

# TOWN OF DRUMMOND

Bayfield County  
Drummond, Wisconsin 54832



Notice of the meeting and amended agenda was posted at the Post Office and website on August 6, 2023.

**MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING:** August 8, 2023.

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Roy Bloom, Chair; Scott McKinney, Supervisor; Jeff Hurula, Supervisor; Pam Kalies, Treasurer; Andy Tuttle, Clerk; Mark Jerome, Public Works Director; 3 members of the public.

**MINUTES:** Motion by McKinney, second by Hurula to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 town board meeting with changes. **CARRIED.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Kalies reported the following balances are in town accounts: Checking \$100,190.89, Savings \$355.25, Tax savings \$411.11 and LGIP \$495,991.05.

**ROAD REPORT:** Mark Jerome reported:

- Roadside mowing has been completed and the crew has starting brushing and widening rights-of-way. They are also trying a new machine out with the brushing.
- Jerome asked the board to look into payment for burials. There is some confusion on whether there is a charge for digging graves.
- Roy & Mark met with the Forest Service and discussed parking at the Lake Owen boat ramp. Parking on busy weekends during the summer has caused some issues with traffic flow and safety, especially since many are using that area for picnicking and swimming. Following the meeting, the FS cleaned the Lake Owen Picnic Grounds and removed the fee for the summer. The Town and FS will encourage use of the picnic grounds for swimming. They also discussed ATV trail issues.
- Jerome asked the board to consider options for dealing with abandoned cars and other blight on village lots. He presented a copy of the City of Hayward ordinance as an example. The board agreed to discuss the matter in detail at the next meeting.
- There have been several calls regarding the status of the Black Bear Saloon. The lot has been vacant with a partially started basement since last fall. The board discussed safety concerns of having such a large open hole. Roy will follow up with WTA to see what options the Town may have. The road crew recently moved the dirt piles out of the right-of-way and billed the Black Bear owner, but no payment has been received.

**AIRPORT REPORT:** Jeff Hurula gave a brief update and highlighted that the Terminal building restoration has been started.

**AMBULANCE REPORT:** A 2024 budget meeting is set for August 18<sup>th</sup>, before the 4-Towns meeting, so they will be able to give an update at the 4-Towns.

**CAMPGROUND REPORT:** Seasonal sites need electric usage invoices and there are several dead/dying trees that will need evaluated for removal. Also, a sign is needed at the dump station reminding users of the fee.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Will Danker updated the board as to his follow up regarding the Lake Owen boat ramp parking concern. He wrote letter to the Forest Service and sent copies to the town board and sheriff's dept. The FS said they would waive the fee at the picnic grounds and encourage swimming and picnicking at that area. Matt Leino with sheriff's dept. said they were powerless to issue parking tickets if there was no ordinance and signage. Danker felt no parking signs on the south side of the road would definitely help the problem. Ed Ronkowski also commented and was in agreement with Danker's observations and recommendation. The board agreed to amending the parking ordinance at the next meeting and placing signs on the south side of the road.

**DUMP/RECYCLING FEES:** The clerk reviewed the profit and loss for solid waste and recycling. The solid waste operates at a small loss while recycling is solely paid for by tax payer dollars. There is concern that non-residents are coming to dispose of many things that other transfer sites will not accept. The board will look at providing stickers for resident vehicles that will allow them access to the town transfer site. This will start next year with information to go out with tax bills.

**LAND PURCHASE:** The board has been interested in purchasing the back parking lot from Chippewa Valley Bank to provide additional parking for the campground. McKinney spoke with a CVB representative and they want the town to make an offer. The lot would be approximately 0.8 acres and would require a survey. The board discusses whether it makes sense to spend tax payer money to purchase land to park trailers/vehicles. McKinney will follow up with CVB and discuss donation of the land to the town.

**GRAVEL HAULING BIDS:** A total of 4 bids were received to haul gravel for the Tri-Lakes Rd. project. The low bid was from Olson Bros. for \$5.97/ton. Motion by Hurula, second by McKinney to contract with Olson Bros. for the Tri-Lakes hauling project. **CARRIED.**

**ZONING REQUEST:** A zoning request was received from Christopher Call & John Thomas to rezone a shoreland parcel at 12855 Brady Rd. (Tax ID 14841) from R-2 to R-1. The landowners had looked into building a new garage and the size of the lot severely limits any new construction. Tuttle had spoken with the landowners and they were concerned about ever being able to expand or upgrade the existing 1940's cabin. They felt a re-zone would be the best option to allow for future improvements. There are several lots in the area that are a mix of R-1 and R-2 zoning. No record was found of when lots were switched to R-1. Motion by Hurula, second by McKinney to recommend approval of the

rezone to Bayfield County Zoning to be consistent with other parcels and allow for future improvements. CARRIED.

HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT: Several town employees had voiced complaints regarding the new health insurance policy including loss of paid out deductible, increased out of pocket expense, increased prescription drug fees.

Tuttle will call the agent as the deductibles were supposed to carry through.

4-TOWNS MEETING: It is Drummond's turn to host the 4-Towns Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for August 29, 2023.

SUMMONS & COMPLAINT: Tuttle was served the Summons & Complaint papers filed by George & Kelly Knapp. Those have been forwarded to the town's insurance provider. Tuttle had spoken with the insurance adjuster. Roy highlighted the conversation he had with Patrick Haney, the attorney for Rural Mutual who will be handling the case.

BILLS: Motion by McKinney, second by Hurula to approve checks #4500 through #45033 including debits and direct deposits for payment of bills. CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next Town Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in the Civic Center at 6:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.