

Special Town Board Meeting of May 28, 2021

Meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner. Meeting was called to order on May 28th at 10:00 am by Chairman Maines who noted that this meeting has been duly posted with notices placed at the Sayner US Post Office, the Star Lake US Post Office, and notice given to the Vilas County News-Review, The Lakeland Times, WERL-WRJO Radio stations as well as posted on the Town Website. Supervisor Rasmussen, Supervisor Schmidt and Clerk Brooker were present along with 6 other people.

Bicycle Trail at Intersection of Kurtzweil Rd. and Froelich Dr.:

Troy Schalinske, the Vilas County Highway Commission said that the intersection in question was not the DOT's or the Highway Departments problem. He said it was the responsibility of whoever put the bike trail in and who also maintains it. Troy suggested to either work with Pitlik & Wick or to come up with a plan yourself and submit the plan along with a Right of Way permit to the DOT. He said the DOT would come back with what they would need at that point. Troy said that the Right of Way permit could be applied for on line, on the Vilas County Highway Departments Website. Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to approve filing an application with the Department of Transportation to do the Right of Way between Kurtzweil Rd., and Froelich Drive with the State Right of Way. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Possible Bicycle Trail from Froelich Dr. to State Highway 155 Along County Highway N:

Troy Schalinske said he had looked the area over and thought a bike trail would be feasible for the suggested route. He said some signs would have to be moved and possibly some trees taken down. Troy said the process would start with a letter from the Town Board requesting a Right of Way from the Highway Commissioner. He said they would also have to include a plan with the request. Once ready to move forward, the Town would have to get a land use agreement which would basically state that the Town would be responsible for all upkeep and maintenance of the bike trail. Supervisor Schmidt asked if the trail had to be asphalt. Troy said it didn't have to be and mentioned in Phelps they were using a material from Pitlik & Wick called Trail Bond. There was talk of connecting the Trails with a cross walk, designating Lake Street as a trail. It was mentioned that the 4-way stop was unsafe because a lot of people run the right turn onto HWY 155 off of County N. Supervisor Rasmussen suggested Smith Street as an alternative. Chairman Maines said he didn't feel there was a need for a separate bike trail in Town as there has never been an accident at the intersection in question. The County would be able to help with some signage and reflector strips. Supervisor Schmidt made a motion to table the subject until the June meeting so that they would have more time to look into the bike route. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded; motion carried.

Employee Concerns:

Jim Mortag and Jeremy Arnold brought the following list of concerns to discuss with the Board.

1. Jim asked what should be done with Brush Dump rubble. The Board said it was to be hauled to the land fill and that they should keep track of the cost and inform the Board if they will be going over the budgeted amount.
2. The crew suggested that minimum call pay should be 2 hours straight time and OT for time actually worked. The Board agreed to those terms and the Clerk will put it on the next agenda to officially enact it.
3. The town crew would like to be at the Budget meetings to remain informed. They have been requested to attend in the past. They asked about patching the road by the Mobil, the Board told them to go ahead and patch it.
4. Jim asked about discipline for not obeying road limits. He said Wirth Builders were running their trucks on Town Roads while Road Limits were in effect this Spring. The Board said the town crew should call the Vilas County Sheriff's Department to enforce it.
5. Jim asked about vehicle replacement plans. Supervisor Schmidt said don't expect a new Freightliner for at least 2 years and that they would most likely look at getting a 1-ton truck next year.
6. It was reported the Brusher needed hydraulic repair. The Board said to go with a new hydraulic pump, not the remanufactured one. The town needs to buy a fuel tank to haul in the back of truck for refueling equipment. Chairman Maines to talk to Ned about not driving the equipment back and forth, to leave it in an area till done.
7. Hiring a part-time plow person. Possibly Norman again, Supervisor Rasmussen said to get a commitment.
8. The Crew asked about the hours and days the new part-time recycling attendant would be working and what his duties would be. After discussion, it was decided that it needed to be put on the next agenda to iron details out and enact. It was noted the new recycling attendant was starting on Saturday and that Jim or Jeremy needed to also be there to train him. Jeremy suggested that the Town offer marked prepaid garbage bags to residents to be used for garbage. He said Boulder Junction does this and that they don't have an attendant on site.
9. Jim asked if the recycling would be in the same place but fenced in. Supervisor Schmidt said the plan was to have it fenced in, but still needed to work out the details.
10. Crew asked if the new recycling attendant could be used at the brush dump. After discussion it was decided to put it on next month's agenda to iron out his duties. It was also brought up that no commercial dumping is allowed at the brush dump.
11. Jim gave an update on the status of getting the blocks for building a ramp at the Brush Dump. Still on hold.

12. Jim asked if there was a plan for outfitting the new Town Shop for tool storage, cabinets, counters etc. After discussion it was decided that the Crew should have an estimate on the cost of cabinets, tools, lumber etc. by the June meeting.
13. It was asked if the road would be paved going into the new shop. The answer was probably not.
14. What to do with the brush/stump pile out at the Star Lake Cemetery was asked. Chairman Maines said that Harmon talked about pushing it over the edge and filling it in with dirt. Chairman Maines needs to follow up to see when it can be done.
15. Jeremy and Jim asked if an account could be set up with Pukall Lumber since Eliason's doesn't carry lumber anymore. To be put it on next month's agenda.
16. The Crew asked for a laptop to help them keep track of things better. Clerk is to put on June's agenda.
17. The Crew asked if it would be okay to adjust their hours at times when it would make sense to start/stop work later due to weather conditions. The Board gave their okay, but stated they should let the Clerk know, so she would know what to tell people if they called in asking for service from a Crew member.
18. Jim asked about road projects for the summer. Supervisor Schmidt said they had planned on Eliason Street, but it doesn't look like it will happen this year. Jim asked if they should be patching and filling cracks and give the Board a report on the status and conditions of the Roads. The Board said there wasn't much in the Budget to work with this year, but to do what they could to keep up with maintenance.
19. Paser ratings need to be done this Fall.
20. It was noted that tires for the Grader were needed. Clerk Brooker to put it on the June agenda. The Crew is to either attend a Board meeting quarterly with informative updates for the Board members or at the very least keep the Board informed with a written or verbal report. Jimmy to find out what the total Quinlan bill for the Brusher will be.
21. 1-ton truck tires will probably need to be replaced next year. Supervisor Schmidt suggested that if there is money left in the budget in the Fall that they should go ahead and put new tires on the 1-ton.
22. Road signs were discussed. The town crew is waiting for signs to arrive to be put up and suggested that they should be able to place the order for any new signs needed themselves. There will be a change of color in the TOWN road signs to blue and fire number signs will now be perpendicular and two sided. Clerk Brooker noted that she had just ordered several signs. Jim Mortag will highlight the signs needed to be ordered and indicated to order all the fire numbers on his list.
23. The town crew wanted to know if there was anything they should be doing at the Ambulance Barn. Supervisor Rasmussen said besides getting rid of the Hughes Net dish they could put anything else on hold until the red barn can get moved to the back. Supervisor Rasmussen to get info about the barn and trailer to Clerk Brooker for insurance purposes.

Chairman Maines noted that the town crew still needed to grade Indian Lake, Aspen and Razorback Roads. He also asked that they keep track of the gravel dumped on Indian Road because a fellow had said he would pay for gravel up to \$300.

Troy Schalinske asked to be put on the June agenda on the 15th at 6:30 p.m. so he can address the Board on road issues.

Clerk Brooker to post a notice for a meeting on Tuesday, June 1st at 6:00 a.m. Location at Hwy N and 155 for a discussion on Bike Trail with the Highway Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

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

These minutes were taken at the Special Town Board Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake held on the 28th day of May 2021 and were entered in this Record Book by: