

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday, July 8, 2025
At - NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL – 7:30pm
MINUTES

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Present were Chairman Robert Rasmussen, Supervisor Jack McGregor, Treasurer Arlene Skultety, Clerk Laura Bjork and 14 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 June monthly meeting were presented. MOTION made by Chairman Rasmussen 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 #6030 through #6053. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – No report.

Library Report - The library report will be posted on the website.

Great Divide Ambulance Report – Laura Bjork reported that the service has hired 3 new people since last meeting bringing the employee count to 16. There are another 3 people interested in employment! Vehicle maintenance continues to be challenging. The board continues to work through the Joint Resolution; it is not ready at this time for approval from the town. The board will be discussing billing rates at their upcoming meetings. The board continues to meet monthly to overview the budget and needs of the service. There was discussion on charging rates for residents/non-residents.

Great Divide Ambulance Joint Resolution – Tabled for more revisions.

Update Namakagon Lake Association – Larry Pribyl reported that weeds were treated in mostly upper lake and some lower lake. This year they will need to apply for a new grant as all the money received from the last grant has been used. Kevin Wiersma stated that the Wake Boat Committee met several times. Their goals are to prevent AIS, prevent shoreline erosion and scouring of bottom of lake and not restrict people from enjoying the lake. There is a variety of people participating on the committee. He thanked Supervisor Krueger for input into the committee. The committee is focused on education and best practices. They have updated the Courtesy Code for NLA. The Courtesy Code recommends wake boats staying at least 700' from shore and in water more than 20' deep. They are also looking into boat decontamination stations, reaching out to several entities for support and information. Appreciation was given for the continued support of the town board. The committee is being proactive to the situation. There was discussion on power loading boats and the damage that occurs. The effects of Rip Rap at the landing were discussed. There was discussion on Northland College regarding the buoys. Data is still being collected. NLA has an upcoming social at Four Seasons 4-6pm on July 24th. It was noted that membership continues to increase.

Bayfield County request for speed limit reduction on County Hwy M (Dam Rd to Garmisch Rd) – The Plan Commission presented a letter addressed to Bayfield County for Town Board approval. It was noted that the county may choose to do a traffic study. The town could suggest a speed of 45mph. Supervisor McGregor stated that an opposition letter was received from a resident. The reasoning for opposition was that most people already slow down for pedestrians, bikers, etc., the Sheriff's Dept. has minimal presence in the area and probably won't be around to monitor, and they couldn't remember a single accident on that stretch of a road. Dave Hanks noted that there have been several close accidents on that stretch of road. The town would prefer to be proactive. The board supports the letter to the county.

Stewardship Agreement between the Town of Namakagon and the Forest Service for Ghost Creek Culvert Replacement – An updated agreement was presented. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the stewardship agreement for Ghost Creek Culvert. MOTION seconded by Chairman Rasmussen and carried.

T-Mobile request to replace their existing antennas on the existing cell tower – An affidavit was presented. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the affidavit to allow T-Mobile to replace the existing antennas on the cell tower. MOTION seconded by Chairman Rasmussen and carried.

Discussion on a new Grader – The old grader's transmission is on its last hours. The new grader is a demo grader, and the price has been lowered to \$387,000. The old grader has a value of \$50,000. Tabled until Supervisor Krueger gets back.

Bayfield County Zoning – No meeting with the county since last meeting.

Future Development of Transfer Site – Chairman Rasmussen stated that the DNR conducted an on-site inspection. The DNR stated that there is enough room on the property for another site. The non-compliance items were taken care of. The floor of the demo site needs to be raised, and that will continue to be worked on.

2026-2030 Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – Updated information was presented and will be submitted to the county.

Review Correspondence

Chequamegon Children's Theatre – A letter was received thanking the town for their support. It was noted that the performance will be held in Hayward due to construction in Drummond.

Cable Natural History Museum Summer Benefit Garden Party – The invite was presented.

Cable Namakagon History Museum – A newsletter was presented. It was noted that an ice cream social will be held on July 27th from 1-3:30pm at the Cable Community Center.

June's Point Association – The association requested that the town petition the county for intersection signs on Dam Rd at the intersection of County Hwy M. The board supports petitioning the county for such signs. Doug Cleary mentioned if anyone is interested in adding a sign on Dam Road, June's Point is working on updating the signage.

Public Comment

Sue Rosa stated that she had inquiries regarding the billboards on County Hwy D. The town has an overlay, but the county did not adopt the wordage from the town in their ordinance. Those signs were granted permission by the county without consideration for the town overlay.

Set date for the next Board meeting, August 12, 2025 @ 7:30pm
Plan Commission meeting, August 4, 2025 @ 7pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk