamber is currently staffed with one and a half positions. The Chamber is now out of all outstanding debt! In addition to getting free of debt, the Chamber has added a new deck and roof and other smaller things. The basement has been completely cleaned. A decision was made to outsource the bookkeeping. There was a cut to the vacation guide and a cut in the copies printed to save money. A new website will be launching soon. Memberships will be able to go into their own accounts and post information, which allows for a lot of flexibility. A social media manager was hired, and the social media has gone up 600%. Currently Ruth Guess and Heather Ludzack are sharing director duties. Kennedy Fleming is also working at the Chamber through January. The Chamber will continue to save money through the winter, and when things are stable a full-time office manager will be hired. The membership format will be re-vamped in the near future. The decision was made to cancel Fall Fest mainly due to liability. Currently, we are working on an advertising push. We are working on winter plans and ideas. Tourism has been maxed out this past summer and everyone is busy. With 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter in tax revenues, we should be ready to start moving forward.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CABLE UNION AIRPORT EQUIPMENT PURCHASE** – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the WI Dept. Bureau of Aeronautics has authorized purchasing lawn mowing equipment, a tractor and lawn

mower. The commission is looking to purchase a snow blower and bucket for the tractor. This would cost approximately \$15,000. The Cable Rod and Gun Club purchased property from the Airport, and if they were to pay it off, that income could be used to help purchase the additions. The airport commission is requesting the townships to authorize the airport to borrow money for this purchase. The townships would see an increase in budget to be able to pay for the loan. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to authorize the Cable Union Airport to borrow funds up to \$20,000 for a snow blower and bucket. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**UPDATE ON ROAD PROJECTS/PROJECT WITH THE FOREST SERVICE ON GARMISCH ROAD** – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the Forest Service is starting to develop plans for the Forest Lodge Trailhead. The project would involve cutting Garmisch Road down about 5’ at the top of the hill and marking a cross walk and having an overflow blacktop parking area for about 40 cars. The Forest Service requested not to push snow in front of that area. They are requesting to meet in October to discuss plans. Chairman Rasmussen asked the Forest Service if any funds would be available for Garmisch Road, and they are looking into.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A BAYFIELD COUNTY REQUEST FOR TOWN BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON A CLASS A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR GARY & JODIE LARSON FOR A SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT, LOCATED IN 45125 COUNTY HWY D #6 SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 43N, RANGE 6W, CURTIS “E” CONDO, TOWN OF NAMAKAGON** –Supervisor Krueger stated that the request was in compliance with the Comp Plan and there is a holding tank on premise and a new building. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County for the Class A Special Use Permit for Gary & Jodie Larson for a Short Term Rental, because it complies with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, CONTINGENT upon compliance with Rental Criteria and Conditions attached. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A BAYFIELD COUNTY REQUEST FOR TOWN BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR AMANDA STAUEMEYER FOR A MINI STORAGE LOCATED AT 21420 JUNEK’S POINT ROAD IN THE SW ¼ OF SW ¼ , SEC 4, T43N, R6W, TOWN OF NAMAKAGON** – Supervisor Krueger stated that the building is already built, and is being used personally, and now they want to rent out, which needed a special use permit in an RRB Zoning District. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County for the Special Use Permit for Amanda Staudemeyer for a mini storage, because it complies with the Comp. Plan. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**Discussion and possible action on a Bayfield County request for Town Board recommendation on a Class A Special Use Permit for Allen Ness for a Short Term Rental permit, located at 24595 Garden Lake Road, Section 12, Township 43N, Range 6W, Town of Namakagon** – It was noted that this property is being used as a rental already. The property owners had a permit in 2008 and have not rented in 6 years, and now there are new owners and are renting again. MOTION made by Supervisor

McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County for the Class A Special Use Permit for Allen Ness for a Short Term Rental, because it complies with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and has been used previously as a rental, CONTINGENT upon compliance with Rental Criteria and Conditions attached. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**Discussion of bill received from Deductible Recovery Group** – The board agreed to call their attorney and see if the town is responsible for paying the bill and if so, budget for next year.

**Discussion and possible action to the Fireworks Control Ordinance #27** – Clerk Bjork explained changes reflecting a late fee of \$15 and removal of description of fireworks to be purchased and used. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the changes as presented to the Fireworks Control Ordinance #27 and the Fireworks Application. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

**Discussion on communication issues between the Town and Bayfield County Zoning Department** – There has been no response from Bayfield County as of yet from the letter written August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Discussion and possible action on Transfer Site fees** – Chairman Rasmussen stated that steel is not free to get rid of anymore. Taxpayers need to cover the charge for the recyclables to be picked up. Chicago Iron is charging \$.35 per pound for electronics. Fluorescent bulbs cost \$1 to \$2.50 depending on size. Tires cost \$5 without rims and \$10 with rims. Riding mowers and gas grills are \$10. They no longer accept latex paint, only oil-based paint. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to amend transfer site fees according to the prices being charged by Chicago Iron. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**Discussion and possible action on the welcome to Namakagon sign board at the corner of “D” and “M”** – It was noted that no one is taking care of the sign. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to remove the sign on the corner of D and M. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

**Discussion on 2021 Budget** – A preliminary 2021 budget was presented. The board requested actuals and budgets reflected in one document to be able to compare. This will be updated and presented at a work meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm.

**Discussion of the Wisconsin DOA Population estimate Challenge form** – Clerk Bjork stated that a challenge letter was sent to the DOA regarding population based on voter registration numbers increasing. However, the DOA responded and stated that increases and decreases in voter registrations are poor indicators of a municipality’s population change. The challenge was denied. It could be challenged again with different evidence, such as a local school district documenting significant increases, utility provider

documenting significant increases or data that predated people temporarily increasing second-home use due to coronavirus-related concerns.

**Review Correspondence:**

**Request for support from Chequamegon Children’s Theater** – This year the performance was a virtual online experience of the favorite performers from the last 32 years of CCT. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to support the Chequamegon Children’s Theater with \$100. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

**Request for sponsorship from Lakewoods Forest Ridges Golf Course** – The board agreed to not support this sponsorship.

**Request for advertising from Hayward Lakes Visitors Guide** – The board discussed advertising in the Hayward Lakes Visitor Guide, the Chamber and the Bayfield County Visitor and the area coverage that each one gets. Clerk Bjork noted that there were monies left in room tax for advertising. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to advertise in Bayfield County, Chamber and Hayward Lakes. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

**Request for advertising from Bayfield County Visitor & Recreation Guide** – see above.

**Wisconsin Town Association Fall Workshop** – Clerk Bjork and Treasurer Skultety will be attending online. Chairman Rasmussen, Supervisor Krueger and McGregor will be ordering the materials.

Supervisor Krueger stated that there was a request for the road crew to clean up the ditches.

**Public Comment** - Sandy Scoville requested the “no outlet” sign on Juneks Point Road to be moved near 4 Seasons. She also requested the “no hunting beyond this point” sign located in the tree line be moved out of the tree line, but the county requires them back from the road. The board will look at the sign and trim the brush away from the sign. There was a request for 35mph signage on Juneks Point Road as well. It was noted that the road needs to be monitored. There was discussion on cell service. There was a request for a speed limit sign or slow down sign (25mph) on Chicago Avenue. Maybe put up a bike sign as well.

**Set date for the next Board meeting October 13, 2020 @ 7:30pm.**

Clean Sweep Dates: September 29<sup>th</sup> in Price County and September 30<sup>th</sup> in Sawyer County

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 9:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk