

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, September 12, 2023
At - NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL – 7:30pm
MINUTES

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Present were Chairman Rasmussen, Supervisors Jack McGregor and Jim Krueger, Treasurer Arlene Skultety, Clerk Bjork and 10 others.

A moment of silence was given for the passing away of former Clerk Toni White.

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 the August monthly meeting was 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 #5147 through #5189. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Supervisor Krueger stated that Dave Hanks was appointed as chairperson for the Plan Commission. Both zoning recommendations met the criteria of the comp plan. There was discussion on a biking/hiking path to get people off the highway. There is still an opening on the Plan Commission if anyone is interested.

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

Discussion and possible action of Town Board recommendation for Bayfield County Planning and Zoning for a Class A Special Use Permit for Marc & Deana Halle to construct a driveway with shoreland grading located in Sec. 3, T43N, R6W, Lot 3 CSM 2056 in Doc. 2020R-58517 on Circle Drive N, Town of Namakagon – Marc Dahl explained that the permit is for the construction of a driveway. The permit is needed because it is within 100’ of the lake. They will be building a home possibly next year. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County for the approval of the construction of the driveway, because it is compliant with the Comprehensive Plan. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Discussion and possible action of Town Board recommendation for Bayfield County Planning and Zoning for a Class A Special Use Permit for Michael & Mary McParlan to remove existing deck, alter walkways and patio, add steps to dock on White Bass Lake (over 1,000 sq. ft. of disturbance) located at 30890 White Bass Road in Sec. 25, T43N, R5W, Town of Namakagon – MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the recommendation to Bayfield County, because it is compliant with the Comprehensive Plan. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Redevelopment of Transfer Site landfill well – The town is waiting on an estimate from Cedar Corporation for the rest of the work that needs to be done. There was discussion about if another well is needed.

Update on ARPA expenditures – There is approximately \$9,000 left in ARPA funds that need to be incurred by December of 2024. There was discussion on what to spend the funds on; outdoor privy, upgraded generator for the shop, snowblower for transfer site or tables and chairs for the Town Hall. Clerk Bjork will do some research on what would qualify.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Project – There are several projects that would qualify for this grant. The grant limits are \$10,000 to \$16,000 for local jurisdictions, and the application is due on November 15th. Some of the projects include a brush site, curbside brushing, and improving access along road rights of way. Supervisor Krueger will get information on what roads could use clean-up.

2024 Budget – Some of the projects to be considered for the 2024 budget are: re-finishing floors in the Town Hall, employee raises, updated printer for office, WDNR Healthy Lake Grant support, Delmore Consulting, 2026 Re-Val, Badger Books for elections, Express Vote Machine for elections, outdoor lighting on West side of the building, equipment replacement of the tractor/mower, Garmisch road work, overlay on Dam Road, overlay on Frels Road, wood chipper, folding machine for the office, high capacity well for the Fire Dept and well for the demo site.

The Fire Dept is requesting \$118,800, an 8% increase from last year. They are also requesting an extra \$10,000 this year and next year for necessary equipment replacement. The Fire Dept is in need of a high capacity well. The cost may be up to \$60,000. The trucks have used water from the lakes, but it is building up silt/rocks in the valves which is causing problems for the trucks. It would cost \$14,000 to \$20,000 to rebuild the pumps. There are currently no grant funds available. It was questioned whether the project would qualify for ARPA funds. It would be very good to add a 10,000 tank for back up of water, which could be used for pump testing, which then could be done on site.

Great Divide Ambulance is requesting the same subsidy as last year and is also requesting a donation letter to go out to the community specifically for medical equipment; 4 IV Infusion Pumps and a Stair Chair.

Appointment of Plan Commission member to fill an existing term thru April 2024 – Tabled.

Review Correspondence

Cable Area Fall Fest Sponsorship – MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve sponsoring the Cable Fall Fest with \$300 from Room Tax funds. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Upcoming meetings:

Bayfield County Comp Plan listening session Wednesday, Sept 27, 2023, 5pm to 7pm at the Cable Community Center
Bayfield County Comp Plan Committee Open House for public input Wednesday, Sept 13, 2023 (virtual as well)
Ashland/Bayfield County Unit Meeting Monday, Sept 25, 2023 7pm
Vaccination Clinics Thursday, Sept 28, 2023, 10am to Noon and Thursday, Oct 19, 2023, 2pm to 4pm
2023 Town Law Conference (virtual) Friday, Oct 6, 2023, 10am to 4pm

Public Comment

Kathy Johnson thanked the Town Board for the pickleball courts that are available at the Town Hall. They are very much appreciated and are used quite often! There was discussion on needs. The Town Board will order another net for the courts out of room tax funds.

JoAnn Schultz stated that the library will be sending out donation letters to support the expansion project. She requested the Town of Namakagon to donate envelopes and labels for the mailings. The Town Board agreed to support the library with the request.

Set date for the next Board meeting, October 10, 2023 @ 7:30pm
Plan Commission meeting, October 2, 2023 @ 7pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 8:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk