

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, June 11, 2024
At - NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL – 7:30pm
MINUTES

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Present were Chairman Robert Rasmussen, Supervisors Jack McGregor and Jim Krueger, Treasurer Arlene Skultety, Clerk Laura Bjork and 16 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 May 14th and the May 29th meetings were 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 #5517 through #5552. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Dave Hanks reported the Comp Plan Commission recommended the approval of the Special Use Permit. They continue to review the Comprehensive Plan. The commission will be taking a hiatus for the summer and then moving forward afterwards on the Comp Plan, as long as there isn't any agenda items to address.

Library Report –The report will be posted on the website. A letter updating the expansion project was read, and the library thanked the town for their support.

Opening Bids for LRIP project, Garmisch Road – One bid was received from Northwoods Paving of \$236,841.49. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the bid for \$236,841.49. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried. There was discussion on the timeframe of the project and the base work.

Lake Monitoring program at the three lake landings – Terry Cramer, President of the Lake Association, stated that the association would like a better idea of how the Clean Boats/Clean Waters grant works. It fell through the cracks last year. He understands that currently the Namakagon Lake Association (NLA) is in charge of applying for the grant and the clerk administers the program. How can the whole thing work together? The one who previously did the grant was not on the board and when he left the area there was some confusion, and the grant was missed. He proposed the town do the grant so it doesn't get lost. Part of the grant is administrative fees which could be included in the grant. The applicant of the grant can be a township. The clerk already gets all the bills. NLA could pay dues to the town to cover costs. Supervisor Krueger explained that in 2004 the landing supervision was done by the board members. Then Northland College reached out and students participated in the supervision. Northland College paid the

students and NLA reimbursed them. In 2014 the students couldn't do it anymore, then NLA started hiring people. The NLA was not set up for employees, so the town agreed to take the employee part of the project. The NLA was still doing scheduling and grant writing. The previous grant writer was moving and discussed this with a member who was to take this part over. Do to some scheduling issues, the clerk was asked to do the schedule, which her cost is not reimbursed by the NLA. Cameras were bought with the grant funds, and the maintenance and monitoring fee was covered by the town. We are in a town with multiple lakes and we have a lake assoc. A town can do the application, but it is preferred by the DNR to have a lake assoc. be the recipient. He is concerned with a lack of communication with the NLA board because there is a change in board quite often, and things fail when this happens. The application takes about 20 minutes to fill out. The agreement was the town does the scheduling, and NLA does the grant. Protecting the lake is part of the purpose of NLA. The NLA has to have their part in it. The clerk puts in a lot of time and has enough to do. Chairman Rasmussen stated that Terry Cramer had a great idea. The town wants to continue the lake monitoring this year even though there is not any grant funds. Terry Cramer stated that the board has raised a lot of money. He suggested cutting back hours in monitoring to save money, however, NLA will cover the cost of the lake monitors. Supervisor Krueger mentioned that Funny's Bay is in Grand View and the Town of Grand View should be contacted for any changes that would be done there. Supervisor McGregor added the DNR looks for participation. At some point the DNR may have limited funding and become more selective. We need to work together as stakeholders in the program. We also need to be aggressive in taking care of the lake. It is important to our homes, property values, and economy. We need to work together. Dave Hanks, Lake Monitor and NLA member, stated that he has been monitoring for a few years now. He stated the clerk does an excellent job in keeping the schedule. That is a good central contact, and she helps with training. That part of it is done well. He agrees with Supervisor McGregor. For the grant there needs to be 200 hours at each landing, and if we choose to cut back, the DNR will wonder what is going on. From an employee standpoint, there are employees that have made a commitment to do that job and to cut their hours would not be a good idea. The monitors contact a small portion of the people using the lake, and he has noticed that people appreciate someone being there. A lot of boats are coming from the cities, and there are a lot more lake issues where they are coming from. The DNR has included monitoring the transportation of live bait and transferring into the lake. The lake monitors communicate that, helping to educate the people and also welcoming people to the area. He mentioned possibly getting a decontamination station. There are a lot of different aspects that need to be considered. Terry Cramer responded that there is no grant this year, but the lake monitoring will continue. The decontamination stations work well, but are extremely costly and are used for one entrance/exit on a lake and we have multiple landings. Kevin Wiersma added that the NLA is here because things weren't working well, and they want to work together so the mistakes don't happen again. Clerk Bjork stated that she started scheduling when there was a hardship with getting someone to schedule and be around for the employees to contact. She receives all the lake monitor forms and tallies all the hours and enters the info into spreadsheets and gives a copy to NLA. However, there are always discrepancies in the forms to what is entered into the SWIMS data for the grant, and she doesn't understand. All the receipts are in the office

and there is knowledge of what is going on. It would seem that it would be appropriate for the clerk to do the grant because she has access to all the information. And then the issues of board changes on the NLA would not be a problem. Supervisor Krueger stated that in September, the NLA board needs to give assignments to board members so this confusion doesn't happen when the board changes. The grant reimbursement has been done by the same person. There is definitely a lack of communication. Jim Shaffer stated that the simple solution is to have the NLA do the grant and be a liaison to the Town Board. Supervisor Krueger noted that the bylaws of the NLA state that the lakes should be a priority. Supervisor McGregor agreed that this is an easy fix and the NLA board should put policies into place to allow it to run smoothly. The town could do it all, but the DNR wants collaboration with the Lake Assoc. Kevin Wiersma stated that the NLA will do the grant and be in contact with the clerk to proceed. Chairman Rasmussen thanked NLA for coming and their continued lake support.

Town Board recommendation to Bayfield County Planning and Zoning for a Class A Special Use Permit for Bab of the Northwoods, Inc. for a Short-Term Rental for the apartment above the garage located at 40065 Buffalo Lake Road, Town of Namakagon – The Plan Commission approved the recommendation to the Town Board. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the Class A Special Use Permit for Bab of the Northwoods, Inc. for a Short-Term Rental for the apartment above the garage located at 40065 Buffalo Lake Road, because it is in compliance with the Comp Plan, contingent of compliance with the Town of Namakagon Rental Ordinance #41E-23. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Resolution No.2024-02 by the Town Board per s.43.58 of Wis. Statutes to Authorize the construction of the Library Expansion Facility – MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Resolution No. 2024-2 to Authorize the construction of the Library Expansion as follows:

Whereas, s. 43.58(1) of Wis. Statutes authorizes the Town Board to have authority to authorize the construction of a new library building; and

Whereas, the property located at 12430 County Highway M, Tax ID 10801, specifically the Village of Cable E ½ of Lots 13-16, Block 2 in 2016R-566601 125V, located in S18, T43N, R07W is deeded to both the Town of Cable and the Town of Namakagon on behalf of the Forest Lodge Library requiring the Town Board to have approval of constructing buildings; and

Whereas, the floor space of the current library building is insufficient to provide room for modern library function including programming and community gathering space; and

Whereas, at a properly noticed special town meeting of the electors, held on the 11th day of June 2024, the electors approved authorization for the Town Board of the Town of Namakagon to construct an expansion onto the existing Forest Lodge Library; and

Whereas, a Town Board Meeting has been called and properly noticed for this 11th day of June 2024 to authorize the Forest Lodge Library Board to construct the Library Expansion Facility pursuant to s. 43.58(1), Wis. Statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Namakagon, Bayfield County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote duly assembled and voting on this 11th day of June 2024, hereby resolves and orders as follows:

The Town Board of the Town of Namakagon, Bayfield County, Wisconsin hereby authorizes the Forest Lodge Library Board to construct an expansion onto the existing Forest Lodge Library.

