

Regular Town Board Meeting of October 13, 2020

Meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Maines. The Chairman noted that this Regular Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake Board of Supervisors was held at the Town Hall in Sayner on Tuesday, October 13th, 2020. The meeting was duly called with notice posted at the Town Hall in Sayner, the Sayner Post Office, Star Lake Post Office, and notice given to the Vilas County News-Review, The Lakeland Times, WRJO and WERL, as well as posted on the Town Website. Supervisor Schmidt, Supervisor Rasmussen and Clerk Brooker were present and 7 other people. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Approve Agenda to be Discussed in any Order:

Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve discussing the agenda in any order, Supervisor Schmidt seconded; motion carried.

New Electronic sign by EMS Building:

Jim Schettler stated that his family donated the new sign at the Library which replaced the storm damaged sign and that it was 57 feet off the center line. Jim also spear-headed the installation of the sign. Over the past 6 months or so, Jim and Gary Kaphingst from the Sayner-Star Lake Lions Club have been researching the best place to put a new proposed sign for the town and what needs to be done to get the placemat of the digital sign approved. Jim suggested the site by the Hwy 155 and Plum Lake Drive intersection. due to its high visibility and an available power source. He was told that the DOT has no jurisdiction on Highway 155 setbacks and sign sizes. Town and County approvals are needed. Jim asked the Town if they would approve 50 ft. off center line of 155 instead of 60 ft. Clerk Brooker is to call the County to see if they would accept a variance on the setback. Jim said the Lions Club had donations lined up for the purchase of the sign and that he would be donating his time and the costs involved for installation of the new sign. It will be a double-sided sign, with a size of up to 70 sq. ft. and will be able to share the Library's software to control the new sign. Clerk Brooker to put the sign back on this coming Friday's meeting agenda so the Town can act on it.

Proposed Ice-Skating Rink at Old School Park:

Chairman Maines said at the last Lions Meeting it was discussed bringing the skating rink back into town, saying they thought the rink would get more usage and they could utilize the new Pavilion. The Town Crew would make a berm and use a liner for the first year. He said right now the Lions said they would maintain it but are looking for permission to bring the skating rink back to town at the Old School Park and have the Town maintain it. There was talk about using the existing hydrant or the Fire Department tanker for flooding the rink. Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve on a trial basis the proposed ice-skating rink at the Old School Park. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Citizens Comments & Correspondence:

Sheehan Donoghue wanted a breakdown of how much money was given towards the new Pavilion from the Lions, Alexander Foundation and Vern Wiggenhauser Memorial donations. Chairman Maines said she should call Tom Reed for that information. Sheehan Donoghue also wanted to hear the outcome from the earlier meeting about the bids for the building projects. Chairman Maines reported that they had accepted a bid for the Town Garage from J. H. Hassinger Construction in the amount of \$1,360,653.00 and a bid for the Salt/Sand Shed for an estimated amount of \$300,000. He then stated that the Rec Building was put on a temporary hold and will be put back before the Electors again in the future. He went on to explain that the bids had come in much higher than anticipated, partly due to Covid-19. Sheehan's last comment was to ask if the Town had a rule or an ordinance about bringing no weapons to the polling area. Clerk Brooker answered no and stated that the attorneys had suggested they were better off doing nothing. Sheehan Donoghue strongly suggested to the Board they post a simple one-page poster letting the public know that no weapons would be allowed in the polling place for the upcoming voting day. Chairman Maines thanked Sheehan and said the Board would take it under advisement.

Supervisor Rasmussen reported that he had some calls reporting damage to the cemetery. One has already been repaired. The damages at the cemetery were apparently caused by a member of the Town Crew while mowing. Chairman Maines said he will deal with the employee, asking him to slow down when mowing and to never run over a grave in the cemetery and that the Town would make the matter right.

Chairman Maines asked if there were any more comments and Sheehan Donoghue spoke up and asked again if the Town will be posting about no weapons, Chairman Maines said they couldn't act now and that they would have to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Approve Minutes from Past Meeting(s):

After the Board members read through the meetings, Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of September 8th and the Special Town Board Meetings of September 22nd and 28th. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Update on Building Projects for the Town of Plum Lake:

Chairman Maines stated they had already gone through the updates earlier in the Citizens Comments.

Possibly Splitting Clerk/Treasurer Position:

Chairman Maines said they were still gathering information to be able to take it to the Electors to decide.

Approving a New 3-Year Contract with Appraisal Services (Assessors):

Chairman Maines stated that the contract from Appraisal Services for the Town of Plum Lake increases by \$300 per year. For 2021 the cost will be \$17,200, for 2022 it will be \$17,500 and for 2023 the cost will be \$17,800. Both Chairman Maines and Clerk Brooker are very pleased with the current assessors. Supervisor Schmidt asked if they had ever gotten bids from other companies. Clerk Brooker said she didn't think so. Supervisor Schmidt mentioned that next time around it might not be a bad idea to check what else is out there. Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to accept the contract with the Appraisal Services. Supervisor Schmidt seconded; motion carried.

Approving and Signing DOT Town Road Maps:

Chairman Maines said there were no changes on the Maps as presented. Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve signing the DOT Road Maps, Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Repairs to Tennis Courts:

After brief discussion, Chairman Maines tabled the discussion until they can get more information from Alex Reichel.

Setting Up Employee Meeting:

An employee meeting was scheduled for October 30th, 2020 at 1 pm. Jimmy, Jeremy, and Emile will be present at this closed meeting. Dates were also confirmed and set for Special Meetings for opening bids. Bid Opening for Camp 2 Road was set for October 16th at 6 pm. Bid opening for Nixon Lake Road was set for October 23rd at 6 pm.

Setting a Date for Another Budget Meeting :

A Budget Meeting was scheduled for October 29th at 1 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

A voice recording of this meeting is available in the Clerk's office.

These minutes were taken at the Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake held on the 13th day of October 2020 and were entered in this Record Book by: