

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, September 10, 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 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 monthly meeting and a work meeting (8/20) were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to dispense the reading of the Town Board minutes and approve them all as presented. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #5645 through #5677. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Dave Hanks reported the Plan Commission was requesting \$1,800 for the 2025 budget. The Short-Term Rental application from Randy Rouhoff was recommended to the Town Board. It was noted the address should be corrected to 45020 Sugar Bay Drive and a local contact should be on file. There is adequate parking on their property. (This will be addressed at next month’s meeting.)

Library Report - The report will be posted on the website. There is a Library Expansion Design Community update on Sept 19th from 4pm to 6pm at the Namakagon Town Hall.

Great Divide Ambulance Report – Laura Bjork reported that the ambulance service has hired an EMT and there is a possibility of another hire soon. The budget will be addressed on Friday and hopefully will be submitted to the towns at the next board meeting. Three budgets will be looked into, a budget based on how the ambulance currently runs, a transport only budget and a sustainable budget. The county finished their recommendation from a Strategic Management & Consulting firm for developing a viable and resilient EMS system in Bayfield County. There was discussion on the presented recommendations. The board will be meeting with Chanz Green on Saturday to discuss ambulance service sustainability.

Walleye Stocking - Tabled.

Bayfield County Zoning – There was discussion on the letter that was to be sent to the county to research creating their own zoning. The Town of Cable is working on updating the letter, and it should be done soon, so the board will wait to sign the combined letter.

Outdoor Bathrooms at the Town Hall – There were several estimates presented. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve the purchase of the Golden Eye Vault from Huffcut for \$34,200. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Agricultural Roads Improvement Program (ARIP) – There was discussion on applying for funds for the culvert on Ghost Creek Road and on Dam Rd. The culvert on Ghost Creek Road has applied for funding through the county. The board decided not to apply for the grant funds due to

the number of applications pending on the grant and the priority that Dam Road would have compared to the pending applications.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Funding – The board discussed possibly cleaning up more road sides. Supervisor McGregor will discuss with Clay Burditt.

Future Development of Transfer Site – The updated survey was presented. The board will continue to plan for future development.

Walking/Biking/Recreation Trail – Supervisor Krueger stated that Jon Schubbe was here and spent two days driving around scoping out areas where a viable trail would be. Once an idea is established, the Plan Commission will discuss. Then FS and private landowners will be contacted to see how plans could move forward. The main project would be County Hwy M currently, but to qualify for grant funds the whole project needs to be addressed, so the project will show Crystal Lake Road, Namakagon Sunset Road, Dam Road and Frels Road. This is early stages of the project. There are possible grant funds available.

Replacement of Tables at the Town Hall – The board will look at the Birkie Hall tables before making a decision. Tabled.

Replacement of a Culvert on Ghost Creek Road – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the project is really a Forest Service project, but if they are willing to do so much work as part of the project, it might be worth spending the money with the help of County grant funds. The approval was unknown at this time.

Requested reduced tax rate on Re-assessed Land, tax ID 24016, placed into MFL in 2023 – Treasurer Skultety stated that the DOR site did not give amounts for paybacks, however the cost to the town would be approximately \$58. The re-assessment will be filed.

Update Road Improvement Plan – Updates were made to the Road Improvement Plan. Bear Point, Bay Drive and Mill Road as #1, Circle Drive #2, the second half of Garmisch Road #3, Dam Road from the bridge to County Hwy M #4, Junek's Point Road #5, Crystal Lake Road #6 and future projects continue to be the same.

Budget 2025 – A preliminary budget was presented. The Town Board will continue to look into the budget figures at the next board meeting.

Review Correspondence

Pilsen Town Meeting for the Ashland/Bayfield County Unit Meeting will be held on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 7pm.

Hilltop was approved by the county for an STR.

Supervisor Kreuger stated that he received some complaints from residents regarding Bayfield County Zoning.

Supervisor Krueger stated that there were concerns about the crack sealing on County Hwy D that was done by the County.

Public Comment

Sue Rosa asked about the EMS Consulting study that was done by the ad-hoc committee through the County. The Board did receive copies of the study. There were a couple concerns about the county levy including the cost when the town is already paying for service and also the paramedic level of care not being able to be billable.

Tony Litwinchuk stated wake boats are an issue and need to be addressed. He stated that he had issues with Bayfield County Zoning on his Garden Lake Road project, and he encouraged the town to pursue a change happening. He expressed concerns about the ATV travel on County Hwy D. It was noted that it was unsure how many boats are allowed at Telemark Pointe.

Mary D'Andrea supported the board not to invest in white tables.

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

Plan Commission meeting, October 7, 2024 @ 7pm .

Community Dinner Thursday, October 3, 2024 @ 6pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 9:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk