

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, February 13, 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, 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 January monthly meeting and work 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. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the work meeting minutes and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Clerk Bjork; checks approved and signed #5365 through #5407. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Dave Hanks reported that they are still looking for an additional commissioner. The commission is working on job specifications and an attendance policy to be able to recruit people so they know the expectations for the committee. The commission is reviewing the 2019 Comp Plan (this would be a 5 year review). The 2024 budget has \$500 for the Plan Commission, which doesn't meet the needs for the committee to meet every month. The commission will be getting together monthly, and the budget will need to increase. The Town Board had no issues with this request. The short-term rental changes from the county were discussed. The commission questioned if the definition of public nuisance was clear and enforceable in the Namakagon Public Nuisance Ordinance #25. The commission discussed the quiet time in the Town Rental Ordinance #41E-23. There were questions about the county ordinance not addressing the quiet time. The commission discussed the penalties in the county ordinance and questioned whether they were sufficient and if they were enforceable.

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

Lease between Cable Natural History Museum, Forest Lodge Library Board of Trustees, Town of Cable and Town of Namakagon – A 2024 lease was presented by Amanda Westlund. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the 2024 lease between Cable Natural History Museum, Forest Lodge Library Board of Trustees, Town of Cable and Town of Namakagon. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Kreuger and carried.

Beneficiary Accounts with Superior Choice Credit Union for Great Divide Ambulance Service – This is no longer needed.

Upgrade of internet at the Town Hall – Supervisor McGregor met with Norvado at the Town Hall to consider internet options, extending the use of the internet to the groomer barn. It's been over 7 years since this system has been upgraded. The current equipment is no longer supported and is limited in its capacity. Jeremiah from Norvado gave two options; upgrade all equipment and provide service to the groomer barn \$473 and \$156/month, and the second to maintain current equipment and just add connection to the groomer barn \$1,746.30 and \$20/month, plus there would be antennas that need to be installed. The town currently owns the equipment. Norvado no longer sells equipment but leases the equipment. The newer equipment will be more secure and multi-ban. Norvado will maintain and update their leased equipment with software upgrades when needed. System upgrades will include coverage in the parking lot. Supervisor McGregor recommended the upgraded package to keep up to date with internet services. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to update all the equipment at \$473 and \$156/month. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Telephone lines at the Town Hall – Clerk Bjork requested the Town Board to disconnect the fax line as it is not used. The Town Board will discontinue the fax line.

Small Bridge/Culvert Program – WTA recommends a contractor to come and do the inventory part of this project. There was discussion on whether the road crew would be called upon by the contractor to help. The contractor agreement did not include any need for help. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to contract with Delmore Consulting for the first part of the inventory part of the project. It was noted that the road crew shouldn't be taking their time for this project as a contractor was being hired. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Update Election Day Emergency Response Plan & Municipal Emergency Operation Plan – The updates were presented. It was noted that changes were made to contact information only. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to update the Election Day Emergency Response Plan & the Municipal Emergency Operation Plan as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Transfer Site Procedures – A demolition site check-in sheet was presented. This is to better manage outside contractors using the dump and also better observe the contents of what is being dumped. It was noted the gate must stay closed. It may take more time to use the form, but it will be better monitored. It was noted to order 3-ply check-in sheets: one for the contractor, one for the treasurer and one for the transfer site operator. The Town Board agreed to include the check-in sheet in the procedures for the transfer site.

Pest Control Contract – There have been some issues with Plunkett's Pest Control as they are billing the town without servicing the town. It was noted that Lakewoods uses Guardian. The clerk will look into available options.

Bayfield County Ordinance Amendment Title 13-1-35;13-1-4(a), 13-1-62(a) – Supervisor Krueger stated that it is a direct copy of the town’s ordinance. Minor revisions have been made to our ordinance, and it works. They say that this is a huge change, however; they do not mention the towns input in it all. How are they to handle this when they cannot handle what they already have? There was no wording referring to cooperation with the townships. A letter will be put together and sent to zoning and the committee to address the issues and bring to their attention at their meeting on Feb. 15th.

Fireworks Control Ordinance #27 – The updated ordinance was presented along with an updated fireworks permit application. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the updated ordinance and permit application to include an allowable rain date on the application. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Drug Testing Company – It seems that out of the three employees the town has listed for random drug testing, at least one is getting picked each quarter, even though we are in a pool with many others. It doesn’t seem statistically possible. The Town of Cable and Drummond use Advanced Drug Testing and the County of Ashland and the Town of Grand View use Bellin Health, same as our township. The clerk will look into advanced drug testing to determine whether the board would like to stay with Bellin Health or change to Advanced Drug Testing.

Town Hall Sign – Tabled to next month.

Review Correspondence

Chairman Rasmussen stated that Larry Ludzack has pulp to remove from Wilderness Road and then travel the roads to Hwy 77. There was discussion on requiring a \$25,000 bond for coverage. The board agreed that if he is bonded, the town would allow him to travel on those roads.

Public Comment – None.

Set date for the next Board meeting, Thursday, March 14, 2024 @ 7:30pm
Plan Commission meeting, April 1, 2024 @ 7pm
Namakagon Community Club, March 7, 2024 @ 6pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 8:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk