

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES
Monthly Town Board Meeting
Tuesday Sept. 17, 2024
6:30 PM at the Barnes Town Hall

APPROVED

- 1) The **Monthly Town Board Meeting** was called to Order by Supervisor Seana Frint at 6:30pm and a Roll Call was done to establish a Quorum with Dave Scully, Jim Frint and Eric Neff in attendance. Chairman Renz was absent. Deputy Meyer verified notice.

Seana made a motion to approve the agenda with a change to move Cris Neff (AIS) to agenda item #5 requested by supervisor Eric Neff and move Cedar Corp. to agenda item #6 requested by Jeff J. Highway Dept. seconded by Dave. Roll call core was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the 8/20/2024 Monthly Board Meeting and to dispense with the reading of those minutes by Dave/Jim. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag

Public Comment Session –

Roger Martin from FOECLA presented a donation of \$13,000 for the AIS committee to use toward controlling the aquatic invasive species in the local lakes.

AIS: Cris Neff gave a summary of the population control for 2024 and informed the board of an RFP for finding new consulting companies to do the grant work for the AIS committee. No documentation was provided to the clerk prior to the meeting.

Approve/sign Cedar Corp-Feasibility Contract

A motion was made by Eric/Dave to approve and sign the Feasibility contract from Cedar Corp. for \$8,200 for a study on the River Rd Bridge. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Clerk Correspondence: The clerk informed the board that mail and email ballots for the Nov. general election would be mailed out on Thurs. 9/19.

The timeline for getting the towns network set up on MS365 would be about a month and all town employees would be required to use town-issue computers, town emails and the towns network when conducting town business.

A motion to approve the Aug vouchers was made by Jim/Seana. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: As of August 31st the balance in the general checking account was \$616,854.87. The Money market savings balance is \$457,503.98. The Vatten Paddlar account \$4,488.35, Taste of Barnes \$5,511.21, PayPal \$5,764.56 and the tax account \$5,091.93. Total in all accounts, \$1,095,214.90, interest earned in Aug. \$542.76 for a total YTD of \$5,734.72.

A motion was made by Dave/Eric to approve the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Eric/Jim to approve the annual subscription to Sand Creek EAP for all employees. Renews 10/1/24-9/30/25 at a cost of \$1,240.00 (62 active employees x \$20 ea).

TOB Department Head Reports: **Highway Department** – Monthly Roads Report (Jeff J.) – Transfer Site (Jeff H.)

Hwy Dept. Roads Report:

Buildings: Cedar Corp has been here and did a walk around the current building.

Bridges: River road has been closed due to the rotting of the wood underneath the bridge.

Roads: Mowing will continue into early fall. Grading will continue as well. Industrial Road phase one is complete. Phase two will be done in the spring with a lift of three-quarter inch gravel. Ellison Lake road project will start this fall if the weather holds. There will be a short road closure, hoping only during the day. That is a contractor decision. Crack filling and chip sealing on Ellison Lake Road may have to be done in the spring due other contractors being at the same location.

Equipment: 2015 John Deere Grader has been to the shop @ McCoy for its six-thousand-hour checkup. Still waiting on the oil samples to come back, the tech did find a bad AC hose that was repaired. Everything for wear items looked good. Truck Thirty, the little orange truck has been to the shop as well, did a pressure test on the motor, everything passed on the motor. This type of motor has been known to fail with the EGR cooler not being monitored. They did find that the starter was bad replaced it along both rear springs and trailing arms replaced with a rear alignment done. Truck forty-two has been repaired as well, it blew a cross over hose going into the EGR Cooler. That repair was made here in the town garage.

HWY Agenda Items:

Review/approve bids for plow truck

A motion was made by Jim/Eric to approve the quote of \$176,081.00 provided by Boyer for the Western Star Plow truck. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Auction of truck 30-approve reserve amount

A motion was made by Eric/Dave to approve \$50,000.00 as a reserve amount for auctioning truck 30. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Transfer Site Report:

The transfer station in August had two 40-yard trash compactors go out for service, one 30 yard open top roll off, one 40 yard recycle compactor.

Labor Day weekend went well, not as busy as expected.

June Monthly Foreman Report:

Industrial Park: Starting to clear for proposed building sites. Still waiting for the zoning.

Ellison Lake Road: No bids time around either. Looking into possible engineering.

Fire Department – Monthly BES Report –Brock Frierhood

Fire Dept Monthly Report:

Calls: 2 calls

-1 lift assist for EMS

-1 odor in the area

The old engine should be on the auction block through Wisconsin surplus.com, along with some equipment. The auction ends this Friday.

There is a valve on the new engine that isn't working. I am working with S&R Truck to get it fixed.

We have formed a truck committee to start working on replacing Tender 1, which is a 2004 Freightliner.

DNR completed a compliance check for the 2023 FFP grant awards.

The second half of fire inspections should be starting soon.

Fire Agenda Items:

Discuss/Approve Reid Welhaven for membership

A motion was made by Dave/Eric to the approve Reid Wellhaven for membership. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Riley Welhaven for membership

A motion was made by Dave/Eric to the approve Riley Wellhaven for membership. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Ambulance Department – Monthly BES Report – Sonja VonFrank

Monthly Ambulance Report:

There have been 8 calls in the last month.

I received notification from Medicare that our account was put on hold, then deactivated, due to not completing a revalidation. As a result we are current not receiving reimbursements from Medicare. Many may remember that data was required to be collected and submitted by the end of May as part of the GADCS but this is a different process. Medicare claims to have sent a notice in March that this revalidation was needing to be completed, but nothing was received. I began working on the complicated process of gaining access to be able to start the revalidation but our billing company has now stepped in and is assisting with this.

Ferno provided a demonstration of a new mechanical CPR device called the Lifeline ARM at our September meeting. This device is similar to a LUCAS device but approximately 1/2 the cost and has some design improvements. If purchased, this would replace the Autopulse which is currently about 17 years old.

On Thursday, the Office of Emergency Communications announced the FY2025 Radio Grant. I've only been able to skim the announcement but there appears to be a January deadline for submissions. The purpose of the grant is to help agencies obtain radios to be equipped for the transition from the current WISCOM system to the new WISCOM 800 system as it is built out.

A draft EMS Study report has been provided to the County. There was a short comment period after which the comments will be reviewed and the final report published. The draft reports contains 23 recommendations to build EMS resiliency in Bayfield County, and provides 15 steps the County can take to assist in that. Some of the recommendations have been implemented across the County, but not necessarily uniformly or completely. A theme of the report is to begin viewing EMS in Bayfield County more as a Countywide system rather than individual services. This builds off some of what the EMS Council has done over the years and expands it with the County's help.

We received an application from Trevor Rowley for the open full-time EMT position. Trevor is from Ashland and is looking for a career change into EMS full-time. Trevor has some good experience and has worked with a few services. Trevor is also an EMS Instructor I and will be helping to teach the Northwood EMR class this fall.

Recommend to hire Trevor for the open full-time position.

Ambulance Agenda Items:

Approval to hire Trevor Rowley as a Full Time EMT

A motion was made by Dave/Jim to the approve Trevor Rowley as a FT EMT with an hourly rate of \$25.00/hour and contingent upon passing a background check and drug/alcohol screen. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried

TOB Committee and Commission Reports

A.I.S. Committee-Chris Webb **moved to #5** – Chris Webb was not in attendance.

Approve BAISS Project summary

No action was taken.

Request proposal for a new Consultant

No action was taken.

LUPC-Seana Frint – nothing to update

Parks & Rec Committee-Blair Gagne gave a summary of some things the committee was working on such as a sub-committee for the new playground equipment, what might be done with the skating rink, re-shingling the bathroom roof, expanding the pickle ball court and the memorial garden.

Cemetery Committee – Dave Scheiss not in attendance

Seana/Eric made a motion to open the floor. Roll call was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A resident brought a concern about the dock at TLP and why there wasn't one there and where it went. Some board members mentioned we do have a floating dock and that it would be feasible to put it in next spring.

Seana made a motion to close the floor, seconded by Jim a roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

New Business

Discuss possible donations to Drummond Marching Band – Dave requested item be tabled

Review Timeline – Specifically floating dock at TLP, the timeline will be updated with the dock at TLP moved to Spring of 2025. Floating dock was discussed previously.

A motion was made by Eric/Jim to adjourn. Roll call vote taken with all members voting yes, motion carried.

13) Meeting adjourned at 7:44PM

Submitted by: Lisa Meyer, Clerk Ph: 715-795-2782 Email: deputyclerk@townofbarneswi.gov Fax: 715-795-2784