

TOWN OF DRUMMOND

Bayfield County
Drummond, Wisconsin 54832



Notice of the meeting and agenda was posted at the Post Office and website on October 3, 2020.

MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING: October 6, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m. in the Civic Center by Roy Bloom, Chair.

ATTENDANCE: Roy Bloom, Chair; Chris Elkins, Supervisor; Dick Fredericks, Supervisor; Andy Tuttle, Clerk; Mark Jerome, Public Works Director; 2 members of the public; Heather Ludzak, Cable Area Chamber.

MINUTES: Motion by Elkins, second by Fredericks to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 and September 15, 2020 town board meetings. **CARRIED.**

CABLE AREA CHAMBER UPDATE: Heather Ludzak, Interim Director of the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce, presented an update to the board. The Chamber had incurred substantial debt that the board of directors was not made aware of until last year. They were not able to pay employees and were contemplating closure. Ludzak took over as Interim Director as a volunteer. She and the board of directors have since paid off the debt and are now operating in the black. They have made repairs to the building, updated the website, thoroughly cleaned the office, hired a social media employer and assistant director. They have implemented a change in the structure of the Chamber that is more focused on the businesses. Ludzak described the short-term goals as building a 2 year cushion of operating capital, plus hire full time director and office manager. Ludzak also asked that the businesses in Drummond consider joining the Chamber.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gehr reported the balances in town accounts: Checking \$159,582.63, Savings \$354.29, Tax savings \$3,031.27, and LGIP \$126,796.26.

HIGHWAY REPORT: Mark Reported:

- The west end of Pigeon Lk will be blocked (bermed) off where the water is over the road for the winter as a safety precaution.
- The Forest Service just reopened FR 404 after repairs and Star Lake should be open back up soon.
- The job announcement for a grader operator is posted until Oct 30th. The goal is to fill the position by Dec. 14th.
- Upon closer review it was discovered the Town has not been maintaining the full length of Larson Rd. The Town will be upgrading the extra 900 ft of the road.

PARK & REC: A reservation program has been purchased and is ready to go live for next year's reservations. Mark Jerome presented an estimate to run water to

the 6 sites without this service. The cost would be \$10,000. Money exists from the camping income to pay for the project. Jerome will get things going this fall. The board agreed to amend the budget at the November meeting to pay for this project.

AIRPORT REPORT: Fredericks shared a 'thank you' email from an airport user. Mowing is being done over the next couple weeks.

AMBULANCE REPORT: They closed on the new building purchase and have designed updates to the interior. They did not renew contracts with Ashland County towns. Bayfield County stated they will no longer dispatch transfers. The Ambulance Service is looking for a work-around for this problem.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

2021 BUDGET: The board ran through the proposed budget and made a few final adjustments.

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE TAX LEVY: In order to purchase much needed equipment and get caught up on neglected road repairs, the board will ask the electors for an increase in the levy. There has been a state mandated freeze on the levy for many years, that can only be exceeded with approval of the electors. A \$400,000 increase is what will be presented for approval at a meeting of electors in November. Motion by Elkins, seconds Fredericks to approve Resolution 20201006 Proposing To Exceed Levy Limits. **CARRIED.**

BILLS: Motion by Elkins, second by Fredericks to approve checks #43007 through #43052 including debits and e-pays for payment of bills. **CARRIED.**

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next regular Town Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 in the Civic Center immediately following a Public Hearing and Meeting of Electors scheduled to begin at 6:30 pm.

A public hearing on the 2021 Budget will take place at 6:30 pm in the Civic Center. A Meeting of Electors to approve the tax levy will follow immediately after.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.