

## AUGUST 18, 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Town Board was called to order by Chairman Gaulke at 5:00 p.m. Supervisor Hanson, Supervisor Cobb, Clerk Nancy Edwards, Treasurer Irene Messinger were present.

Others present: Sign in sheet attached to these minutes;

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Chairman Gaulke made a statement that the Tribal Council will be putting their covid mask requirement back in place beginning Friday August 20, 2021 so the Town will be following that mandate.

Motion by Supervisor Hanson seconded by Supervisor Cobb to approve vouchers of the General Fund #53426-53460. Motion carried

Motion by Supervisor Hanson seconded by Supervisor Cobb to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2021, Regular Town Board Meeting with a correction to the last paragraph by the motion by Supervisor Hanson adding Chairman ruled it was out of order. Motion carried.

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurer Irene Messinger presented a revised reconciled balance of the General Fund as of 7/31/2021 as \$1,177,602.69. Reconciled balance of the Ambulance Fund as of 7/31/2021 as \$438,175.44. Motion by Supervisor Hanson seconded by Supervisor Cobb to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion Carried:

**Public Comments:** Kay Hoff asking for balance of the reserve fund which as of 7/31/2021 is \$208,263.32.

**Broadband Update:** Dion Reynolds IT manager from Business Development Corporation in Lac du Flambeau was present for today's meeting to give us an update of Broadband in Lac du Flambeau. He stated that since April 2020 when covid hit a lot of people had the need to work from home/school and found that the internet speeds in the area were just not effective enough to get work done. They have been searching for solutions to get the speeds increased. They are looking at options and partnerships, community support. They are working with Vilas County Economic Development and tribe. Ultimate goal is to get the fiber to the home as now it is by cooper wire which just cannot support the speeds needed. Dion would like people to test their speeds and get that information back to him. His email is [dion@ldfbdc.com](mailto:dion@ldfbdc.com). The goal for the wireless solution is 1-2 years. Fiber to the homes 2-5 years. There are approximately 3700 households, 1700 year round and 20% have less than 25 GHz. They are looking for solutions for good service at costs that can be affordable. They are looking for grants for the infrastructure. They are working with engineers for costs involved in the projects. Dion stated he would be happy to come back and give us quarterly reports on the progress.

**Hazard pay for Transfer Station attendants:** Due to the recent increase in covid cases and the Tribes decision to put a mandatory mask mandate back into place beginning Friday August 20, 2021, motion by Supervisor Hanson seconded by Supervisor Cobb to continue the hazard pay for the attendants. This will be revisited in 3 months or sooner if needed.

**Increase in Town Board Membership:** Chairman Gaulke explained this item has been on the agenda at several prior meetings. Supervisor Hanson presented an ordinance to increase the town board members from 3 members to 5 members. The town attorney has reviewed the ordinance Supervisor Hanson prepared and felt it was adequate.

Mr. Gaulke asked what was the board's pleasure on moving forward.

To put the first reading of the ordinance on the next agenda, stay with a 3 member board or wait for this item to be brought up at the annual meeting in April as it has been done in the past. It is customary to have 2 readings and publication for an ordinance. Motion by Supervisor Hanson to go forward in putting the first reading of the ordinance on the next agenda. Chairman Gaulke asked for a second to the motion. Motion seconded by Supervisor Cobb for discussion: Supervisor Hanson, Supervisor Cobb, Chairman Gaulke received emails in support of a 5 member board. The clerk received several concerns against a 5 member board. Discussion was held with discussion on the want or need for a 5 member board. Supervisor Cobb explained her position on the subject. She needs to feel that we are preparing well for this expansion. Although she supported the motion for discussion at this time she cannot support the expansion until our current house is in order. She stated we need to get strategic planning and committees formed now so we can be prepared for the 2023 election. Chairman Gaulke asked for a roll call vote on the motion on the floor to move forward with the ordinance to increase the Town Board membership to 5.

Supervisor Hanson Aye:

Supervisor Cobb No:

Chairman Gaulke No:

The motion fails.

Motion by Chairman Gaulke to adjourn at 6:00 p.m.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Edwards  
Town Clerk

DRAFT