

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2015 AT THE MINONG TOWN HALL**

CALL TO

ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Harold Smith at 7:00 PM. All board members, Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer and Susan Conaway, Office Assistant were present.

APPROVE

AGENDA:

Motion by Featherly 2nd by Wojt to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Carried.

APPROVE

MINUTES:

Motion by Jim Smith 2nd by Warner to approve the minutes of October 12, 2015 as presented. All in favor. Carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by Warner 2nd by Jim Smith to pay check numbers 25899 thru 25940 totaling \$68,134.14. All in favor. Carried.

FINANCIAL

REPORT:

Motion by Featherly 2nd by Wojt to approve the Financial Report dated November 9, 2015 in the amount of \$946,690.27. All in favor. Carried.

OLD

BUSINESS:

Culvert/Bridge on Narrows Trail - from last meeting

Smokey explained that to his understanding the County Highway Committee tabled their decision on this matter until next month. At this point there is nothing we can do until we find out if they are going to approve the 50/50 Grant or not.

Motion by Featherly 2nd by Jim Smith to table this matter until the December meeting to see if the County is going to approve or deny this Grant. All in favor. Carried.

Smokey gave the residents a chance to speak on this matter. Residents stated they had been at the County meeting this morning and to their understanding the County was waiting for input from the Town as to what direction they wanted to go.

Smokey explained that the Town has already sent the Bridge Petition into the County applying for the 50/50 Grant for the larger culvert that we discussed last meeting. There should be no question as to the Town's input as to what they want.

Smokey explained once the County decides what they are going to do if they approve the 50/50 grant then we go to the DNR for permits. Once the County decides which way they are going to go the County will be the ones to put the Culvert in.

Resident gave out copies of another Culvert option and Smokey explained that this option wouldn't meet the State standards for the future, if a new culvert or bridge were needed we would qualify for a 10/10/80 grant.

Another resident stated that at the County meeting this morning they had the Town's Bridge petition, but tabled it because what they were asking for was something different, and were told to come to this Town meeting tonight to talk about it.

Smokey stated he will follow up with the County to make sure they know which culvert we want. More discussion followed.

Smokey stated that when the top is off of this Culvert, if nothing is wrong, it will not be replaced and that he will keep the residents informed of everything that goes on with this matter.

NEW

BUSINESS:

2016 Boat Inspection Grant Approval

John Ney presented the 2016 Boat Inspection Grant request to borrow \$24,000.00 from the Town.

This is the 4th year the Town has sponsored this request for the Lakes Committee. This is a replay of the 2015 Grant. The DNR Grant is for \$32,000.00 of which they will give \$8,000.00 up front and then the \$24,000.00 is borrowed from the Town and gets paid back in November of each year.

Clerk stated we just got payment of \$24,000.00 for this year's loan.

Motion by Warner 2nd by Featherly to approve a \$24,000.00 loan to the Lakes Committee for the 2016 season. All in favor. Carried.

Discuss Funding for Shop Addition

Wojt gave report stating we would be borrowing around \$400,000.00 over 7 years at a rate of 2.6%. It is not certain that it will be \$400,000.00 as yet. Wojt stated there are drawings of the new addition on the table if anyone wants to look at them.

Featherly asked if this would raise our Tax Levy.

Clerk stated she has talked with Dwight at Community Bank about combining our current loan with the \$400,000.00 to make a total of \$510,000.00. This could be a 7 year loan with a 7 year amortization schedule with an estimated monthly payment of \$6,648.00. Currently we pay \$5,541.00 per month on loan #30748 and \$656.00 for loan #30569 (boom mower & MAD), for a total of \$6,197.00 per month. The small loan, #30569 has a payoff amount of \$32,092.00 at the end of 2015. If the Town took the \$32,092.00 out of the building fund and paid this off (loan is at 2.75% interest) that would save \$2,017.00 in interest on this loan. This \$656.00 payment could be added to the new loan payment which would be really close to the \$6,648.00 payment amount of the new loan. It would be \$451.00 more a month in payments for an increase of \$5,412.00 per year. This would be the amount your taxes would go up. If you divide that by the total assessed value of over 3,000,000.00 plus, it comes to .00001609 per \$100,000.00. This would be a minuscule amount your taxes would raise.

If the Town doesn't want to do this, they could put more towards the loan or possibly to Budget another \$1,000.00 a month into the Equipment Fund and another \$500.00 a month into the Building Fund, which would come out of surplus funds instead of raising the taxes the .00001609. Then in the future if new equipment was needed there would be over \$100,000.00 in the Equipment Fund and would not need to borrow. Or you could take the \$5,412.00 increase out of Surplus Funds instead of raising the taxes the .00001609, for 2016.

Smokey stated he wants to keep surplus fund as is.

Clerk explained the Town is allowed to increase their Levy by Debt.

Motion by Wojt 2nd by Warner to apply to Community Bank for the additional \$400,000.00 to be added to the \$109,000.00 on loan #30748 at 2.6% for 7 years and to payoff loan #30569 in January 2016 in the amount of \$32,092.00. All in favor. Carried.

Discuss Walking Dogs without leashes on Town Roads

Smokey explained we have a resident on Old Bass Lake Rd that walks the dog without a leash and the dog is all over the road and the resident will step out in front of oncoming cars to keep them from hitting her dog. There is a County wide leash ordinance in place already. This has been going on for quite some time and they have been warned by the County and our Constable several times.

Motion by Smokey 2nd by Featherly to have the constable take charge of this situation. All in favor. Carried.

Operation Rudolph – Donation

Motion by Featherly 2nd by Warner to donate \$100.00 to Operation Rudolph. All in favor. Carried.

Fire & Ambulance Contracts – (Copies attached)

Motion by Jim Smith 2nd by Warner to approve the Fire Contract in the amount of \$107,228.46 and the Ambulance Contract in the amount of \$20,366.34 for the year 2016. All in favor. Carried.

Review Proposed Budget –

Motion by Featherly 2nd by Warner to increase the Equipment Fund monthly Deposits by \$1,000.00 per month for a total of \$36,000.00 per year and to increase the Building Fund Deposits by \$500.00 per month for a total of \$18,000.00 per year. The increases to come out of Surplus Funds. All in favor. Carried.

ZONING: Nothing at this time

ROADS: Maintenance –

Smokey explained Nancy Lake Rd has been graveled to Misty Bog

Highway Maintenance/Safety Meeting

Motion by Warner 2nd by Featherly for Larry Radzak and Roger Wojt to attend this Safety Meeting on December 9, 2015. All in favor. Carried.

Purchases -

Next big purchase will be for 6 tires for Duane's truck

**MONTHLY
REPORTS:**

Fire & Ambulance – (copies attached)

Smokey reported 10 ambulance runs of which 3 were in the Town, and 3 Fire runs of which none were in the Town.

Transfer Station –

Smokey reported there were 6 loads in September average 75.2 ton. Year to date collection was \$30,888.00.

Constable –

Erik was present and stated he assisted on 1 County Call and a few dog calls. Stressed that this is cabin break in season, if you see anything that doesn't look right to take a picture if you can and call it in. Also, that there is a huge problem with meth again.

Lake Committee –

Nothing at this time

Shop Committee –

Wojt reported they had a meeting today and that there are drawings of the building on the table for everyone to look at. There are a lot of Specs to finalize yet.

Other Meetings attended –

Jim Smith reported on the Town's convention stating they are thinking about cutting Road Aids in 2018. He bought back information regarding Laws for the Constable and Road signs for Larry

Clerk stated the proposal that had been made for County wide assessment by one assessor had been removed from the budget proposal.

Clerk also stated regarding Culvert Permitting reform, that New culverts require a Normal General Permit from the DNR and Replacement of an existing Culvert would need either a Normal General Permit from the DNR or an application from the DNR for an exemption to a General Permit.

Also, that the MFL rates changed, raised them for the Towns.

Election Act 39 allows Municipal Clerks to register voters on Election Day, when not on the ballot, and shortened the time for the Caucus from January 2 to January 21.

Regarding Legal notices for posting, we could post in one posting place and on the website. This is just waiting for the Governor's signature. The Town would then have to make a resolution as such.

Warner & Wojt attended the Wisconsin Town's meeting in Spooner on 10/28/2015, stating there was discussion on the meth problem in Washburn County, which is causing lots of break ins, stealing, etc. Talked about culverts having to be registered with the DNR if increasing the size of the Culvert.

Also that the \$5,000.00 per mile limit on Road Maintenance may be removed.

Warner also attended the Library meeting and was asked to be the representative from the Town Board for the Library Board. They are also looking to start a foundation for the Library to set up and do fund raising being they will be going into the new Community Center, but do not know what costs will be.

CITIZENS

COMMENTS: Nothing at this time

DATE &

AGENDA: Next Board Meeting: **December 14, 2015 at 7 PM**
 Budget Hearing: **November 30, 2015 at 6PM**

ADJOURN: Motion by Jim Smith 2nd by Featherly to adjourn. All in favor. Carried.
 Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Chairman

Clerk/Treasurer