

# Town of Almena

## Minutes – Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting August 16, 2021

1-The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Ken Scheps at 6:05 pm. Board members in attendance were Chair Ken Scheps, Supervisors Harland Becker & Ed Miller, Treasurer Hoyt Rose, Shop Employee Gary Kreckler, & Clerk Lois Hoff. Also present Dan Stoffel and Kristen Moen.

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

3-The clerk had the monthly meeting minutes for June 14, 2021 not July 13, 2021 meeting. The clerk to give the minutes for both July and August at the September Town Board Meeting.

4-The Treasurer report for July was given by Treasurer Hoyt Rose. Covid Funds of \$44,850.48 deposited in the Town's regular account last month need to be put in a special savings until the Town knows for sure what the funds can be spent on. Unspent funds are to be returned. Treasurer will set up special savings account. Supervisor Harland Becker makes a motion to approve report. Supervisor Ed Miller 2nds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Board goes over and discusses the reports for Expense Budget and Working Capital. Discussion of how much has been spent this year and how much will be needed to borrow for next years road construction will be looked at September monthly regular meeting.

5-Public Input: Clerk informs Board of 2 (two) emails received after agenda posted. Town's population increased by 5 (five) residents. Also the email from Samatha in Zoning regarding the cost for Tax Statement Mailing that the Board needs to approve. Board gives approval. Kristen Moen speaks to the Board regarding her interest in taking over the Clerk's position. Discussion of qualifications and duties follow. Board leaves as Clerk to get with Kristen to discuss job duties further.

6-Treasurer Hoyt Rose gives update on fire sign numbers. 720 signs are needed at a cost of \$10,000.00. Posts are \$10.00 each and are 6'.5" in height. Discussion of time line to get all the numbers replaced – will most likely take a couple of years. Discussion of the pros and cons if an announcement should be made so residents can pick up and replace their own fire sign. Per Chair – talk around and see what other Town's have done. Per Gary – per talking with Arland they should be 10' off driveway but still within our 33'. Per Dan Stoffel maybe this is something school kids could do for a fund raiser. Per Chair – Treasurer to order a couple hundred posts. Per Supervisor Ed Miller do we need to check with Fire Chief Vince Wohlk. Per Chair to Treasurer – call Vince and see if residents can do their own.

7-Board goes over and discusses Snowplowing Agreement for 2021-2022. Board decides to continue the service to the Town's residents. Treasurer to add language regarding no steel fence posts to mark driveways and to change the fee amounts to \$225 and \$275 per Board's decision from the 2021 Annual Meeting. Discussion done regarding snowplow drivers and driveway plowing expectations of the residents.

8-Board goes over the Barron County Highway bill. Per Gary the 2 (two) dead end signs listed on the bill should be Loose Gravel Signs. Board discusses road conditions and that the culvert repaving areas to be done by County sometime yet this fall. Per Chair – clerk to pay highway bill of \$178.96.

9-Road maintenance and Equipment Update: Board goes over and discusses Scott Construction's sheet given to and signed by Gary Kreckler today for the chip sealing of 3 (three) roads for a total of \$57,227.00. All chip sealing is done. Discussion of Echo Lake boat landing and washout on the side and putting in recycled blacktop. Per Gary Kreckler – work was done on the new truck, the float on the under carriage never was threaded in, Tom came to shop and did the work. Per Chair – to Gary - Brian can help next week and maybe call Digger's Hot line. The County will do the turnaround by lake below Joe's – they will make it bigger. Discussion of Mike Judy's email regarding the State's new requirement to declare a storm disaster before the Nation Weather Service time stamps the storm to be over and how does a Town declare a disaster within that time line. Chair signed the undated Barron County Emergency Services Disaster Declaration form to turn into Mike Judy. Some discussion on boat landing on the west side of Lower Turtle Lake and who owns what property.

10-Board sets September Regular Board Meeting for September 13, 2021 at 7 pm.

11-Board goes over and audits vouchers. Supervisor Harland Becker makes a motion to approve vouchers 9249 through 9259. Chair Ken Scheps 2nds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

12-Chair Ken Scheps makes motion to adjourn. Supervisor Harland Becker 2nds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Lois Hoff, Clerk

