

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, November 9, 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 several 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 October 12th meeting and November 1st and 3rd work meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the October 12, November 1st and November 3rd 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 #4183 through #4218. Town Financials are available to the public upon request to the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Supervisor Krueger stated that the commission discussed the Hobby Farm zoning request. It was discussed last month and was not recommended to the county at that point due to non-compliance with the Comp Plan, Sec 10.6.1G Protect and manage local forested areas and other wildlife habitats and it is zoned F1. There was research done since last month for this request. Bayfield County has 61 Hobby Farms with 21 of them being in F1 zoning. The Plan Commission approved the recommendation because it does comply with the Comp Plan, contingent that an ER Preliminary Assessment be done through the DNR.

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

Reconsideration of Town Board recommendation for Bayfield County Planning and Zoning for a Special Use B Permit for Revocable Trust of Jessica Tischer for a Hobby Farm located at 43480 Ehrman Road, Town of Namakagon – A letter was received from Brad Schaefer, a landowner adjacent to the property. There were concerns of the amount of room on 6 acres for the animals, predators coming to the area, noise, smell and waste smell and removal. Mr. Tischer explained that there will not be a lot of animals on the property. They are being raised to butcher, and there will be a rotation of animals. The waste will decompose plus it will be used for mulch in gardens. Supervisor Krueger stated that the recommendation from the Comp Plan to do the assessment on the property was not necessary as there was no state land surrounding the property, only forest land. Forestry sent a letter to Bayfield County with no concerns. Sarah Boles contacted the Forest Service and there was no response. Supervisor McGregor went on-site and walked the terrain, and the property is on high ground with a variety of terrain before getting to Chippewa Lake. A map was presented of the area. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County Planning and

Zoning for a Special Use B Permit for Revocable Trust of Jessica Tischer for a Hobby Farm located at 43480 Ehrman Road, Town of Namakagon. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger with 2 stipulations: installation of below ground barrier to prevent animals from digging under the fence and completion of the ER Assessment if anyone has issues with the permit, however it is not required. MOTION carried.

ATV Route approximately 1200' on Namakagon Sunset Road from the Public Landing – Evan Koch presented a petition to the board to open this ATV route. The petition had 4 out of the 6 property owners' signatures for support of opening this route. Sarah Boles submitted a letter. She is not located on the route, however had concerns about speed limits and regulating the route. She requested that the route should be used with respect to all property owners in consideration of the speed and noise. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the opening of an ATV route from South Garden Avenue to Sunset Lane. It was noted that a "local access only – no through trail" sign needs to be posted at South Garden Avenue on Namakagon Sunset and a "no ATV" sign on Namakagon Sunset past Sunset Lane. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Room Tax Rate – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the Room Tax Rate was discussed at the last Four Town's Meeting. The four towns were considering raising the rate from 4% to 8%. Supervisor Krueger stated that the four towns are not compliant with each other, and they are looking for compliance among the townships, especially with abutting lakes and properties. Room Tax is a benefit to the Chamber, Town, and area. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to raise the Room Tax rate to 8%, contingent that there is consistency within the four townships. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried. There was discussion on how the Room Tax monies are divided to the different entities.

Short Term Rental Fee – Supervisor Krueger stated that the Town of Namakagon has a \$100 one-time fee for Short Term Rentals. The county has a one-time fee; however, the health department has a permit that needs to be renewed yearly. The Town of Cable is considering charging a \$750 fee yearly. The City of Bayfield has an annual fee of \$750, but they do all the work, including health department requirements. Supervisor Krueger stated that it would be beneficial to charge an annual fee to be able to manage renters in the area. Supervisor McGregor added that the fee covers the administration costs for Short Term rentals. There was discussion of a due date for an annual permit. It was suggested that the permit follow suite of the county (the Tourist Rooming House application). MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve an annual \$100 Short Term Rental fee. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger. It was noted that the ordinance will need to be updated. MOTION carried.

Town Road Improvement Plan – The Town Road Improvement Plan needed to be updated to include a 5-year project plan. The updated 2022 – 2027 plan included Lake Five Road, Birch Bend Road, Garmisch Road, McCann Springs Road, Bear Point and Circle Drive, McCloud Lake Road, Bass Lake Road, the Eastern part of White Bass,

Frels Road, Crystal Lake Road, Dam Rd and Juneks Point Road, East Lake Five Road and Buffalo Lake Road.

Ordinance #25 Public Nuisance Ordinance – Tabled.

Resolution 2021-07 2022 County Library Levy Exemption – MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve Resolution 2021-07 2022 County Library Levy Exemption.

Resolution No. 2021-07

2022 County Library Levy Exemption

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes S.43.64(2) provides for the exemption from the County Library Levy for any municipality which has higher municipal library expenditures than the municipality's share of the County Library Levy, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Namakagon has appropriated and will expend \$63,000 on local library service in 2022, and the Town of Namakagon's share of the 2022 County Library Levy is \$61,902.76.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Namakagon hereby applies for exemption from the Bayfield County Library Levy for 2022.

MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Appointment of Fire Chief for 2022 – Supervisor McGregor stated that the Fire Department had their annual meeting on September 9th. Chief Henry Rieckhoff previously advised the department that he would be stepping down as Fire Chief, but would continue to be involved. Dave Haan was elected unanimously as the candidate for Fire Chief and Tom Biasi and Henry Rieckhoff were elected as Assistant Chiefs. Dave Haan has been with the department since 1984. He meets and exceeds all requirements with Ordinance 54.20. In addition, he is a fire instructor at the tech college and a regional trainer as well. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to appoint Dave Haan as Fire Chief for the Namakagon Volunteer Fire Department. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Review Correspondence

Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Supervisor Krueger stated that the amendment was very difficult to understand. Two changes were made; one being that a property cannot be appealed after zoning makes a determination for the septic.

Loon Saloon Request for Support – The owners of Loon Saloon requested financial support of \$1,500 to obtain new directional signs for the Namakagon stick trail. This will be forwarded to the next months agenda.

Thank you note from Cable Area Chamber of Commerce – The Cable Area Chamber of Commerce sent a thank you for the support during Fall Fest.

Russ Pagen sent a letter to the Town Board concerning the levy increase notice that was posted.

Public Comment – None.

Set date for the next Board meeting December 15, 2021 @ 7:30pm.

Plan Commission meeting, December 1, 2021 @ 7pm

Public Budget Hearing, November 18, 2021 @ 7pm.

Community Dinner Thursday, December 2, 2021 @ 6pm.

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 9:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk