

Minutes of the Town of Newbold Town Board Regular Town Board Meeting held on Thursday, May 27, 2021

The Town of Newbold, Town Board, met on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., for the Town Board Regular Monthly Meeting, held at the Newbold Town Hall, 4608 Apperson Drive, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, Oneida County, Wisconsin. The following were in attendance: Chairman Dave Kroll, Supervisors, Bob Metropulos, Jim Staskiewicz, Mike McKenzie and Mike Suefloh, Kim Gauthier, Clerk and Jodie Hess, Treasurer.

Chairman Kroll called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., led the audience in the pledge of allegiance and the Clerk verified the agenda was properly noticed to the public.

Discussion and action on wearing masks (due to the pandemic) in town owned buildings. The board had no objection to dismissing the mask mandate in town owned buildings due to the CDC removal of the mandate for those who have received the vaccine.

Public comment.

Mary Dahl presented a letter on behalf of the owner at 7180 Bass Lake Road in support of the current slow-no-wake ordinance.

Email from Penny Simmons of 7152 Bass Lake Road was read into the record in support of the slow-no-wake ordinance due to concerns for personal safety of lake users, property damage along the lake and preservation of the shoreline.

Email read from Mark Pond in support of the slow-no-wake ordinance.

Bob (last name unknown) in support of the slow-no-wake ordinance per a letter read by Ms. Dahl.

Letter presented from Jeff Arvold of 7144 Bass Lake Rd in support of the slow-no-wake ordinance.

Letter presented from Connie White, 7180 Bass Lake Road in support of the slow-no-wake due to concerns of lake preservation while the water levels are high.

Public Comment and letter presented by Mary Dahl in support of the slow-no-wake on Bass Lake along with a description of the characteristics of Bass Lake along with cited concerns for public safety, natural resources, reasonable use, water craft concerns and DNR information from similar lakes of this size. Ms. Dahl requests the ordinance remain for the time being.

Tim Dexter, 7316 Ross Lane recommended conversation take place with those not respecting the lake with wake boards and asked that the DNR way in on the matter. Mr. Dexter indicated he is not really in favor of the temporary ordinance.

Mike Blom, 7114 Bass Lake Rd, agreed with Mr. Dexter's comments.

Mike Moore 7109 Bass Lake Rd, commented he does not see erosion along the lake shore.

Ron Kraft, Virgin Acres Rd, agreed with Mr. Dexter's comments.

Dave Schultz, 7066 Bass Lake Rd, indicated the board received a petition against the slow-no-wake ordinance with 64 signatures asking the ordinance be repealed.

Jeff Rohloff, 7251 Bluegill Lake Rd, commented he is in favor of the slow-no-wake only in the area of the 9 property owners along the lake and spoke against the ordinance for the whole lake. He also noted the DNR has elevation markers at the boat landing. The water goes up and down through the years.

Pete Cody comment regarding the town shop building proposal; he disagrees with the chairman's previous comments on using highway reserve funds to fix up a few items in the shop. He noted the town building committee and Funktion Design did a professional job evaluating the needs and bringing forth a proposal. He disagrees with any talk of a different shop proposal by the town board and employees while circumventing the committee.

Jackie Cody presented a citizen Facebook comment regarding the building projects and public information as being “untruthful” and claiming that the property taxes will go up 23%, when in fact there was no untruthfulness to the presentation and the only increase in taxes would be the Newbold portion, if the project went forward. Mrs. Cody asked that the town board make a statement publicly refuting these comments inaccuracy and place all project information back on the town’s website so citizens can receive accurate information about the project. An example of an actual tax bill was presented showing the taxing jurisdictions portions noting the increase is not accurate at 23% claimed by the citizen.