The town clerk shall properly post or publish this resolution as required by law under s. 60.80(1)(a), Wis. Statutes within 30 days of adoption.

MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Outdoor Bathrooms at the Town Hall – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the Town Board received a 50/50 matching grant for \$5,000 for outside bathrooms at the Town Hall. The board will continue to work on the project. There will be a holding tank system with a shell on the top to be contracted out.

Support of Bayfield Electric for underground lines on Lake Five Road – Supervisor McGregor stated that there has been a lot of outages on Lake Five and depending on weather, when the outages happen it is difficult to get to and fix. Bayfield Electric has an interest in putting the feed line underground. A few years ago, the board supported going underground, but part of the property was forest service property, and that became difficult to get approved. They would like to install in the town's right-of-way and start at County M and go right down the road. They want to make sure the town has no plans to for construction on that road other than maintenance and gravel. There was not a request for an easement. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to get a letter of support for the underground lines on Lake Five Road as there was no upcoming road construction planned for Lake Five Road. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

ATV violations on Missionary Point Drive – Chairman Rasmussen stated that there were violations with ATVs on routes that are not open on Missionary Point Drive. Bayfield County Sheriff's Dept. was contacted, and the right steps were taken. The Road Crew is working on updating the ATV sign to a bigger sign on Missionary Point to be more visible. The Short-Term Rental for sale had it listed with direct ATV access, and the agency was contacted and their advertising was changed. Mike Jacobs noted that the problem was with a different rental unit than where the previous issues were from. He requested a letter of non-compliance be sent notifying them of the issue. Jean Jacobs added that it is also a Public Nuisance. The board agreed to send a letter to the property owner and manager.

Mower Tractor bid notice – The Town Board agreed to get a bid posted to allow for opening of bids at the next board meeting so that the mower can be ordered for purchase in 2025.

Town Hall Sign – An updated sign was presented. The board agreed to use spotty clouds and a sun with rays with the new presented sign. There will be one sign for the Town of Namakagon, Community Center and Town Hall with Est. 1913 and then a drop down with amenities listed.

Future Development of Transfer Site – Tabled until the survey is completed.

Survey at Transfer Site – Phase 1 includes preliminary field work and mapping with an estimated cost of \$3,200-\$3,500. Phase 2 includes exterior corner staking with an estimated cost of \$1,300-\$1,500. Phase 3 includes ribbon entire exterior boundary with an estimate cost of \$1,800-\$2,000. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to contract for a completion of Phase 1 and 2. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Walking/Biking/Recreation Trail – Clerk Bjork and Treasurer Skultety researched the budget and concluded that there are funds available in the Room Tax account. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the engineering of the walking/biking/recreation trail with Room Tax Funds. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried. Contact was made with Grand View and they will be addressing the trail plans.

4th of July Fireworks –MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to donate \$2,500 towards fireworks to be displayed by a contractor at Lakewoods with Room Tax Funds. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Fitness Path Mosquito Control – Supervisor McGregor noted that if the town chose to spray it would kill all the bugs including dragonflies. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the application of mosquito control for the fitness path. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Town of Namakagon Sign Overlay Ordinance – Supervisor Krueger explained that when the town approved the Sign Overlay Ordinance in 2011 somehow the county did not approve the same wording. The difference is one word; the town adopted the wording “bans”, and the county adopted the wording “restricting”. This caused issues when an application was made to the county for a sign. The county approved the sign due to the wording in their ordinance. If the town wants the wording changed in the county ordinance, the county requires the town to pay for the change, however, next year they are re-doing their ordinances and if we change in the midst of their change, then the town does not have to pay. The board agreed to wait to have the wording changed. Supervisor Krueger stated that there are political signs being placed around town, and he was under the impression that there were certain rules with election signs. He was told the county sign ordinance does not address election signs. Their exempt signage under other events in their ordinance does not include election signs. It was noted that there is a difference if signs are posted on private property verse public property.

