

**TOWN OF LONG LAKE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 14, 2023

Town Hall

The regular monthly Town Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman James Whitehead. Supervisor I, Dan Lubensky, and Supervisor II, Greg Tinker were present along with Clerk, Debbie Bouma. Treasurer, Brenda Derousseau was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Verification of notices was confirmed by the Clerk.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Tinker and seconded by Lubensky to approve the minutes from January 10, 2023, regular Board Meeting, January 5, 2023, Special Board Meeting, and January 18, 2023, Town Caucus. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report: Motion by Tinker and seconded by Lubensky to accept the Treasurer's Financial Report as presented by Clerk Bouma. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Mick Givens stated that the board needs to observe flag protocol. Also, he stated he was in favor of Jeff Rubin's request. Rich Alvin asked about the handicap ramp progress. Chairman Whitehead explained that as soon as concrete can be poured it was going to be addressed.

Spooner Books & Bread Bookmobile: Chairman Whitehead explained the program being launched by the Shell Lake Library. Handouts were available for those interested in the program.

Discussion/Approve Jeff Rubin's request for Rezoning 9.18 acres in Tax Id#17646, E1/2 E1/2 NE SW, Section 26-37-11, from Agricultural to Residential Agricultural (publish dates 2/8 and 2/15): Jeff Rubin presented his rezoning request. Motion by Tinker and seconded by Lubensky to approve the rezoning request as presented and make recommendation to the Washburn County Board. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Encroachment of Town Property by BMR Holdings LLC: Jesse Degross is asking the Town of Long Lake for an easement or the sale of the property that the campsite is currently sitting on town property. Discussion was had on the possible actions and the process needed with a Special Meeting of Electors. Motion by Lubensky and seconded by Tinker to move forward with setting up a meeting of the Town Electors to consider the request of the property currently be encroached by BMR Holding LLC. Motion carried.

Approval of the Payment Plan for BFCESD Building: Motion by Tinker and seconded by Lubensky to approve the monthly BFCESD building payment of \$83,676.52.00 to be paid in March. Motion carried.

Discussion on Snowmobile and ATV Routes: Chairman Whitehead explained the results of the Washburn County Highway meeting and the reasons why ATV routes may not pass this year again, as Sarona rescinded their approval of our shared roads. Hopefully, next year we will be able to make it happen. It was great to see all the support at that meeting for the Town of Long Lake. We had a great start on the snowmobile trails, but we have a lot to improve, and would like to see more improvement in the coming years.

Roads Updates: The town is doing the best we can with plowing during the mix weather, being the warmup and refreezing from day to day and complicated by the amount of snow/ice we received in early December. Most of the brushing is completed and once the snow melts the brush clean up will begin.

Update on Town Hall Remodel: The remodel project is almost complete. The handicap ramp is still being planned to be redone as soon as the weather improves, and concrete can be poured. Currently, we

are still under the approved budget. So far, the project has only cost the taxpayers \$7,000 due to the grant that the Town received.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: none

Reports of Town Officers:

Debbie: The WI Emergency Grant has been written and filed, and I have had a first call to move forward through the process from the state, hopefully that is good sign. Election is coming up on February 21, 2023. April 4, 2023, election will have a referendum from Spooner Area Scholl District, and I just received a letter dated 1/31/23 from the school.

Brenda: absent.

Dan: none

Greg: Would like the driveway permits to be added to the agenda.

James: Our building addition was a good project for our town. We started this project in early spring and contacted the state to ensure that we were in compliance with the state building codes, and it was reported back at the next board meeting that we were not needing state approved plans because our building was well under the 25,000 cubic square feet requirement. About early September, someone from our township contacted in the state stating the addition was illegal and without a permit for the addition. The same State Inspector who we called in the Spring called us and asked us to take pictures and measurements again to resubmit for the second time. This information then had to clear three levels at the state and be cleared by two different legal councils at the state. Once again we passed, in fact the first line of the report stated “the Town Board did contact this department in the spring and was found to be well under the 25,000 cubic square feet even with the addition.” Within 24-48 hours after this report was approved by all state legal councils, the same person submitted this drawing to the state. I would like you to come up and see that this drawing is showing our old town hall has a 5-foot 6-inch basement, 8 foot attic and the main room ceiling is at 18 feet 6 inches. This resubmission caused the whole process to start again, and the state inspector drove 2 ½ hours here on the day it was -26 below wind chill to meet us and remeasure. He found that all our measurements were correct, and that there were none of the violations that were reported to the state. In fact, he was extremely pleased we saved this building as he believes it is one of the best shape historical markers he has seen in a long time. It is actions like this that causes delays in projects that need to be addressed. It would be nice if we can use this time in a move positive way.

Correspondence: Correspondence was on the table for Board members to review and will be kept with the clerk’s meeting records.

Approve Vouchers for Payment: Motion by Tinker and second by Lubensky to pay vouchers #5987-6018, #1006 (ARRP) and the EFT. Motion carried.

Adjournment: On a motion from Lubensky and second by Whitehead the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

Debbie Bouma, Town Clerk