

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Thursday, March 14, 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 Skultety, Clerk Bjork and 6 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 February monthly meeting was 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 #5408 through #5439. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – No report.

Library Report –The report will be posted on the website. A letter of support was given to the library for an expansion project grant application.

Rumble on the Lake Event – The Rumble on the Lake Event will be held at the Evergreen on May 31st and June 1st. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the Rumble on the Lake Event. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Hungry Bear 100 Event – The Hungry Bear 100 Event will be held on some of the roads in the Town of Namakagon and a food station will be at the Town Hall on May 11th. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the Hungry Bear 100 Event, contingent upon payment. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Short Term Renewal Applications for 4/1/2024 through 3/31/2025 – A list of 43 rental renewals were presented to the board. Only one STR is not in compliance with the town ordinances. A list of email complaints since 2021 was presented with references to calls made to Bayfield County Sheriff's Department. Town Rental Ordinance #41E-23 states in Section VI (C)(1) Each STR is required to comply with all local ordinances. The complaints are a result of non-compliance of ordinance #32R and ordinance #41E-23. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to deny the application for renewal to Griswold Retreat on 23180 Missionary Point Drive because of multiple violations of the town's ordinances. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor. It was noted that a warning letter was sent on September 21, 2021, to the local contact and the owner. It was noted to follow up with the Sheriff's office for details on the violations. It was also noted to notify Bayfield County Zoning and Health Department of the denial. MOTION carried.

MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the remaining list of renewals (42 of them) contingent upon receipt of application and compliance of the requirements on the application. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Short-Term Applications for Telemark Interval Owner's Association located at 43155 Telemark Pointe Road, Tax ID 38905 and 38906 in the Town of Namakagon – Bayfield County Health Dept. was notified of these additional rentals. They will be inspecting on their next trip. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the short-term application, contingent that the towns ordinance be attached. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Short-Term Applications for Henry Bigott located at 25200 S. Garden Ave., Tax ID 25190 in the Town of Namakagon – Bayfield County has a valid permit for this location in conjunction with their other rental. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the short-term application, contingent that the towns ordinance be attached. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Short-Term Applications for Daniel & William Sullivan located at 40065 Buffalo Lake Road, Tax ID 37842 in the Town of Namakagon – Bayfield County has a valid permit for this location in conjunction with their other rental. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the short-term application, contingent that the towns ordinance be attached. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Fire Department account at Superior Choice Credit Union – Not needed.

Upgrade of internet at the Town Hall – Supervisor McGregor reported that the new equipment installation is complete. It is a monitored and managed network from Norvado. An antennae was installed to have better internet in the parking lot, and there is now internet at the groomer barn.

Pest Control Contract – There were two quotes from Guardian at \$2,300/yr. and Blakeman Exterminating at \$1,200/yr. for the Town Hall and both Fire Dept. buildings. Plunkett's has continued to bill for service that is not being provided. The current charge from Plunkett's is approximately \$1,100. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to end the contract with Plunkett's and go with Blakeman Exterminating after termination from Plunkett's. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Drug Testing Company – Bellin cost the town \$60/yr. Advanced Drug Testing out of ND would charge \$250/yr. The Town Board chose to stay with Bellin.

Town Hall Sign – Six companies were contacted and only two were able to offer services. Newman Signs would be able to make an aluminum sign. Woodland Signs would be able to make a cedar sign for approximately \$2,000 with the town road crew providing the cedar posts. They also could do an aluminum sign for approximately \$1,400 with posts. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to pursue the 4x6 cedar sign

from Woodland Signs with the road crew providing the cedar posts. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Review Correspondence –

- a. Rumble of the Lake – MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to support Rumble on the Lake with \$250. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor. It was noted that the expenditure come from room tax funds. MOTION carried.
- b. Supervisor Krueger stated that he received a call from Mike Furtak concerned about the fee changes within the Bayfield County ordinance. A new permit would be around \$4,000 from Bayfield County, plus the septic fee and UDC fee, for a 1,200 sq. ft. house. He inquired about Namakagon doing their own zoning. The county is thinking of profits, not service to the people. Barksdale is pursuing their own zoning due to county zoning issues. A permit is taking about 3 months to be approved from Bayfield County. To get the permit after approval takes another month. These are some of the complaints about county zoning. There continues to be a lack of communication with the county to the townships. This will be on the agenda for next month.
- c. Supervisor Krueger stated that Karl Kastrosky called and inquired about vacancy of an easement on Birch Bend Road. This will be placed on the agenda for next month.
- d. The Pilsen Town Hall meeting will be held on March 25th at 7pm. The Town Board will be attending.

Public Comment –

- a. There was an inquiry on Short-Term Rentals, and it was noted that the property owner must sign a compliance statement with Ordinance #41 on the application, and within that ordinance owners are required to comply with all town and county ordinances..
- b. It was noted that there were elk seen tonight close to the Town Hall.

Election Day, April 2, 2024 – Polls Open 7am until 8pm

Set date for the next Board meeting, Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 7:30pm

Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday, April 16, 2024 @ 7pm

Plan Commission meeting, April 1, 2024 @ 7pm

Namakagon Community Club, April 4, 2024 @ 6pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk