

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**September 14, 2020 AT THE MINONG TOWN HALL**  
**DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION CAN BE TAKEN ON ALL AGENDA ITEMS**

NOTICE: IF SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY REQUIRES THAT THE MEETING BE ACCESSIBLE OR THAT MATERIALS AT THE MEETING BE IN AN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT, CALL THE CLERK'S OFFICE AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO REQUEST ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATIONS.

**VERIFY LEGAL  
POSTING**

**NOTICE:** Clerk verified.

**CALL TO**

**ORDER:** Meeting was called to order by Harold Smith at 6:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** Jim Smith, Linda Featherly, Roger Wojt, Chuck Warner, Harold Smith, Susan Conaway Clerk/Treasurer, Roberta Niggemeier Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

**PLEDGE OF**

**ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.

**APPROVE**

**AGENDA:** Smokey proposed to move Zoning ahead of Old Business. Warner made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wojt to adjust agenda. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**APPROVE**

**MINUTES:** Motion by Featherly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith to approve minutes for the August 3, 2020 meeting with a correction. She was appointed to the Northern Waters Library Committee not the Urban Waters Library. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**PAY BILLS:**

Motion by Featherly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith to pay debits 290-294 and check numbers 29012-29074 in the amount of \$217,223.71. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**FINANCIAL**

**REPORT:** Motion by Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Featherly to approve the Financial Statement dated September 14, 2020 in the amount of \$1,024,874.88. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**ZONING:**

Troy Link – Residential Recreation 2 to Agricultural Request – Smokey asked if Troy and/or an agent were present. No one present to represent. Smokey stated that we had received 18 opposing emails/letters from land owners. Zero received in support. Jim Baker from Old Bass Lake Road requested to speak and was granted such by Smokey. His concerns are from a safety standpoint. He asked if a barbed fence is allowed on a residential recreation zoned property and asked if we could look into. He also added that if this land is rezoned Agricultural that a (cell) tower and junk yard are allowed. Warner stated that he has received phone calls opposing the rezoning as well as from some land owners abutting the land having to possibly pay for half of the fencing. Smokey called for a roll call. Featherly made a motion to deny request. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith. Roll call vote was unanimous to deny motion. Motion carried.

Don Tolmie – Zoning change request from RR1 to RR2 – Don Tolmie announced his presence on behalf of himself and his siblings requesting the rezoning of his property tax ID # 21066. Currently there is an old log cabin 20'x30' which is too small for family. He is proposing adding a 36'x60' shed (approx. 720 sq. ft.) to include 3 bedrooms and 1 bath/shower. Smokey called for a motion. Warner made motion to approve with condition of driveway being brought to code and camper being removed. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>. Smokey, Warner, Wojt, Smith all in favor – Featherly opposed. Motion carried.

## OLD

### BUSINESS:

**Greenwood Cemetery** – Smokey started by reminding all about Clean Up day on Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am. He then informed that Wagner Surveying bid was received. This is to re-survey Gracie Lane land (bid \$3800-4000), Smith Bridge/Old Bass Lake lot (bid \$1500-1800) and a new part to the cemetery (bid plats \$1500-5000) so we can get it laid out properly to alleviate problems by putting roads and plots in more organized fashion. Smokey explained that we can lower costs by supplying deeds and abstractions. Susan informed that this was advertised in the paper and Wagner was the only bid returned. Smokey added that this was in the paper for quite some time and phone calls were made looking for bids. Smith stated that John called him and wants more money for lawn service/weed whacking. Smokey responded that he is the one who wanted a 3 year contract and if he wants to relinquish on his contract there will probably be an issue which could cost him more money than what he is potentially losing. In addition, Smokey explained that he beat out 2 other bids with the price he gave us.

**Short Term Rental Licenses** – Featherly spoke about her and Wojt meeting with Mr. Wingstad regarding changes to the current ordinance. Proposed revisions to current ordinance were handed out. She stated the following for changes: Every short-term rental property shall be operated by a property owner AND Resident Agent or Property Manager. Each short term rental is required to have the following licenses and permits: A seller's permit issued by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. In addition: The number of occupants shall not exceed the limits set forth in the State of Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code or other applicable county and town housing regulations based upon the number of bedrooms in each unit. All vehicle and trailer parking must be contained to the rental property and shall not be left on private or town roads, including the right of way. When access is via a shared driveway and/or private roadway. It is strongly suggested that a Maintenance and Use Agreement be made between landowners. The property owner should apply to the DNR for an annual burning permit if needed. This permit is free. Burning restrictions and regulations should be posted at the property. All campfires must be attended and fully extinguished when finished. Wojt stated that he contacted the Wisconsin Town Association regarding the shared driveway easement issue and due to legality/enforcement, the wording was made to strongly suggest/recommend. Wojt stated that the goal was not to make the changes immediately unless everyone felt comfortable. It can be carried over until next meeting (put on agenda). Wojt stated that license may not be issued next year if rules not followed. Featherly and Wojt stated that we rely on people's good faith that they will tell us. Smokey stated that neighbors need to let us know as well. Enforcement is tricky but state is starting to look at this. Susan reminded that currently owner must have a Tourist Rooming House License from state and to get this license, and must pass an inspection from the state with a final approval through the Board. Featherly explained that the initial inspection of property will probably start to be more intensive from the state level (i.e. Septic).