Resolution to Designate Public Depository and Authorize Withdrawal of Town Moneys – MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the Resolution to Designate Public Depository and Authorize Withdrawal of Town Moneys. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Approval of Liquor License applications and respective agents as published:

- a. *The Lakewoods, Inc., Agent Philip Rasmussen, 42830 Lake Ridge Road, Cable, WI for the premises known as Lakewoods Resort, located at 21540 County Hwy M, Cable, WI.*
- b. *The Lakewoods, Inc., Agent Philip Rasmussen, 42830 Lake Ridge Road, Cable, WI for the premises known as Forest Ridges Golf Course, located at 42740 Clubhouse Road, Cable, WI.*
- c. *Garmisch Inn, LLC, Agent Dennis Howard, 23040 Garmisch Road, Cable, WI for the premises located at 23040 Garmisch Road, Cable, WI.*
- d. *Garmisch Inn, LLC, Agent Dennis Howard, 23040 Garmisch Road, Cable, WI 54821 for the premises known as Cable Lodge, located at 20100 County Highway M, Cable, WI.*
- e. *The Evergreen Tavern, LLC, Agent Tali Amundson, 41615 Frels Road, Cable, WI for the premises located at 20105 Co Hwy M, Cable, WI.*
- f. *HB Recreational Properties, Inc., Agent Henry Bigott, 25200 S. Garden Ave., Cable, WI for the premises known as Hank's Landing located at 25200 S. Garden Ave., Cable, WI.*
- g. *Loon Patrol, LLC, Agent Travis Jung, 46055 East Jackson Lake Rd, Cable, WI for the premises known as Loon Saloon, located at 45135 County Hwy D, Cable, WI.*
- h. *Mac's Park Place dba Roo's Bar and Grill, Agent Randy Rouhoff, 45020 Sugar Bay Drive, Cable, WI for the premises located at 42730 Birch Bend Road, Cable, WI.*
- i. *Staudemeyer's Four Seasons Resort, LLC, Agent Amanda Staudemeyer, 44705 Birch Point Road, Cable, WI for the premises known as Four Seasons, located at 44800 Birch Point Road,*
- j. *Back of House, LLC, Agent Sara Eckert, 47805 County Hwy D, Cable, WI for the premises known as Pla-Mor Bar & Restaurant, located at 44400 County Hwy D, Cable, WI.*

MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the liquor licenses as presented, contingent on compliance of applications. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Approval of Cigarette Licenses per applications:

- a. *Garmisch Inn, LLC, Agent Dennis Howard, 23040 Garmisch Road, Cable, WI for the premises located at 23040 Garmisch Road, Cable, WI.*
- b. *The Lakewoods, Inc., Agent Philip Rasmussen, 42830 Lake Ridge Road, Cable, WI for the premises known as Forest Ridges Golf Course, located at 42740 Clubhouse Road, Cable, WI.*
- c. *Loon Patrol, LLC, Agent Travis Jung, 46055 East Jackson Lake Rd, Cable, WI for the premises known as Loon Saloon, located at 45135 County Hwy D, Cable, WI.*
- d. *Staudemeyer's Four Seasons Resort, LLC, Agent Amanda Staudemeyer, 44705 Birch Point Road, Cable, WI for the premises known as Four Seasons, located at 44800 Birch Point Road.*

MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the Cigarette licenses as presented, contingent on compliance of applications. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Approve Issuance of Operator's License per applications - MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve Clerk Bjork to issue all operator licenses. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Review Correspondence

North End Ski Club sent a thank you to the Town Board for their support.

Chequamegon Children's Theatre sent a thank you to the Town Board for their support.

The Chamber of Commerce is looking for floats for the 4th of July if anyone is interested.

Public Comment

There was discussion on a three-member board; it was explained that the board could approve a larger board if they would prefer.

There was discussion on the cell tower.

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

Plan Commission meeting, July 1, 2024 @ 7pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk