

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 16th, 2023  
6:30 PM in the Barnes Town Hall

## UNAPPROVED

Chairman Renz called the Monthly Town Board Meeting in the Town Hall to order at 6:30pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum with Eric Neff, Dave Scully, Jim Frint in attendance in the Town Hall. Supervisor Seana Frint was absent. Clerk April Powell verified public notice. Brett Frierhood, Brock Frierhood and Jeff Jordheim were also in attendance in the Town Hall.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was said by all.

Chairman Renz asked for a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 04/18/23 Monthly Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes.

*Motion made (Neff/J.Frint) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 04/18/23 Monthly Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Public Comment Session –Susan Jansen had grant questions regarding The Town of Barnes Municipal Campground. Susan wanted to know how the amount to build the campground is now \$100,000 less than it was originally proposed. Dave Scully stated that the original proposed amount was to have all the work done but now due to the cost they are going to wait on building the cabins all at once. They will use the proceeds from the Campground to continually add cabins. Dave stated that this campground would not be paid out of the town budget and that is another reason he is applying for the motorized recreation grant. Susan still wanted to know how it was going to be less with inflation this year compared to last year when the campground was originally proposed. Dave stated that the prep cost was going to be cheaper due to the fact that Dave and his friends would be doing the prep and again, that everything will not be done at once. They will build cabins and add other improvements as the money starts coming in. Susan still had concerns as to why the Dump Station cost was proposed for \$15,000 last year but now this year it's showing a cost of \$13,000. Why less? Dave stated that it will not cost the town any money regarding the maintenance part as it will be incorporated into the trail maintenance. Susan also wanted to know who was doing the beach work for Tomahawk Park. Susan stated that she had tried to contact the Parks Committee regarding the beach work but no one was returning her calls. Chairman Renz stated that the Parks Committee was going to be putting a prioritized list together on the projects that needed to be done first and so on.

Lee Wiesner wanted to thank the town board for passing the ordinance for the short term rental but he still had concerns on who is actually monitoring these properties. Chairman Renz stated it should be up to the neighbors to report anything that they may see that is a problem to the board and not to try to correct themselves, don't go knocking on the door. If you need to, call the Sheriff and report it to the town board as well. Lee was also concerned regarding the advertisement on some of the short term rentals. He stated that they advertise way more beds and people than the property is zoned for. He feels that the town should not allow this advertising. Chairman Renz stated that he is working with the town attorney and trying to follow up with the Short Term Rentals that are advertising incorrectly and not compliant making sure they are all compliant.

Clerk Correspondence –We received a letter from the State of Wisconsin regarding the transfer designated forest land; A letter was received from the Wisconsin Towns Association regarding the

Ashland/Bayfield County Unit Meeting on Monday May 22,2023 at 7:00 located at Pilsen Town Hall in Ashland; a notice from Bayfield County was received regarding a timber cuts permit for Steigerwaldt Land Services in Barnes; An email was received from Brian Johnson regarding his deep dissatisfaction of the approval for the Robinson Lake Campground.

Chairman Renz stated that he will be attending the Ashland/Bayfield County Meeting if anyone wanted to ride with him they could. He stated that he finds the meetings very informative.

*Chairman Renz asked for a motion to move the Adopt resolution#R23-02 up on the Agenda.*

*Motion made (Scully/Neff) to move the Adopt resolution#R23-02 up on the Agenda. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

The Board reviewed the Resolution R23-02 to Authorize Participation of Dave Scully to act as the representative on the Motorized Recreation Grant Application for the DNR regarding the Town of Barnes/Barnes Municipal Campground.

*Motion made (J.Frint/Neff) to approve Resolution R23-02 to have Dave Scully as the authorized representative on the Motorized Recreation Grant Application for the DNR regarding the Town of Barnes/Barnes Municipal Campground. Voice Vote taken, motion carried.*

The board reviewed the application for the temporary Class B Retailer's License for The Taste of Barnes.

Supervisor Scully stated that the temporary Class B Retailer's License for The Taste of Barnes would operate under the VFW Picnic License.

*Motion made (Scully/Neff) to approve the application for the temporary Class Be Retailer's License for The Taste of Barnes. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Supervisor Neff wanted to discuss the purchase of two new computers for the Town Office and the Town Garage. He stated that the computer's that are currently be used are over 7 years old. The cost would be around \$5,000 to replace and they would help with the zoom meetings. Chairman Renz recommended replacing with Del computers and he recommended replacing as soon as possible. Also, for zoom meetings to work more efficiently, Supervisor Neff suggest that Norvado installs a new WI 6 Router in the Town Hall. Clerk April Powell will call Norvado and request the new router be installed.

The board reviewed the renewal of the yearly membership for The Iron River Chamber of Commerce.

Chairman Renz stated that he would like the dues paid from the tourism account.

*Motion was made (Scully/Neff) to approve the yearly membership for the Iron River Chamber of Commerce and to pay out of the tourism account. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Vouchers approval-discussion/motion to approve April vouchers

*Motion was made (Neff/Renz) to approve the April vouchers. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Clerk/Treasurer Report: April Powell

The ending balance in the General Checking is \$587,571.71, \$1,071,437.45 is the ending balance in the Money Market account with \$791.94 interest earned; 3,136.81 is the ending balance in the Vatten Paddlar Account (no activity); The PayPal account has a balance \$5,805.19; Taste of Barnes account has balance of \$5,586.00 (\$145.00) donation received and the Tax Collection Account had a balance of \$4,026.95 for a total of all funds of \$1,671,930.53.

*Motion was made (Neff/Scully) to approve the Treasurer's Report. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Highway Dept Report-Jeff Jordheim

### **Roads/Property Report**

Roads: Mulligan Creek Culvert @ the town of Drummond line is to be replaced. Waiting on mini excavator to free up/lease.

Grading is ongoing as well as road patching.

Pease Road will be measured for wedging or spot paving. Then will be sent for chip seal bids. Only certain portions will be completed to meet budget restraints.

Tree clean-up/cutting will continue through the summer, as there is no shortage of clean-up.

Parks: All restrooms are open and water is on at both locations. Brad & Judy B have donated a floating swim dock which I think would work well @ TLP.

Equipment: The garage is going looking to have a service contract with McCoy for the town equipment.

Roads bans should be expired in Douglas County by this meeting, meaning that then can start hauling gravel to the north roads.

The Highway crew will be taking down trees that are hanging in the roads from last winter's snow. It is not safe to leave the trees if they are hanging in the roads.

Update on South Shore Bridge, it will not be done by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July due to a drill bit is needed to complete the work and is not available at this time. It is on order but there is not a lead time at this point as when it will arrive. They will not be working on the bridge during Vatten Paddlar. The steps that a few people use during the Vatten Paddlar race will not be available to use. Supervisor Neff stated that the Boy Scouts would not be available this year to help carry canoes and kayaks during the Vatten Paddlar event.

Foreman Jeff Jordheim stated that he would like to have the allowance of dogs in the town park reviewed. He stated he was concerned that a dog could harm someone and the town would be liable. Chairman Renz stated that there is a leash ordinance in place and if someone was harmed by a dog the owner of the dog would be liable. Chairmen Renz stated that anytime some is harmed by a dog, it should be called into the Sheriff so the dog can be quarantined for 10 days. Foreman Jeff Jordheim will add the leash ordinance to the town park sign.

The salt/sand shed has been condemned by The Wisconsin Department of Transportation. We are in the process of getting estimates to replace the shed. We are hoping to replace the shed this year with a 50' wide x 100' long. The shed will be placed directly north of the hockey rink, behind the dirt berm by the green gate.

*Chairman Renz made a motion to get the shed replaced this year and to use the funds from the Covid money of \$40,000 to get it started and add the rest of the cost for the shed to the firetruck loan.*

*A roll call was taken; Supervisor J.Frint-yes, Supervisor Dave Scully-yes, Supervisor Eric Neff-yes, motion carried.*

### **Monthly Report Fire**

**Monthly Report Fire-** Calls: 3 calls

-2 EMS lift assists

-1 mutual aid wildland fire/cancelled in route

New engine is on track to be starting the build in May with an estimated completion of September.

Working on inventory of all the apparatus.

Have completely switched everything over to wildland fire season.

Some members completed DNR white card training.

Held our meat raffle this past Saturday. Both Fire and EMT received \$278.50.

Open House coming up May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

**Monthly Report Ambulance:** 3 calls since the last meeting. No calls in Highland for a couple months.

The \$20,000 funding from Bayfield County has been received. The County has encouraged the funds be spent on recruitment and retention, mental health initiatives, and training, but has provided it with the intention of it being used as needed by the services. The Flex grant expense report has been approved and the second payment should be received shortly. The State has advised the second ARPA Supplement payment was made on March 10th. I had not received a notification and am working on tracking it down.

Courtney has accepted the job offer with a start date of Monday, May 15th. I have received an application for a part-time position and am working through that process. I also contacted someone that previously showed interest beginning in June and am awaiting receiving an application for possible part-time. I have contacted the previous part-time applicant and I am still waiting to hear back.

A meat raffle was held this weekend with success. The next event will be the open house on May 27th. North Memorial has confirmed bringing a helicopter, weather and calls depending, and Northwood Tech is assisting with several hands on stations. Rescue Divas summer camp is scheduled to take place at the end of July for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls interested in EMS and public safety service. The Ambulance Department will sponsor any girl from our service area that attends the camp. The camp is open to 20 girls and can be competitive, applications are due May 26th.

Supervisor Scully asked Brett if the Rescue Divas summer camp was posted at the high school. Brett Frierhood stated it was posted at the high school.

*Chairman Renz made a motion to amend the agenda to adopt Resolution #23-03 to designate the Week of May 16-22 as Emergency Medical Services Week.*

*Motion made (Scully/Neff) to amend the agenda to adopt Resolution#23-03 to designate the Week of May 16-22 as Emergency Medical Services Week. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Supervisor Neff wanted to point out the Leadership Poster that was on display in the town hall. He stated the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders had painted the Leadership poster. He stated that the LEAPS program was going strong through the schools and the kids were enjoying the program. He stated that the program teaches the kids how to be good stewardships. Supervisor Neff asked if the poster could be hung up in the town hall. Chairman Renz stated we would get the proper hardware to hang the poster.

Chairmen Renz reported that The Surface Water Grant had been approved.

The Board reviewed the Class A Special use permit for Eric Vilhaver for the short term rentals on existing rentals.

*Motion was made (Renz/Neff) to disapprove the Class A Permit for Eric Vilhaver for the short term rentals on existing rentals due to lack of information. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

*Motion made (Neff/J.Frint) to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting. Voice vote taken, motion carried.*

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 PM.