

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES  
2014 BUDGET HEARING,  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS,  
And MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 19, 2013 AT 6:00PM  
AT BARNES TOWN HALL, 3600 COUNTY HIGHWAY N, BARNES, WI**

**1) Roll Call to establish a Quorum & Verification of Public Notice**

Krob called the 2014 Budget Hearing to order at 6:10 PM. Roll call had been taken at the earlier Closed Session and a quorum had been established. In attendance were Supervisors Chris Webb, Jack Meinke, Donna Porter and Mitch McGee, and Chairperson Tom Krob. Town Staff attendees were Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Bakke and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Dorothy Vogel. Joining the Budget Hearing were Roads & Property Foreman Bob Lang and Fire Chief and Ambulance Director Tom Renz. Bakke confirmed for Krob the public notice was posted per the State Statutes.

**2) Pledge Allegiance to the Flag**

All stood to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**3) Call the Budget Hearing to order**

**a) Discussion of the 2014 Proposed Budget**

Krob read the budget summary.

	<b>2013 APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>2014 PROPOSED BUDGET</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
TAX LEVY	500,598	500,598	0%
Intergovernmental Revenues	467,929	417,628	
Licenses and Permits	5,850	7,210	
Public Charges for Services	44,950	51,060	
Intergovernmental Charges for Service	4,000	5,000	
Miscellaneous Revenue	19,250	14,650	
<b>Sub-total Revenues</b>	<b>1,042,577</b>	<b>996,146</b>	
Proceeds from long-term debt	57,000	0	
Cash Reserves to reduce the Levy		0	
Designated Funds levied	40,000	242,011	
Retained Funds	0	0	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>1,139,577</b>	<b>1,238,157</b>	7.96%

<b>EXPENSES</b>			
General Government	176,062	189,897	
Public Safety	101,793	111,040	
Public Works-Highway	250,779	258,100	
Public Works-Sanitation	59,900	34,710	
Health & Human Services	5,054	4,725	
Culture, Recreation & Education	16,979	18,160	
Conservation & Development	76,500	57,111	
Capital Outlay	430,500	542,403	
Debt Service	22,010	22,011	
<b>Sub-total Operational Expenses</b>	<b>1,139,577</b>	<b>1,238,157</b>	
Designated Funds Levied	0	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,139,577</b>	<b>1,238,157</b>	<b>7.96%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,139,577</b>	<b>1,238,157</b>	<b>7.96%</b>

Comments were accepted from the floor.

Jack Gribble questioned the purpose of such large funds in the sinking accounts, and stated the Town should just borrow money if needed. Bakke stated the purpose of these funds and Webb stated the importance of having approximately 50% of your budget in savings in case of emergencies.

Jon Harkness pointed out some possible areas in the budget for reduction: 1) Town Board salaries; stated some board members serve elsewhere without receiving a salary, offered a challenge to the Board to donate half of their salary to charity. 2) Public Works; Roads & Property Foreman wages and benefits could be reduced by eliminating the position. He also questioned whether Town employees be required to live in town. Krob responded that there is no requirement that Town employees live in the Town (reference State Statute 60.37(1) and Wisconsin Act 20). Also stated Emergency Responders are required to live within 15 miles. 3) Capital outlay; EMS – is it necessary to purchase a new ambulance? Could we look at Great Divide which also provides paramedics?

Bob Koser suggested we consider outsourcing our ambulance service. Great Divide provides service with paramedics to Grand View, Drummond and Cable. They're considering building an ambulance bay between Drummond and Barnes. Koser also brought up the purchase of the front-end loader, feels it is unnecessary as that type of machinery has a much longer lifetime. Brought up the changes being made to Point-O-Pines Road, the residents don't want any changes and what would be the problem with bringing a smaller plow to plow the road.

Fred Barnes read the list of equipment owned by the Town. Questioned the necessity of so much equipment when adjoining towns do not have near the equipment we do. Also noted salaries paid to EMTs; we really need paramedics.

Janine Watts stated that if you want good employees you have to provide just compensation. The Board should be praised for all they do. She also clarified that residents on Point-O-Pines Road are very happy with the changes that will be done.

Richard Collyard stated the Board had looked into ambulance service from Gold Cross back when he was Chairman and stated the costs estimated back then were between \$500,000 and \$800,000.

Lang stated he is on call with Great Divide. While all the discussion regarding Great Divide was going on, he sent a message questioning the response time if a call came in from Barnes. He was informed it would be a 25 minute response time just to the Town Hall.

**b) Adjourn the 2014 Budget Hearing**

**Motion by Tom Renz/Lee Wiesner to adjourn the 2014 Budget Hearing. Motion carried.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

**4) Call the Special Town Meeting of the Electors to order to adopt the Budget Levies**

Krob called the Special Town Meeting of the Electors to order at 7:08 PM.

**a) Comments and Input from the Electors**

Krob asked if anyone had any comments. There were none.

**b) Determine the Method for Voting (Standing, Hand Count, Secret Ballots)**

Krob asked the assembly which voting method they wanted to use. Consensus was vote by Hand-count. Two counters were appointed: Ricky Renz and Lee Wiesner.

**c) Resolution R13-04 for Tax Levy**

Bakke read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION R-13-04**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the qualified electors of the Town of Barnes here assembled in a Special Town Meeting this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November 2013 to adopt the 2013 town tax levy to be paid by 2014 in the sum of \$500,598.00 which will be levied for the purpose of Operating Expenses for the year 2014.**

**Motion by Dave Pease/Tom Renz to approve Resolution R-13-04.**

**Yes: 41      No: 14** The Resolution was passed.

**5) Adjourn the Special Town Meeting of the Electors**

**Motion by Jim Krok/Linda Frank to adjourn the Special Town Meeting of the Electors. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM.

**6) Call the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order**

Krob called the Monthly Town Board Meeting to order at 7:17 PM.

**7) Motion to approve the Agenda and the Minutes of the October Board Meetings, and to dispense with the reading of those minutes.**

**Motion by Webb/McGee to approve the Agenda with one change, which was to move Item 3 to Item 1. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Meinke/Porter to dispense with the reading of the October minutes. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

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

There were no public comments.

**9) Adopt the Town of Barnes 2014 Budget**

**a) Motion to adopt the Town Budget for 2014 as presented at the Budget Hearing on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Motion by Webb/Meinke to adopt the 2014 Town Budget as presented on November 19, 2013. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**10) 2013 Budget Review – discussion and possible motions if necessary**

It was determined there was no action to take at this time.

**11) Voucher's Approval – Discuss/Motion to Approve October Vouchers**

**Motion by McGee/Porter to approve October vouchers. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**12) Clerk/Treasurer Report: Brenda Bakke**

**a) Treasurer's Report**

**1) October Treasurer's Report**

Bakke had read the October Treasurer's Report during the 2014 Budget Hearing.

**2) Discussion and possible decision to open a separate checking account for property tax collection and disbursement**

Bakke explained that a separate checking account had been established in the past for property tax collection only. Once disbursements are made account results in a zero balance.

**Motion by Meinke/McGee to authorize Bakke to open a separate checking account for tax payments. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion taken.**

**3) HCCU CD Interest Rates discussion and possible decision to move money into a new CD**

After discussion it was determined to table this item and place on the January 2014 agenda.

**b) Clerk Correspondence**

**1) Adopt Resolution R13-05: Annual Town obligation to Bayfield County of amount over Treasurer's Bond for property taxes**

Bakke read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION R-13-05**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Barnes Treasurer is required by statute to furnish a bond to the County Treasurer in a sum of double the amount of state and county taxes apportioned to her town, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of her office and that she will account for and pay over according to law all state and county taxes which shall come into her hands, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Barnes is given the power under Section 70.67(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes, to obligate the town in case the Town Treasurer shall fail to pay all state and county taxes required by law to be paid by the Town Treasurer to the County Treasurer.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of the Town of Barnes, at its regular meeting held this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013, that the Town of Barnes does hereby obligate itself to pay in case the Town Treasurer shall fail to do so, all state and county taxes required by law to be paid by such Treasurer to the County Treasurer.

**Motion by Webb/Porter to accept Resolution R-13-05 for a bond for the Treasurer. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2) Tri-State Business Supply – Printer/Copier Lease**

Bakke described the new Printer/Copier Lease from Tri-State Business Supply.

**Motion by Meinke/Webb to go with the new contract. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**3) Forestry Notices – none to report this month**

No new notices to report.

**4) Request to officially appoint Dorothy Vogel as part-time Deputy Clerk-Treasurer effective 12-1-2013**

Krob stated Vogel would complete her six-month probation on November 27, 2013.

**Motion by Porter/McGee to appoint Vogel as Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**13) TOB Department Head Reports:**

**a) Highway Department – Monthly Roads Report – Bob Lang**

Lang read the November Monthly Roads Report. Lang also invited everyone to contact him in order to get correct information on the highway department. He has great employees and the proper equipment, and the Town is better for it.

**b) Fire & Ambulance Departments – Monthly BES Reports – Tom Renz**

Renz read the Fire & Ambulance Department. He then tendered his resignation from the Ambulance Department to the Town Board and Town of Barnes Residents effective January 1, 2014.

**Motion by Porter/Meinke to open the floor to public comment. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Numerous townspeople spoke up expressing their support and thanks to Tom for all of his hard work and dedication these past years. Webb stated that Renz and the Board had met earlier in Closed Session, and when

Renz informed the Board of his decision, asked Renz if he would delay his resignation until the Board decides where to go next; there are issues causing problems in the Ambulance Department, and if they can solve these issues would he possibly reverse his decision. Meinke stated the Board has been behind Renz 100% for years; he's done a good job and can't be replaced. Krob expressed appreciation for the support of Renz's family and stated again Renz has the Board's full support.

**Motion by Webb/Meinke to close the floor. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**c) Constable – Monthly Report from Mike O'Keefe**

Krob read the Constable report.

**14) TOB Committee and Commission Reports:**

**a) Transfer Site Committee: – Mitch McGee**

**1) Discussion on Holiday hours and possible action**

Discussion ensued regarding having the Transfer Site open on a Holiday, perfect example being Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th.

**Motion by Meinke/Porter if a Holiday falls on dump day, the dump will open the next day. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2) Discussion of bids for waste removal and possible decision on vendor for 2014**

Bids from Waste Management and Allied Waste were reviewed.

**Motion by McGee/Meinke to accept Allied Waste bid for 2014. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**3) Discussion and possible decision of purchasing security/camera system**

Discussion ensued regarding the installation of a security camera system at the Transfer Site, reasons include using as a deterrent for robbery/theft, establish some way of accounting for cash received by employees, allow a single employee to be in one building and watch multiple areas around the transfer site, and to help monitor recycle area for the disposal of appropriate recyclable materials. Since the ground will be freezing soon, winter will be spent researching camera systems.

**Motion by McGee/Meinke to purchase camera security system for Transfer Site. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**4) Aquatic Invasive Species Committee: Ingemar Ekstrom**

This is the last year of research grant ACEI-086-11. Some monies will be left so we need to request an extension from the DNR. Letter has been written; Ekstrom read it out loud and requested Krob's signature. Existing grants are still ongoing. Committee is making arrangements for future assistance from the Bayfield County AIS coordinator. CBCW sign was removed when the Upper boat landing was replaced and requested it be re-hung. Lang will work with Ekstrom to determine if old sign will work or to replace with a new, smaller sign. Committee will meet next February 2014 to get ready for 2014 season. Will be looking for additional boat landing monitors. He stated it was helpful having Vogel's assistance from the Town Office; Gus Gustafson has done it in the past and wants to pass it on to someone else. Weisner added that no Eurasian Water Milfoil has been found on George Lake since it was treated. Curly Leaf Pondweed has been found on Upper and Middle; Matt Berg will make recommendations for treatment.

**Motion by McGee/Webb for Krob to sign letter addressed to DNR to extend the grant. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**5) Cemetery Sexton & Committee: Dave Schiess**

One burial this month. New cremation lots were subdivided but no maps available yet. Lots are flagged for winter.

**6) Land Use Planning Commission: Dave Pease**

**1) David Manion – Permit for fire pit and sitting area with pavers**

Pease stated the Committee voted not to approve/recommend the permit as it does not fall in the scope of the Land Use Planning Committee. It deals with shoreline grading, which is handled by Zoning and the DNR. Manion stated it was not a shoreline issue as its 60' from the shoreline. Meinke and Krob had discussed

permit with Furtak who stated setbacks comply with Zoning, he'll be planting trees for erosion control, and actual paved area will be approximately 15' x 15'.

**Motion by Meinke/McGee to recommend approval of the permit. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2) Introduction of nominees to the Plan Commission, and possible motion of committee appointments**

Krob thanked Pease for his 14 years of service with the Commission. Pease was given a hardy round of applause. Krob recommended the appointment of Gene Ratzel as Chairperson, replacing Pease, Barb Romstad to fill the opening, and Jim Hardy to fill as 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate. Duke Martin remains 1<sup>st</sup> alternate.

**Motion by Meinke/Webb to appoint all three. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**15) Upper Eau Claire Lake – discussion of boat ramp status and payment decision**

Ramp is completed; problems were fixed and it's already being used. All specifications and deadlines were met, OK to process payment. Winter access is still not in. Wetland delineation is done, we can install winter access during winter once permit is approved.

**16) Kingman Loomis – Barnes Senior Living Center WIDOR tax decision discussion and possible action**

WIDOR approved charge-back of 2011 and 2012 property taxes; monies paid to jurisdictions will be returned to the Town of Barnes. Letter stating such was mailed to Mr. Loomis.

**17) Discussion and possible action regarding main ATV trails closed off by new owners**

Loren Bohl stated Heartwood Forestland was closing ATV trails 11 and 17 along Roy Dick Road, and more would be closing. Asked Town to send letter offering support; Bakke has completed draft. Webb suggested sending letter to legislatures to bring to their attention as well as this will affect local businesses.

**18) Discussion and possible action regarding Senate Bill 349**

Krob read specifics of Senate Bill 349.

**Motion by Porter/Webb to sign Resolution in Opposition of SB 349 Relating to Regulation of Nonmetallic Mining. Roll call vote taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**19) Bridge inspection proposal discussion and possible action**

Received quotes from Ayres Associates to inspect bridges; River Road bridge is \$1500, Lake Road bridge is \$700.

**Motion by Webb/Porter to approve \$2200 for Ayres to complete inspections.**

Krob questioned whether inspection of South Shore Road bridge was necessary. That bridge gets inspected by the County, and since there are no obvious problems, should not need a separate inspection.

**Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

**20) Last Month's Meeting Follow-up –**

**a) Town Board Issues Timeline Log - Review & Update**

Older details regarding the Upper Boat Landing can be removed, but leave winter access information for follow-up.

**b) Adjourn**

Krob thanked everyone for attending the meetings. All ideas presented will be given careful consideration.

**Motion by Webb/Porter to adjourn the November Monthly Town Board Meeting. Roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy E. Vogel

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Barnes

This 26th day of November, 2013