## NEW

### BUSINESS:

**Lakes Committee CBC Grant** – John Ney asked the Board to approve the loan for the CBCW grant for 2021. On average 4,000 boats are inspected each year on the 8 landings and this program is about education. It is a high profile program for the town. DNR gives \$4,000/landing and we have 8 in Town for a total of \$32,000 in grant money. But due to changes, only 6 landings may be placed on 1 grant and 2 on another. The Town gets \$8,000 in advance from the DNR but the other \$24,000 comes after the end of season by November. He stated that if short from the grants, the Lakes Committee does solicit and receive donations. Susan stated our auditor has addressed this in the past and is not for this, being that technically we are not a bank. Discussion followed and Featherly stated that she thinks this is a wonderful program and made the motion that the board approve the loan, Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Motion carried. John added that he needed Smokey's signature on the grant applications and would bring the documents on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ROADS:** Maintenance- Smokey updated that the guys are still trying to keep up with the ATVs and the mowing is just about completed. We are holding back on the gravel for now unless needed.  
Purchases- The new loader and hitches came in and invoices done. Smokey stated that we will need to replace our fill mower (sits behind the tractor) next year and will need to be figured into budget proposal. It is 20 years old and replacement is around \$10,900 from estimate.

**MONTHLY  
REPORTS:**

Fire & Ambulance- Warner reported there were 6 Fire calls last month. 2 in Village; 4 in Town of Minong. Warner then reported that there were 22 ambulance calls for August. Town of Brooklyn (5), Town of Chicog (1), Town of Frog Creek (0), Town of Minong (8), Village of Minong (8), Mutual Aid (1).  
Transfer Station- Chairman gave report stating there were 12 loads in August. 131.6 tons. 10.96 ton average/load. Total collected YTD is \$46,368. He reported that the Free Day for Town was August 29<sup>th</sup>. Toward the end of the year if this amount continues we will not have enough money to keep it going without doing something different.  
Constable- Erik reported that election signs have been reported stolen and he has leads on 2. He recommends that people bring them in at night. We have a person in our Town farming industrial hemp. Erik reached out to the state to find out more about this and Department of Agriculture regulates this. The farmer is licensed. Hemp is used for many items including CBD oil. ATV damage is a huge problem. A donation has been received to match our purchase of 2 cameras. Erik purchased 1 camera so far that transmits through his phone. The board reminded him that the purchase of 2 more cameras was approved at a past meeting at the same time the donation was received. Erik informed the board that he has 3 total cameras. Warner asked if they all were satellite and he stated only 1 so far. Smokey added that since the \$200 per camera price will be made up by saving the Town from paying to fix the roads, it makes sense to get 2 more satellite cameras. Erik agreed.  
Lakes Committee- Laurie Johnson reported that the committee had some challenges this year with inspectors coming back late and leaving early. They had a new independent contractor this year. Data comes back after September and if it shows the amount of garbage has increased this likely means there were more boaters and thus more usage of the landings/education.  
Clerk's Update- Susan updated that we are busy with election issues. The state Supreme Court ruling has delayed the ballots. We are at the hands of the state right now to get the court case decided to determine who will be on the ballots.  
Discussion from Other Meetings- Featherly updated that the county recorded its first death from Covid on 9/13/20. The August county board meeting was held only to approve a part-time position to the public health department of an RN to assist with the overwhelming need. The position will be paid specifically through the Covid reimbursements. There will not be a county board meeting in September. Warner stated that he had a Fire/Ambulance meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup> they will be working on the budgets. Discussion of selling old pumper truck and Jay Barrett is going to look at the value and get back to the Chairman Larry Lee to post for sale. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of August there was a presentation of a check by the person who was saved by our ambulance team (Susan Conaway was a member of this team). Warner added that he was the only fire and ambulance board member who attended the presentation. Smokey stated that the person was the first save with the new LUCAS machine. Warner reported that he attended the Library meeting and because of Covid, the reporting on usage is a bit behind but computers are being used a lot and 1 broke and a new computer was purchased. Income for August was \$968 and expenses were \$1700 due to new computer. Otherwise they are breaking even monthly (on average). He reported that he had a County Health & Human Services board meeting with a Covid presentation by County Health officer, Cheri Nickell. Currently there are 80 cases in Washburn County as of 9/14/20. If you want good information about Covid go to Harvard Global Pandemic and see county information/data.

**CITIZENS  
COMMENTS:** N/A

**DATE &**

**AGENDA:**

**Next Board Meeting:** There is a conflict with Susan meeting on Monday 10/12/20. Motion by Featherly to move meeting date to 10/15/20. Warner 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting moved to Thursday 10/15/20 at 6pm.

Agenda Items: Short term rental update; budget

Featherly asked if board could set an Executive Session to review employee items. Being employee related, Susan added that this meeting will not be available to the public. Since budget is on next meeting agenda, it was determined that this session would occur after the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WI STATUES 19.85 (1) (c)-Employee Discussion: N/A**

**ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION: N/A**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: N/A**

**ADJOURN MEETING:** Motion by Featherly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

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Chairman

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Clerk/Treasurer