Approval of prior town meeting minutes. *A motion was made by Mr. Metropulos and Mr. McKenzie to approve the town board regular and finance meeting minutes of May 13, 2021, with the amendments presented by Chairman Kroll. That motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.*

Monthly report by Town Assessor, Jef Muelver. Mr. Muelver presented a written report and noted sales are up sixty-four percent from 2020, with 123 transactions at this time compared to 79 last year.

Discussion and action on Resolution proposed by Town Assessor related to LRB21-0322-1, Elimination of Personal Property Tax. Mr. Muelver discussed the bill and its effect on the taxing jurisdiction and share of interest paid on a claim. Chairman Kroll read town Resolution #2021-02, opposing SB189 and urging Wisconsin lawmakers to reject the bill as presented. *Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Suefloh to approve Resolution #2021-02, as presented and carried on a roll call vote of: Mr. McKenzie, aye; Mr. Staskiewicz, aye; Mr. Suefloh, aye; Mr. Metropulos, aye; Mr. Kroll, aye.*

County Board of Supervisors report by Newbold Representatives. Mr. Winkler was absent and excused. Mr. Roach was present and introduced himself as Newbold Dist. 15 representative. Mr. Roach indicated the county board voted unanimously to keep Townline Lake Park. The Crescent Lake District proposal passed at the county level. Anyone interested in volunteering for fair set up should contact Mr. Winkler. The Oneida County Fair is July 29-August 1st and a listing of events can be found on the fair website.

Volunteer Fire Department activity by Chief, Mark Fetzer. Report received. Chief Fetzer reported 5 fire calls and 10 first responder calls in the month of May. Chief reminded those present to use safe practices when cutting trees, as a Newbold gentlemen was killed this month in a tree accident. The Fire Department picnic will be August 21, 2021.

Monthly Report of Public Works Department activity by Public Works Director, Mark Fetzer. Report received and listed public works activity this month as patching roads, gravel work, bike path brushing, docks installed at town landings, mowing at all town buildings, debris clean up, outdoor recreation area bike fix it station installed, mowing at the recreation area along with spreading wood chips and the one-ton truck was painted by McNaughton Correctional inmates with the town supplying the materials.

Monthly report of Newbold Outdoor Recreation Committee by Chairman Pete Cody. A written report was provided by Mr. Cody who indicated the following activity this month; installation of a bike fix it station, bike trail head gates were painted yellow, trail caution signs ordered, wood chips spread in areas at NORA where grass will not grow. The committee anticipates parking areas established at the trail head on Lake Mildred Road, Ole Lake Road and Bayview Drive in conjunction with the public works dept. The committee recommends

selling the current ATV and purchase a side-by-side for moving soil and other materials when needed. Invasive plant removal is needed again this year at NORA and volunteers will be present at the disc golf course on Memorial Day. Total volunteer hours are 5,384 total project hours.

Discussion and possible action on temporary Bass Lake slow-no-wake ordinance, Chapter 11.13(1), request to repeal.

Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Metropulos to schedule a public hearing on ordinance chapter 11.13(1) to gather information to make a decision on retaining or repealing. That motion carried on a voice vote of all aye. The public hearing was set for Saturday, June 26th at 10:00 a.m., at the town hall.

Discussion and action on Oneida County Zoning requests, Plan Commission and citizen zoning requests and chairman's report. Mr. Sueflohn indicated the commission meeting is set for June 3, 2021 with continued discussion on the comprehensive plan.

Discussion and action on citizen concerns regarding Rezone petition #3-2021 and #4-2921, along Pickerel Lake and town procedures involving the previous re-zones.

Mr. Sueflohn indicated there were questions as to the process and noted the town followed the process established, which then proceeded to the county for a public hearing and decision by the county zoning committee. The request was consistent with the town comprehensive plan. Mr. Sueflohn noted the public hearing and any zoning belongs at the county level. The town relies on the comprehensive plan and review by the town plan. He also noted the commission is currently reviewing the plan.

Discussion and action on awarding road bid projects previously presented and opened.

Rainbow Lake Road was awarded to Musson Brothers. Mr. Fetzer noted the town is eligible for a TRIP grant on the hot mix portion of the project. Also, \$11,350 of the bid may be reduced with McNaughton Correctional staff doing the tree removal.

Motion by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Metropulos to award the Rainbow Lake Rd project to Musson Brothers in the amount of \$318,050.50. That motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.
Motion by Mr. Sueflohn and Mr. Staskiewicz to award the Landing Road project to North East Asphalt in the amount of \$32,250. That motion carried on a voice vote of all aye.

Discussion and action on closing the town hall for rental use. Chairman Kroll clarified his previous comment on closing the town hall because a comment was made publicly that town hall users could be "electrocuted to death". Chairman Kroll asked Mr. Fetzer if this was possible to which he replied, "No" and there were no reports on anyone being electrocuted. Mr. Staskiewicz was also asked if there was any danger, to which he indicated there was no record of such, however light fixtures are not grounded nor outlets in the kitchen and bathroom and could be a possibility if something was stuck into the outlets. There was also no written report provided to the town by the recent state inspection. No action taken by the board to close the town hall for rental use.

Discussion and action on the on-going issues with the Town Shop. Chairman Kroll noted his comment at the last meeting to use highway reserves to fix the shop was only a comment and no plans were in place. He also agrees a decision needs to be made soon if it's to go to a special vote of just the shop and the town should move forward with minimal tax implication. Mr. Staskiewicz does not support use of highway reserve funds as they are needed for roads and request the town go to the electors for a vote on constructing a new town shop as

previously proposed. Mr. McKenzie indicated any safety issues need to be addressed now as a cost of doing business, while doing nothing is unacceptable. Mr. Sueflohn would like the building committee to discuss options where improvements can be made. Mr. Fetzer commented if there are unsafe conditions those would have been addressed, but the building is too small and crowded, that's the only problem along with the wood structure needs a larger door and the front of the shop a new concrete apron. Mrs. Gauthier asked the town board make a decision on next steps, as the committee already made a recommendation. Mr. Metropulos recommended something be done with the buildings. Chairman Kroll asked that the committee focus on the town shop and come up with a plan or proposal to present to the board at the next town board meeting.

Approval and Payment of any bills and/or funds adjustments. *A motion was made by Mr. Staskiewicz and Mr. Metropulos to approve bills and disbursements as presented. That motion carried with on a voice vote, all ayes.*

Administrative review and action, if necessary, concerning general government, public safety, recycling, sanitation, culture, education, job assignments, project updates, transportation, budget items, fund transfers, and future agenda items.

Next town board meeting is June 10, 2021. The Clerk informed the board that liquor licenses will be on the next agenda.

Public comment and communication period per Wisconsin statutes whereby the town board may receive input on any matter raised by the public.

Glenn Schiffmann commented that the previous re-zone was his for property he obtained years ago from DNR remnants. There are rumors that he is building condos which he said is a false pretense. Mr. Schiffmann commented all of Pickerel Lake property is zoned recreational and a town master land use plan was followed for the property that is near Loon's Landing Resort. He thanked the board for their time.

Scott Koval thanked the board for relaxing the mask requirement and recommended they be optional and the decision left to each individual.

Pete Cody commented that worker safety is a complex issue and not an opinion or based on what one has seen and only be established by a trained professional in the field. If eyewash stations and other employee safety concerns are considered safe, then there should be documents that say such.

Jackie Cody commented the board stated at the last meeting, "no means no", but now the building committee can only focus on the shop which she objects to because the town hall still needs to be done. She commented It's not okay there is water dripping from the overhead furnace when we all could be working in a new building. Two buildings at four-million dollars is very reasonable when Lac du Flambeau is spending six-million on one fire dept. building, to which she does not understand why the board is not willing to move forward.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m., on a motion made by Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Metropulos, with no objection.

Respectfully submitted by

Kim Gauthier, Town Clerk