

TOWN OF NAMAKAGON
For - TOWN BOARD MEETING–Tuesday August 11, 2025
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 July monthly meeting and work meetings were presented. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to dispense the reading of the Town Board minutes and approve them as presented. MOTION seconded by Chairman Rasmussen and carried.

The Financial Report was read by Treasurer Skultety; checks approved and signed #6054 through #6076. Town Financials are available to the public upon request from the Treasurer.

Comprehensive Planning Report – Dave Hanks stated that the Plan Commission recommended approval for the Class A Special Use Permit because it is in compliance with the Comp Plan.

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

Great Divide Ambulance Report – Laura Bjork reported that the service continues to hire new employees. The board hired a Business Manager who will start this week. Compared to last year, call numbers have increased as well as income offsetting wage expenses. Supervisor McGregor stated that the service continues to wait for the vehicle to be repaired with a new chassis. The current vehicles are increasing in mileage, and the board has made commitments on vehicles 3 years out.

Town Board recommendation for Bayfield County Planning and Zoning for a Class A Special Use Permit for Mark and Margaret Elkanger for Shoreland Grading to the property located at 23005 Missionary Point Drive, Town of Namakagon – Dave Hanks went out and looked at the property. The work needs to be done to fix erosion issues. MOTION made by Supervisor McGregor to approve the Class A Special Use Permit because it is in compliance with the Comp Plan. MOTION seconded by Supervisor Krueger and carried.

Replacement of Fire Department Tender Truck – Dave Haan stated that the Tender Truck needs to be replaced. There was discussion on types of trucks available. There is a truck available with a base price of \$366,000. The additions needed would increase the price to \$395,646. There is \$165,000 in the equipment fund, plus \$20,000 will be added to the fund this year. There would leave \$210,646 left to fund. There is a possibility to sell the old truck. There is \$60,000 for a well purchase; if that forgoes, that money could possibly go toward the truck. The Fire Department has \$80,000 in other funds which are earmarked for a replacement truck to consolidate 2 existing trucks. The board will look into the purchase of a new Tender Truck.

Short Term Rental alarm system requirements – Dave Haan stated that there are issues with having a person on scene for alarm system calls, especially for Short-Term rentals. No one knows who to contact, and the Fire Dept cannot leave the property without turning the property over to the homeowner. The town alarm ordinance requires a key holder to show up, but that is not

happening. Norvado is able to reset the alarm from their office, but there needs to be someone on scene. There was discussion on requirements. There was discussion on the possibility of Knox Boxes. The clerk will get a list of Short-Term rentals with their local contact information to the Fire Department.

Federal Lands Access Program Project Application for Garmisch Road project funding – The drafted application was presented and sent to the Forest Service. The application is due August 29th. The town will work with the Forest Service to complete and submit the application.

Wisconsin Disaster Fund Application - Laura Bjork presented pictures and the cost breakdown of road wash-out from one of the previous storms. The board decided that the repairs did not justify an emergency. Funds will not be pursued.

Fuel Contract – Midland has a price of \$1.43 pay as you go. They also provide the town with a rebate at the end of the year. It was noted that Rusk County was at \$1.45. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to contract with Midland for 2026. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Road Improvement Plan – There were minor changes made to the document for 2025-2030.

Shop computer – The shop computer is no longer functionable. MOTION made by Supervisor Krueger to approve purchasing a desktop computer for the shop not to exceed \$1,000. MOTION seconded by Supervisor McGregor and carried.

Transfer Site, new site for the future – Chairman Rasmussen state that the board continues to work with the DNR to locate a new future site. The DNR will be contacted to specify a location.

Bayfield County Zoning – The town needs to adopt Village Powers in order to opt out of county zoning. The board will search for documentation for such a resolution.

Review Correspondence

Cable Fall Fest Sponsorship – The board decided not to sponsor Fall Fest as the Chamber already receives funds through room tax.

Supervisor Krueger stated that the buoys on the lake were vandalized. New equipment is being ordered to replace them. It is noted that when vandalism is done, the town has to replace or fix what has been vandalized. This takes taxpayer funds to rectify this issue. There are ways to have your voice heard, but this is not one of them.

Public Comment

Joann Schultz complimented the efforts on the signage on Dam Road.

Dave Haan mentioned that the heater has a crack in it at the station and will need service.

Set date for the next Board meeting, September 9, 2025 @ 7:30pm

Plan Commission meeting, September 8, 2025 @ 7pm

Community Dinner, Thursday, September 4, 2025 @ 6pm

Chairman Rasmussen adjourned at 9:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Bjork, Town of Namakagon Clerk