

**MINUTES  
OF THE PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING, SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN  
ELECTORS, and MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING  
November 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.  
Barnes Town Hall**

**(UNAPPROVED)**

Minutes

At 6:04pm the Public Budget Hearing was called to order by Chair, Tom Krob. Roll Call was taken with Chris Webb, Donna Porter, Julie Bohl, and Tom Emerson present representing the Barnes Town Board establishing a quorum. Also present was Brenda Bakke, Clerk who verified public notice. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said by all.

The proposed budget for 2015 was presented by Tom Krob. Krob noted there are no new highway equipment purchases budgeted for 2015. \$10,000 is budgeted towards new tennis courts. We will be putting money into our blacktopped roads, and the purchase of a new compactor for Transfer Site is planned for 2015.

Discussion of the 2015 Proposed Budget:

- Jon Harkness requested Krob comment on all budgetary changes of 10% or more.
- Krob sites additional income from timber cutting. GTA funds increased. There are no Levied Funds. Intergovernmental Charges for Service do not include an escrow fee for Highland's ambulance service as the escrow funds carry over and are not charged again. General Government expense changes are due to fees for upcoming town assessment and insurance. Public Safety is higher due the ambulance costs being more expensive than budgeted. Health and Human Services have no maintenance items for 2015. Culture & Recreation budget is higher due to planned tennis court repair and maintenance expense. Increased funding for Sanitation is for the new compactor. Capital Outlay is less due to no planned equipment purchases.

**Motion made (Webb/Renz) to adjourn (Webb/Renz) the Public Budget Hearing. Roll Call vote with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

The Public Budget Hearing adjourned at 6:18pm.

At 6:18pm Special Town Meeting of the Electors was called to order to adopt the Budget Levies. Electors were then given the opportunity to make comments and give input on the 2015 proposed budget. The Electors had no comments or input to add to the budget discussion.

The Method for Voting (standing, hand count, or secret ballots) was determined by the Electors raising their hands. It was determined that the vote would be achieved by a show of hands. Counters Tom Renz and Irene Bott were chosen.

**Resolution R14-03**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the qualified electors of the Town of Barnes here assembled in a Special Town Meeting this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014, to adopt the 2014 town tax levy to be paid in 2015 in the sum of \$500,598.00 which will be levied for the purpose of Operating Expenses for the year 2015.

**Motion made (Renz/Harkness) to accept budget as presented and approve Resolution R14-03. Votes were counted and the vote to accept the budget as presented was unanimous (23 Yes votes, 0 No votes). Motion carried.**

**Motion made (Renz/Frank) to adjourn the Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

The Special Meeting of the Town Electors adjourned at 6:23pm.

At 6:23pm the Monthly Town Board Meeting was called to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum established when the Budget Hearing commenced.

**Motion made (Emerson/Bohl) to approve the Agenda and the Minutes of the 10/13/2014, 10/21/2014, and 10/30/2014 Board Meetings, and to dispense with the reading of those minutes. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Motion made (Webb/ Bohl) to adopt the 2015 Town Budget as approved by the Electors. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

The 2014 Budget was reviewed.

**Motion made (Emerson/Bohl) to table further discussion and possible action until next month's meeting. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

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

- Buzzi Harkness thinks we should buy gates for our plows that would clear driveways behind the plow and requests we investigate this further.
- Emerson states the gates will only go on the graders per the Canadian manufacturers he found that produce the gates.
- Jon Harkness states we have not had a problem so far this year and states Dave Thorson car was completely buried by the plow last year. There's no sense to plowing the roads if we are going to plow in driveways.

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

The October Treasurer's Report was presented by Brenda Bakke.

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

Resolution 14-04: Annual Town obligation to Bayfield County of amount over Treasurer's Bond for property taxes was presented by Bakke.

**Motion made (Webb/Emerson) to adopt Resolution 14-04 and take a bond for the Treasurer for the Property Tax obligation to Bayfield County. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Forestry Notices were ready by Bakke.

Department Head Reports:

Highway Department – The Monthly Roads Report was read by Bob Lang. Lang commented that all roads are now plowed.

Fire & Ambulance Department reports were read by Tom Renz.

Constable's Monthly Report from Mike O'Keefe was read by Tom Krob.

TOB Committee and Commission Reports:

Aquatic Invasive Species Committee: Ingemar Ekstrom – no committee report this month. Krob notes there is money in budget for milfoil extrication equipment.

- Jon Harkness discusses rapid weed growth on Cranberry Lake. Pam Toshner coming to his residence to review and discuss the situation. Harkness further discusses changes taking place in Cranberry Lake.
- Mike Bott stated he lived at a lake that had a conveyor for removing weeds. You have to have people to operate it and it has to be done every year.

Building & Maintenance Committee: Mike Tremblay presents an update on the progress of the new building. There are a few things to do yet before we can move in. When the building is completed we will do a walk thru and plan to move the first week of December. Krob thanks Tremblay and the committee. Tremblay says it was the committee and people who worked with the committee.

Cemetery Sexton & Committee: Dave Schiess – no report this month.

Land Use Planning Commission: Gene Ratzel

Pamela Behnke requests to have her property rezoned from R-2 to R-3. Ratzel states LUPC recommends approval of this request and states it is within the Land Use Plan.

**Motion made (Webb/Porter) to approve the rezone of the Behnke property on Kelly Lake Rd. from R2 to R3. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Parks and Rec Committee: Donna Porter reports the signs for Tomahawk Park have been ordered. They probably will not be put up until spring when the ground is ready.

Roads & Right of Way Committee – Don Dealing – Bob Lang suggests Board read the minutes from their recent meeting and then discuss it at the December Board Meeting. Bakke will ensure the Board has the Roads & ROW Committee minutes.

**Motion (Krob/Porter) to open the floor to public comment. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried**

- Jon Harkness asks if there a charge to the committee? Or what is their purpose?
- Webb replies there is a mission statement. It is in the office if you want to come look at it. Webb offers to share the mission statement of all the committees.
- Jon Harkness thinks it would be good to share the mission statement of all the committees.
- Chris Ness expresses concern about pedestrians on Lake Rd during the improvements. Thinks we should provide signs or something during that time because we have a lot of more walkers now.

**Motion made (Krob/Porter) to close the floor to public comment. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Tourism Committee: Julie Bohl reports there is an offer out to a local woman to join committee and they are waiting for a response. The committee is also working on getting corporate sponsors for canoe/kayak race.

Transfer Site Committee: Tom Emerson

- 1) Waste Removal Contract for 2015 – Emerson reports requests for bids went out and responses have been received. Krob asks if vendor representatives would like to make any comments or presentations. Waste Management and Allied representatives were present and responded no. Emerson discussed bids requests further. Bids were reviewed and the basis of bid requests presented. Republic came in the lowest at \$22,996.

**Motion Porter/ Bohl to accept the bid from Republic as our 2015 waste removal contractor. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

- 2) Purchase of Security/camera System – The committee is continuing to look at camera systems that will operate in the cold. Gene Ratzel stated he will provide information he gained from another vendor that he thinks will be helpful tomorrow.

Last Month's Meeting Follow-up –

a) Lake Rd. flex patch crack sealing is postponed until spring 2015. Fahrner will honor current bid if work is not done until spring including additional cracks over winter.

b) Propane Pricing for 2015 – discussion of pricing ensued.

**Motion made (Bohl/Webb) that we go with Superior Fuel for our propane through April 2016. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Town Board Issues Timeline Log - Review & Update

Webb asks about the status the federal grant for the Upper Eau Claire Lake Boat Landing.

Krob states he spoke with Anne Loechler and plans to send out the Federal Grant Payment Request next week.

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

Monthly Board Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.