

Regular Town Board Meeting of November 23, 2021

Meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Maines. The Chairman noted that this Regular Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, November 23rd, 2021. The meeting was duly called with notice posted at the Town Hall in Sayner, the US Sayner Post Office, US 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, via phone, Supervisor Rasmussen, Clerk Brooker and 11 other people were present.

Approve Agenda to be Discussed in any Order:

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

Citizens Comments & Correspondence:

Sheehan Donoghue asked why it has been taking so long to select the cemetery committee. Chairman Maines answered that he has been waiting for the work to progress far enough to proceed and that he plans on working on it this winter and thought they would be ready to go this Spring. He assured Sheehan that he would give her a call when ready to pick members.

Kim Lechner asked if the Board will be reporting on the decision in regard to opening county roads to ATV's. The Chairman explained that the agenda was moving forward to a full county board meeting in January and explained that it was probably already a done deal as the first vote had been in favor of opening the roads by a vote of 4 to 1. It was mentioned the outcome of that meeting could be put on the Town's website. Sheehan asked if the Town Board would contact Mr. Otterpohl, County Supervisor representing a portion of Plum Lake, to come and talk to them before the January 25th meeting of the County Board. Since it wasn't on the agenda the Chairman Maines said he could not address her question at this time.

Approve Minutes from Past Meeting(s):

Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes from the past meetings of 10/12, 11/1 and 11/15. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried. Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/3 and 11/12 as presented, Chairman Maines seconded; motion carried.

Approving Cemetery Lot for Alex Reichl:

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the sale of Lot 107, Site E in the Sayner Cemetery addition to Alex Reichl for the amount of \$200, Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve the sale, Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Possibly Creating Cremation Lots for Cemetery(s):

The Chairman said he felt it might be a little early to make decisions now but felt they needed to have decisions made by Spring. The entire Board discussed options of having a special area or dividing a regular lot up for cremations. Alex Reichl spoke saying that the current trend in cemeteries that he is involved in is to have at least one quarter of the burial's cremations now. He described a Columbarium which is like a vertical mausoleum made of granite, brass and bronze that has boxes about the size of a large shoe box for the urns that can be locked and sealed. These Columbariums come assembled and are dropped on a pad - different sizes are available. The Board decided no action should be taken until the Cemetery Committee is selected.

Possibly Changing Banks:

The Chairman informed the Board that branch bank they are now with will be closing on December 3rd and that they are looking at switching to Incredible Bank or Peoples State Bank in Minocqua. The Clerk will send both banks some current bank statements which will help them put a proposal together for the Town Board. The Board could interview them sometime during the week of December 6th so that at their regular meeting on December 14th they can make a decision. The Clerk will line up the meetings with the banks.

Approving 2022 Budget:

After discussion Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as presented, Supervisor Schmidt seconded; motion carried.

Proposed Purchase of Alexander Property:

After brief discussion, Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to move forward with the purchase of the Alexander Foundation property as per the decision of the electors. A loan will be arranged with Headwaters State Bank for funding. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried. The price of the property is \$206,677.00.

Wages for Lakes Committee Employee:

The Clerk reported that the Lakes Committees employee's wages was increased from \$20 an hour to \$65 an hour by the Lakes Committee. Sam Patterson puts in and takes out the I-Lids cameras and troubleshoots any problems. For his personal business, Sam charges \$65 an hour, so the Lakes Committee increased his wages to match that cost. Supervisor Rasmussen stated that no one from the Lakes Committee was at any of the budget meetings to inform the Board about a wage increase. Supervisor Schmidt also was against paying \$65 an hour but did make a motion to raise the wage to \$22 an hour for 2022. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried. The Chairman said he was going to contact Bob Jackson, current Chairman of the Lakes Committee, to let him know that the Board will increase the wage to \$22 an hour next year and would not be paying the \$65 an hour.

Hiring a Surveyor for New Section of Star Lake Cemetery:

The Chairman said they had not heard back the surveyor who Jimmy Mortag had talked to, and Jimmy was the only one who had contact information for this surveyor. The Chairman said he will get the name from Jimmy and give the surveyor a call to see if he is interested in doing the job. Supervisor Schmidt suggested putting it on the upcoming special meeting agenda in early December.

Selecting a Cemetery Committee:

The Chairman said he already had 3 people interested and thought a notice should be put on the Towns website and the new Town sign advertising for people who would like to be on the Cemetery Committee. The Chairman felt it should be four people, along with one Board member. The Chairman said besides Sheehan, he would reach out to the other two people to see if they were still interested in being on the committee.

.Approve Vouchers:

The Now Account, #20372-20434 total was \$508,812.33, the Payroll Account, #1130-1141 total was \$41,506.95 for a grand total of \$550,319.28. Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve paying the vouchers in the amount of \$550,319.28, Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 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 23rd day of November 2021 and were entered in this Record Book by: