

October 4, 2023 Regular Town Board Meeting

The Regular meeting of the Town Board was called to order by Chairman Gaulke at 5:30 p.m. Supervisor Cobb, Supervisor Hanson, Treasurer Holly Schwartz and Clerk Susan Schoonover were present.

Others present: Dave Wakeman, Betsy Hottinger, Bill McCutchin, Norm Wetzel, John Bernard, Kay Hoff, Dennis Pearson, Jim Sommerfeldt, Pam Fraboni, Mary Possin.

This meeting was properly posted, and the media notified as required by law.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence for those who have passed: Doug Zache.

Motion by Supervisor Cobb, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Mary Possin addressed the Board regarding the Lakeland Times article that the homeowners had individually decided to intervene in the DOJ lawsuit as they were entering to protect their individual property rights, not necessarily in favor of the Town's defense. Dennis Pearson asked if his posed questions from the last meeting could be answered, noted that the trial date for the DOJ lawsuit had been set for February 2025. Kay Hoff questioned if there was an agreement with the Tribe, that both entities had signed to state where the easement money was being kept/spent.

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb to approve the vouchers of General Fund 3410-3439 & ACH 1514-1518; Ambulance Fund 19574. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023, Regular Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Cobb, seconded by Supervisor Hanson, to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2023, Budget Workshop. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2023, Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Cobb, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to approve the Treasurer's Report with balances as of September 30, 2023. Motion carried.

Swearing in of EMS Chief Zimmerman. Chief Zimmerman accepted and signed the oath of office.

Discussion/Possible Action: 202 Audit. Clerk Schoonover reported on the expectation of the completion of the audit in early September per Kerber Rose email. However, after emailing the accountant on September 21, 2023, she and her cover agent were found to be out of the office. Follow email from Gret Pitel, Partner on 10/02/23 stated that he would have draft numbers by the end of day 10/03/23. With that not being the case, motion by Supervisor Cobb, seconded by

Supervisor Hanson, to have Chairman Gaulke contact the representative and discuss the unprofessional actions towards a government agency and being unable to abide by timeframes they gave. Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible Action: Sugarbush Trail Bridge Accident/Condition. Chairman Gaulke reports on the update since the last meeting. Vilas County did not have this bridge on their inventory, and as required, will be completing an inspection as to the structural damage and condition.

Convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wi Stats 19.85(e and 1985(g). Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb to convene into closed session. Roll call vote, Supervisor Hanson aye; Supervisor Cobb aye; Chairman Gaulke aye. We are now in closed session.

Convene into Open Session. Motion by Supervisor Cobb, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to convene into open session. Roll call vote, Supervisor Hanson aye; Supervisor Cobb aye; Chairman Gaulke aye. We are now in open session.

Action Taken Regarding Closed Session: Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb to authorize Chairman Gaulke to attach a letter to the next easement payment letting the Tribe know that the escalation of the payments are not sustainable and the Town would like to return to good faith negotiation on this subject. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Cobb to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Schoonover

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Town Clerk