

Town of Almena

Minutes – Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting **May 15th, 2023**

1-The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Ken Scheps at 6:04pm. Board members in attendance were Chair Ken Scheps, Supervisor Ed Miller, Treasurer Hoyt Rose, Shop Employee Gary Krecker, and Clerk Kristen Moen. Also in attendance was Dan Stoffel and Chris Mlejnek from Northwest Builders.

2-The Clerk states when and where the Notice and Agenda for the meeting was posted.

3-The Clerk read the monthly meeting minutes for April 11th, 2023. Supervisor Ed made motion to approve minutes as read. Chair Ken 2nd the motion, All in favor, Motion carried. Supervisor Harland Becker Arrived at 6:17pm.

4-The Treasurer report for April was given by Treasurer Hoyt Rose. Hoyt shared that loan amount transferred was \$89,080.00 and with interest the payoff is \$92,078.21. Chair Ken made a motion to approve Treasurer's report, Supervisor Ed seconds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk presented working capital board discussed that taxes are not taken out of gas being charged on charge card, Hoyt noted this. Clerk to call on patronage card. No other questions from board.

5-Chair Ken opened public portion and shared concerns of 2nd street corner near Perley Church. A new family purchased a house on the corner with a special needs child and they are worried about the speed of the traffic on that road. Board discussed the best action would be to have them file complaints with Barron County Sheriff Department. We have already flagged a 35 MPH speed limit sign near this corner. Board discussed truck/semi traffic that comes up 5th street from HWY 8 and the noise from it. They discussed options of "Class B" or spring weight limit signs but Chair voiced concerns with how this could change all roads in our township and in 2 years this should not be a concern anymore. Board agreed a "No Engine Breaking" sign is a better option. Ken also shared that during the Barron County Meeting he learned that the Almena bridge should have been approved but he cannot say for sure only issue is it won't be addressed until 2025. Board discussed if they should have a weight limit sign on it. Ken will call Mark at the county for clarification. Supervisors shared they learned at the WTA meeting that there is money for roads in Districts 3 and 4 and that an individual from the Association is to reach out and help us fill out the forms to help get us more money. Hoyt to reach out to Dan to get contact information about this so we can start applying by the fall. Dan Stoffel then questioned if we were going to have an online presence as our website is no longer working. Clerk was able to pull up website and board discussed it was recently renewed per Treasurer. Chair closed Public Portion at 6:37pm.

Moved Agenda item 11-Chris Mlejnek presented on behalf of Northwest Builders Inc. per an invite from the board to join us at the meeting. Chris shared other Town Shops they have and currently are working on. He also shared processes on how to go about starting and what we would need to consider with different options etc. He also shared his knowledge of payment and what he felt was and wasn't good options and the pros and cons of both. Board thanked Chris and would continue this discussion at the next board meeting. Chris left meeting at 7:17pm. Ken shared the possibility of working with the Village to add onto their shop and share the location etc. as they have a better location and we currently put our salt/sand there along with some of our equipment. Board agreed clerk to keep the Town Shop on the agenda for discussions each meeting going forward.

6-Boat landing update was shared by Hoyt stating that the Lake Association is willing to split with us what is not covered by the grant. He has taken pictures, completed documents, and feels he will have everything to submit tomorrow 5/16/2023. Insurance has been called per Hoyt and we need to place a sign up warning that the boat landing is unsafe at this time. He reported that the county will not call him back about putting rock in until we can work on it. We also need to put a Handicap Parking Spot posted once the boat landing is complete. The Lake Association suggested a good location for it. Clerk to create sign for Gary to put out at landing.

7-Spring Clean-up update, clerk reported that Gary has vouchers and has given out about 12 so far. He has been keeping them in his truck. At this time no extra trash has been reported in the ditched. Gary did get a call from the county of a dog in a cooler that needed to be tended to.

8-Local Road Certification was received and returned and noted 2023 will be sent out in August.

9-DSPS from Saputo was noted by board.

10-Cintas update was given by clerk that we have the smallest package, have delivery dates and times, and will work with Gary to have door unlocked for deliveries on those days.

12-Road Work Bids were moved to a special meeting on May 30th at 6pm per the clerk mistake with paper ad. Clerk to place new Ad in paper and run for two weeks before Special Meeting on May 30th.

Ken then Shared Sandy Matthew would like to use the Town Hall incase of bad weather when she fills up food boxes for low income. Board agreed this would be ok and not to charge them since it was nonprofit. Clerk also had a Sandy Colenbach who called to use the Town Hall for a nonprofit craft sale to raise money.

13-In Road maintenance and equipment updates Gary shared the updates on the culverts that failed and need to be replaced/fixed in the Township. Scott had gone out and flagged them and some were incorrect which Gary fixed. There is a total of 7 culverts marked but 2 are possible for County Funded Flooding. Gary did get broom from County to start sweeping and the boom tractor is in TL to get fixed for mowing. They figure the first part of June it should be ready. Board discussed the County Highway Bill full amount of \$110,653.88 and agreed to have it all paid off before opening of bids in 2 weeks. Clerk to pay.

14-Board audited and approved vouchers 9610-9632. Chair Ken made motion to approve vouchers, Supervisor Harland seconds this motion, all in favor, motion carried.

24-Board sets next regular monthly town meeting for Monday June 12th at 6pm. Board also scheduled a Special Town Board Meeting for Tuesday May 30th at 6:00pm to open road work Bids.

25-Chair makes motion to adjourn, Harland 2nds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted – Kristen Moen, Clerk