

Town of Almena

Minutes – Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting July 7th, 2023

1-The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Ken Scheps at 6:02pm. Board members in attendance were Chair Ken Scheps, Supervisor Ed Miller, Treasurer Hoyt Rose, Shop Employee Gary Krecker, Clerk Kristen Moen and Dan Stofell.

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 June 12th, 2023. Supervisor Harland made motion to approve minutes after correction of street name was added to approved bridge. Supervisor Ed 2nd the motion, All in favor, Motion carried.

4-The Treasurer report for June was given by Treasurer Hoyt Rose. Chair Ken made a motion to approve Treasurer's report, Supervisor Ed seconds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk presented working capital and budget and then board looked over boom mower bill and discussed. Would revisit during equipment updates.

5-Chair Ken opened public portion and asked if the culverts that needed to be replaced due to flood damage had been complete and the concern of getting a bill before the program that helps support this is over. Most of our culverts are on back order because they are larger. Ken will send an email and reach out about those. Gary shared the culverts for 18th should arrive soon. Board then discussed Clinton Township and all their culverts and water study. Dan asked for Website updates and if we can make sure meetings are posted on there. Hoyt shared that he needed to build a new site through WIXX and it will cost about \$182 a year instead of over \$800. It uses the same URL as the previous one and Board approved. Ed suggested putting this information in the mailings during tax season. Board also discussed a Facebook presence but decided against it. Board agreed we will post agenda and minutes after they are approved and Clerk/treasurer to get agenda on site ASAP. Public portion closed at 6:34pm.

6-Clerk presented and passed around the Emergency Operations Plan Signature Page for the board to sign for the County.

7-Clerk shared and board discussed and noted the Barron County Bike and Pedestrian Plan.

8-Clerk shared and board noted award of \$95.12 for Absentee Ballot Grant.

9-Board noted the change in office hours and location for Synergy per letter.

10-Board discussed the Holden Insurance Policy update with the inclusion of the Lower Turtle Lake Boat Landing on the plan #2 12th Ave GL Code 43754 for the increase amount of \$229.

11-Nothing new was noted or discussed about the boat landing or building updates. Hoyt reminded the board of the August 8th meeting and shared he sent an email confirming this meeting the beginning of July. Board then discussed the issues recently with the Upper Turtle Lake boat landing that the county is in charge of and also agreed that once the Lower TL boat landing is fixed the sign we placed there should continue to stay.

12- During road maintenance and equipment update Ken reported that he talked to Nate and they will be doing our blacktop after Labor Day due to the roads being lake dead end roads and cabin people. They feel less people will be there and effected. Nate will also be intern at the county for 3 months. Board is not sure about getting roads painted this year since we already missed first round and they won't paint when it is cold. Ed asked if any main roads would need to be done before winter but all roads are mainly dead end lake roads. Gary reported all ditching has been completed and he has packed and patched holes. Board discussed where these were and what others could/should be done. Board discussed the boom mower and repairs also the concern that it blew grass into the road near Cortess's . When Gary returned with his zero turn to blow it off, most cars had already blew the grass off the road. Clerk to watch for John Deere bill to pay and see if full payment of grapple were applied also. Chair asked clerk about fire work permits

and it was shared only Gary Warner requested one. Ken shared an issue of a VRBO that let off fire works causing damage to a neighbors deck and patio furniture. Gary also needed to replace a stop sign over the 4th on one of our town roads. Ken asked Gary about a tree downed near the road and Gary shared that was where he tested the boom mower on the way home from being fixed and the tree is no longer an issue. Gary also had a complaint on 63 from Jim Arnold and Brett Morvatiz about being unable to see on a corner near Echo Lake. The county mowed and fixed this issue and then received a complaint from a lady living near that area that the dust from the ATV trail was now going into her yard.

13-Board audited and approved vouchers 9649-9659. Supervisor Harland made motion to approve vouchers, Chair Ken seconds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Chair requested September for yearly voucher audits.

14-Board sets next regular monthly town meeting for Monday August 14th at 6pm.

15-Chair makes motion to adjourn, Harland 2nds this motion, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted – Kristen Moen, Clerk