

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, January 9, 2024
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 7 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 the December meeting were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the Town Board monthly 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 #5328 through #5364. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Supervisor Krueger reported that the Comp Plan discussed many things, including changing the board to a five-member board from a seven-member board. There are currently 6 members. It would be a Town Board decision. David Hanks stated that the members will be reviewing the Comp Plan from 2019.

Library Report –The report will be posted on the website. The board approved a letter of support for the Forest Lodge Library expansion project.

Discussion of Water Sample Results from the Well Testing at the Transfer Site – The ground water tests done by Gene Lemmenes were elevated on the new well. Gene Lemmenes was contacted, and nothing needs to be done at this time. The testing will continue to be monitored.

Discussion of Town Driveway and Highway Access Ordinance #37 – There was confusion with the wording of the ordinance in Section VI (A)(2). Anytime a driveway is installed that accesses a town road, a driveway permit is required. If access to a driveway is through an easement and there is no need for a new access point to a town road, a driveway permit is not needed. The Town Clerk will follow up with a non-compliant driveway.

Fireworks Permit Procedure – The Fireworks Ordinance procedure was discussed. There were changes in the ordinance to include deleting Sec. V(C)(1), adding Sec. V(E)(8) Businesses within the Town of Namakagon and changing Sec. IX late fee from \$15 to \$35.

Ordinance #31 Town of Namakagon Sign Overlay – Bayfield County had a resident pick up an application for an off-premise sign. Ruth Holstrom , Bayfield County Zoning Director, was inquiring the intent of the Town of Namakagon overlay within the Bayfield County Ordinance, specifically in Sec. 13-1-67(c) that refers to “restricting” all new off-premise signs. The Town Sign Overlay Ordinance is quite clear that the Town Board agrees that all new permanent off-premise signs should be banned. The Town Board agrees with the original intent of the town ordinance.

Discussion of Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant – There were 58 applications received requesting \$519,00. The Town of Namakagon was approved for \$12,000 out of the \$19,988.92 that was requested. This work will include right-of-way maintenance on several town roads. The project will be completed by November 1, 2024.

Discussion of Assessor Contract Changes – The assessors, Robert & Perri Campbell, use software that was contracted with the town for \$350. The cost of the software increased to approximately \$680 due to a new company buying the software. The Town Board agreed to have the assessor include the software cost in their contract with the town.

Review Correspondence

- WTA 2024 Districts Meeting will be held at Lakewoods on Friday, April 5, 2024. The Town Board will be attending.
- Ashland/Bayfield County Unit meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2024 @ 7pm at the Pilsen Town Hall in Ashland.
- It was noted that a letter was received regarding Short-Term Rental renewals and will be addressed in March at the Town Board meeting.

Public Comment

It was noted that the Christmas tree was lit in memory of the 6 residents who had passed away in 2023: Toni and Corky White, Kelly Nelson, Larry Scoville, Bunk Kofal and Karen Johnson.

Set date for the next Board meeting, February 13, 2024 @ 7:30pm
Plan Commission meeting, February 5, 2024 @ 7pm
Namakagon Community Club, February 1, 2024 @ 6pm
Town Work Meeting with the Road Crew, January 25, 2024 @ 1pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk