

TOWN OF BARNES
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
Tuesday – October 21, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Barnes Town Hall

(Unapproved)

Chairman Tom Krob called the monthly meeting of the Town Board of Barnes to order at 6:30p.m. Roll Call was taken to establish a Quorum with town supervisors Chris Webb, Donna Porter, Julie Bohl, and Tom Emerson present. Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Bakke verified Public Notice. The Pledge Allegiance to the Flag was then said by all.

Motion made (Porter/Bohl) to approve the agenda and the minutes of the 9/16/2014, 10/13/2014 and 10/16/2014 Board Meetings and dispense with the reading of those minutes. Roll call vote with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Carrie Linder, Aging & Disability Services Manager for Bayfield County, presented information on the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the North and the way people access information today. She further presented the benefits of having a computer for use by our seniors to enable them to find the resources and benefits they need to age gracefully. The intention of the computer is not for personal use, but as a tool for seniors to access these resources and a protocol would be set up for people to reserve time for computer use. Linder states Bayfield County will provide a computer for use in the Barnes Town Hall during the regular senior meals program hours, if the Town of Barnes will approve space for the computer and supply a desk or table.

Motion made (Webb/Emerson) that we work with Bayfield County to make room in the Town Hall for their computer for use by the people of Barnes. Roll call vote with all voting yes. Motion carried.

In 2016 the Town of Barnes has plans for some improvements to Lake Rd. beginning at County Hwy N and going to the bridge where the Upper Eau Claire Lake and Birch Lake connect. No engineering or construction contractors have been chosen. Scot Balsavich, P.E. for Cooper Engineering provided a presentation regarding the upcoming Lake Rd. Project. He reviewed the key points for the project and explained what the terminology meant, including TRIP funding, ditching, right-of-ways, proposed speed limits, erosion, and wetlands bordering Lake Rd., road standards, working with utility companies, and preparation of construction plans. Emerson asked about the extra cost for adding a bike lane. Krob asked whether the road will fit up from the lake where the houses are congested. Greg Martin asks about the width of the road right away. (Which is 2 rods from the center of the road.)

Public Comment Session – 5 minute limit for those not on Agenda

- Carrie Sanda from the St. Croix Watershed was present and introduced herself and explained why our area is important to the St. Croix Watershed. She also provided some St. Croix Headwaters Watershed Newsletters for those interested.

Motion made (Porter/Bohl) to approve the September Vouchers. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Bakke.

Motion made (Bohl/Emerson) to approve the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Prices from various propane fuel vendors were presented by Bakke. Motion made (Porter) to go with Superior Fuel because they will lock us in for two years. Motion was not seconded. Webb discusses tank leases and ownership of tanks and possible expenses involved in changing fuel companies/tanks. Webb asks that we check whether Polar owns our tanks or if we do.

Motion made (Webb/Emerson) to table until we find out ownership of the tanks and possible associated fees. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Current charges for Liquor License fees was brought forth for discussion.

Motion (Krob/Webb) to open the floor for comments. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes.

- Krob abstains due to personal conflict.
- Bob Van Doorn discusses differences in operator and liquor license fees in surrounding small towns. Van Doorn discusses the state of our town's businesses and gives his recommendation for the Town of Barnes to meet the pricing of the lowest charging town near us.

Motion made (Krob/Bohl) to close the floor to discussion. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Webb makes a suggestion to table the discussion to go back and follow up on discussion before price was raised to see why it was raised. Bohl stated she doesn't mind looking into why this happened, but totally supports lowering the fees. Webb suggests we look at what other towns are doing with their fees. Porter states she thinks we could lower them some.

Motion to table (Webb/Emerson) and have the clerk look back at the minutes to see what happened at that time and check with other surrounding towns to see what they are doing. Roll call vote with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Bakke introduces new administrative office staff member, Judy Schoch as Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

Operator License approval requested for Darlene Martin.

Motion made (Webb/Bohl) to approve Darlene Martin's request for an Operator's License. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

There were no forestry notices to report this month.

Highway Department – Monthly Roads Report read by Bob Lang.

Fire & Ambulance Departments – Monthly BES Reports not available as Tom Renz was unable to attend this meeting.

Constable – Krob read the Monthly Report from Mike O'Keefe, Constable.

Aquatic Invasive Species Committee - Ingemar presents CBCW grant application provided by Jeremy Bates for \$20,000 in 2015. Ingemar asks the Board give this consideration and approve and sign the application. The first spring meeting April 20, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Ingemar discusses the projects the AISC has been involved in. Sally reported to Ingemar that the Boat Landing Monitors will be coming back next year. Staffing needs will be addressed during the winter before the spring boat landing opening. Barb Romstad will be putting together the volunteer appreciation luncheon in spring 2015.

Building Maintenance Committee - Mike Tremblay is out of town Krob reports the building is scheduled to be done 11-14-14.

Cemetery Sexton & Committee: Dave Schiess - No report this month.

Land Use & Planning Commission: Gene Ratzel reports there were two Special Use Permit applications up before the commission.

- James Manning – request to use existing residence as a short term rental – Ratzel reports this request is compatible with the Barnes Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the commission recommends approval of this special use permit application.
- Justin Jacobs – request to use existing residence as a short term rental – Ratzel reports this request is compatible with the Barnes Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the commission recommends approval of this special use permit application.

Motion made (Emerson/Webb) to approve the James Manning and Justin Jacobs special permit requests as recommended by the Land Use Planning Commission. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation Committee: Donna Porter presented the new signs suggested by the Tourism Committee to help people find the Tomahawk Park more easily and discusses placement for signs.

Motion made (Emerson/Bohl) to approve the signs for Tomahawk Park out of the recreational budget. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Transfer Site Committee: Tom Emerson discusses security system options and bids on same. Bid requests sent out to three different companies for trash removal. One compactor at the Transfer Site needs to be replaced \$21,116.05 is the cost. Emerson gives reminder that winter Transfer Site hours begin November 1st of 8:00am – Noon on Wednesday and Sunday.

Tourism Committee: Julie Bohl requests approval of new Tourism Committee member Pat (P.J.) Foat, Jr. to replace the loss of TC members.

Motion (Bohl/Porter) to appoint PJ Foat as a new member of the Tourism Committee. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Canoe/Kayak Race – PJ Foat gives Canoe/Kayak race presentation. . . . Tourism Committee wants to revive the canoe/kayak race which will showcase our Eau Claire Chain of Lakes. The goal is to get all the community groups to help with this event. Town of Barnes will not be putting any money into this event. Goal is to bring some tourism into Barnes to help out our businesses. Name of event will be called Vatten Paddlar (water paddling) – Chain of Lakes Canoe & Kayak Race. Date of race will be during the weekend following 4th of July (July 11th). Bayfield County has no events scheduled that weekend. PJ has been working to find corporate sponsorship. Superior Beverage is already on board to help with the expenses. The Tourism Committee is seeking for Board approval so they can begin organizing for the event.

The Conservation Club and Friends of Eau Claire Lakes are both willing to help out. Gene Ratzel suggests using the media for publicity.

Motion made (Bohl/Porter) to approve the canoe/kayak race as a town event. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Town website – discussion ensued regarding possible updating and changes to the Barnes website. No decisions were made and it was decided that no action be taken at this time until further research during budgeting process.

Rescheduling Monthly Board Meeting for December – Krob requests December board meeting be rescheduled to 7:30pm on December 16th due to schedule conflict.

Motion (Krob/Bohl) to reschedule the starting time for the 12-16 meeting to 7:30pm. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

ATV Trail Update - Loren Bohl reports they are attempting to contact Shawn Hagen at Heartland.

Bumpers for dock at the Upper Eau Claire Lake Boat Landing – Emerson talks about the 32” bumpers he purchased from Dave’s in Hayward for \$54 ea. Lang talks about bumpers he found that are 42” long for \$85. Suggestion is made to purchase corners for dock also. Krob suggests we go ahead and buy them this year.

Motion made (Krob/Porter) to have Lang purchase bumpers for the dock on the Upper Eau Claire. Roll call taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Greg Martin brings up the Minnie Lake dock that usually stays in all year. The water rose and the dock got damaged and needs repair. Martin asks that the town have the Highway Dept. crew take it out every year.

Outlet Bay Rd. Bridge guardrails – Krob has estimate for guard rails at the Outlet Bay Rd. Bridge from Mattison of \$7,800. Krob states this would have to go out on bids and that we need a decision from the board whether they want to proceed with this. Emerson discusses information received from Bayfield County to do the job for us. Used guard rails are available through the county and could be done for approx. \$3,000. Emerson discusses whether there is a real need to do this and compares this bridge to the River Rd. Bridge and whether this bridge is safe left as is.

Porter states she always goes on the side of safety.

Martin states if we are not going to replace the bridge railings he would not put in any guardrails.

Bohl gives the opinion that she doesn't feel this is necessary after looking at the other bridges.

Motion made (Emerson/Bohl) that we do not put up guardrails on the Outlet bay Rd. Bridge. Roll call vote: Bohl, Emerson, Webb and Krob yes, Porter no. Motion carried.

Last Month's Meeting Follow-up –

a) Town Board Issues Timeline Log - Review & Update - No new timeline issues.

Motion made (Porter/Emerson) to adjourn the Monthly Town Board Meeting. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Brenda Bakke, Clerk-Treasurer