



Town of Wagner



W2379 County Road JJ, Wausaukee, WI 54477
(715) 732-6008

MEETING MINUTES

MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 6:30 pm

Town of Wagner Town Hall, W2379 County Road JJ, Wausaukee

Attendance: Chairperson Steve Renikow, Sr., Supervisors Mollie Arthur, Ed Delfosse, Clerk Cassie Brown and 14 members of the public. Treasurer Margo Renikow was absent.

1. **Call to order – attendance sign in. Called to order by Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. at 6:27 PM.**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance was said.**
3. **Approve agenda. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. requested to add two items to the agenda. The first item was a resolution to exceed the levy limit and the second addition was the purchase of a Public Works truck. Motion to approve Arthur/Delfosse.**
4. **Correspondence. None.**
5. **Board updates. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated several road signs were stolen over the weekend. Two signs were taken from Four Lakes Road and Boat Launch Road. Also, the work on Caylor Road is complete and Rademaker Road will be complete once the shoulder is done.**
6. **Public input – Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes.**
 - a. **Mark Sperberg stated he is a cottage owner on Boat Launch Road, and is requesting no parking signs to be placed on the road across from the resident property. Excessive use of the boat launch is causing safety issues where boats and trailers are parking on the road and blocking driveways to the cottages. Quotes for the no parking signs were provided to the Board. Also, Mr. Sperberg questioned why the far North end of Boat Launch Road was not being plowed. A turn around was created for the plow trucks and it is still not being maintained. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated he would research this and add the items to the agenda for the next meeting.**
 - b. **Mike Caylor questioned how to request an absentee ballot. Clerk Cassie Brown stated the best way was to apply on My**



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- Vote WI. However, if internet usage is an issue a paper application can be sent.**
- c. Howard Anderson requested the Board to discuss a backup plan for grass cutting. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated he will put it on the agenda for the next meeting.**
 - d. Wade Fronsee stated there has been ongoing problems with the boat launch on Lake Mary. The launch is being used as a beach and the Lake Association is having to clean up clothing, garbage etc. This is a safety concern as it is causing issues when trying to place boats in the lake. The lack of parking designation is also causing congestion, and a request was made to add this as an item to the agenda. Linda Wilke questioned if these issues should be addressed by the Lake Association. Wade Fronsee stated they are, but the Association has no authority which is why they are bringing it to the Board for assistance.**
- 7. Discuss/Consider August 12th, 2020 monthly meeting minutes, action if any. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated the no wake meeting was cancelled due to Middle Inlet deciding not to pursue an ordinance, and both Towns would have to make the same changes if an ordinance was adopted. Motion to approve Arthur/Delfosse.**
 - 8. Discussion only Treasurer's report ending August 31st, 2020. Clerk Cassie Brown discussed the Town's ending cash balances.**
 - 9. Budget adjustments / transfers. None.**
 - 10. Fire Department updates. Fire Chief Tom Arthur stated there were three calls since the last meeting. One was a false alarm, one was for a fire in Porterfield and one was a car accident. 22 hours were spent on training and maintenance. Three state mandated tests were completed and three are left. Hose testing is scheduled and fire inspections are expected to be in October. The Fire Department is discussing different options for the Halloween party. One option being considered is another trunk or treat but the Fire Department would buy all the candy and pre-bag it as a safety precaution. Any event would be held outside. The annual 9/11 walk at the Packers stadium in Green Bay has been cancelled, but there is a walk in Peshtigo. The Fire**



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Department will be participating with trucks. Lastly, a virtual program for fire prevention is being reviewed.

11. **Public Works updates.** Jim Brown stated they put up road signs and brushed on Grand Rapids Road. The warming building at the Recycling Center has been insulated.
12. **Animal Control updates.** None.
13. **Action Items, action if any:**
 - a. **Discuss/consider hiring housekeeper.** The Board went into closed session to make a decision. Darcy Hermes was hired for the position.
 - b. **Discuss/consider Old Rail Rd property.** Supervisor Mollie Arthur stated she tried calling and the resident didn't answer or return her phone call. The owner of the property was sent a letter by property inspector Jane Meissner, and it came back undeliverable. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated the Town will probably have to talk to the lawyer if they want to move forward with action. Supervisor Mollie Arthur stated a boat was also burned on the property. Fire Chief Tom Arthur stated he called the DNR but they never got back to him. Tom Arthur questioned the Town's ability to clean up the property now that the building has been condemned. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. said the Town could add the expense to the tax bill but this needs to be researched further.
 - c. **Discuss/consider website for Town.** Patty Michels created a free demo website through weebly.com. The upgraded version would be \$12 per month. The demo version included links for news, a directory, community organizations etc. Shelley Sperberg questioned if a link could be added to the County website. Patty Michels confirmed this could possibly be done. Patty Michels also suggested that at least two people have access to maintain the website. Linda Wilke thanked Patty Michels for her communications work in the Town. Motion to approve the website for \$12 per month Arthur/Delfosse.
 - d. **Discuss/consider Recycling Center closing for deer season.** Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. made the announcement that



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the Recycling Center will be closed on November 21st, 2020 for opening day of rifle deer season for safety precautions.

- e. **Discuss/consider DYMO label printer for absentee ballots.** Clerk Cassie Brown requested Board approval to purchase a DYMO label printer for absentee ballots as this will make the process faster and more efficient. The estimated cost for the printer and labels was \$160.00. Motion to approve Delfosse/Arthur.
- f. **Discuss/consider contract for the Rescue Squad.** Fire Chief Tom Arthur stated that currently the Wausaukee Rescue Squad has a volunteer structure. The volunteers are only paid a flat dollar amount per call that does not reflect the actual amount of time worked, and membership rates continue to decline. They currently only have 8 volunteers, and four of them are working an average of 140 hours per week. The Wausaukee Rescue Squad is proposing a full time pay structure for EMT's. The benefits would be constant coverage at the station, lower response times and an increased number in staff. EMT's would be paid \$15 per hour with a cap at 40 hours a week to avoid paying overtime. First responders would be paid \$13 per hour and drivers \$11 per hour. The Rescue Squad cannot continue to operate under the current conditions, so if the serviced Towns do not agree to the new contracts and/or 10-15 full time employees cannot be obtained the station will have to shut the doors. This would result in the Town having to contract another third party which is estimated to be significantly more expensive. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated he contacted Bay Area Medical last year to compare prices, and they are not interested in covering the Town of Wagner unless there are no other options. The current contract for the Town of Wagner is \$14,280 annually and the new contract would increase to \$71,400 for 2021. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. questioned if the contract could be changed from a one-time payment in February to a quarterly payment, and Tom Arthur confirmed this can be done. Mark Sperberg questioned the length of the contract and Tom Arthur stated it was for one year. Supervisor Mollie Arthur questioned if the contract would change depending on how many Towns agreed to the pricing, and Tom Arthur stated it would need further review if applicable. Chairperson Steve



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Renikow Sr. stated the contract would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

- g. **Discuss/consider resolution to exceed the levy limit. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. stated the Board would have to adopt a resolution in order to exceed the levy limit. A public meeting would be held and the electors would vote on it. The proposed levy increase would be non-negotiable and if voted down for a different proposed amount the approval process would have to start from the beginning. Steve Renikow Sr.'s recommendation would be to add the full \$71,400 to the levy as this would give the Town a little extra funding if the contract changed. If the addition passes it will impact all tax payers. If the addition is voted down it will mainly impact residents as these funds will have to be deducted from other services in the normal budget. Mill rate calculations will be provided at the public meeting. Motion to approve resolution to exceed the levy limit by \$71,400 Delfosse/Arthur.**
- h. **Discuss/consider purchase of Public Works truck. The last truck considered didn't pass final inspection so was not purchased. Jim Brown has contacted a dealer who is expecting some trade ins. Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr. would like approval to look at trucks when they come in, and make a purchase up to the \$30,000 in the budget. Motion to approve Arthur/Delfosse.**

14. Future agenda items.

- a. **Parking at the boat landing**
- b. **Discussion on the grass cutting**
- c. **Condemned depot on Old Rail Road**
- d. **Wausau Rescue Squad contract**

15. Discuss / consider processing current and outstanding vouchers.

16. Adjourn. Motion to approve Arthur/Delfosse.

17. Upcoming meetings / dates to remember:

- a. **Monthly Board Meeting and Preliminary Budget Meeting – Wednesday, October 21st, 2020 6:30PM. The original date of**



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**this meeting was Wednesday, October 14th, 2020, but the change
was approved by Chairperson Steve Renikow Sr.**

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Cassie Brown.