

**TOWN OF CABLE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MAY 18, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Haag called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Pledge Allegiance**

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported that item No. 15 on the agenda cannot be approved by the town board. It must be approved by Bayfield County Department of Transportation. With county approval, it was the consensus of the board to approve allowing ATV/UTV access to County Highway M from Trail Inn Road to Telemark Road. This item was removed from the agenda.

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve the agenda as corrected.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Clerk's Report**

The Town of Cable Assessment Roll is available in the town office for anyone to view until the Board of Review on May 23, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported that she has completed all WisVote training and is now qualified to coordinate elections.

The town's CT financial report due to the Department of Revenue for 2021 has been completed and submitted.

Officials from the Hungry Bear event donated \$1500 to the Fire Department FD for providing enroute support during the event.

**Approval of Minutes - May 2, 2022**

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to approve the May 2, 2022 work meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported that as of March 31, 2022, account balances are as follows:

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| General Fund:        | \$767,325.75 |
| Cemetery Annual Care | \$ 2,406.10  |

Cemetery Perpetual Care     \$ 4,165.41

**Reports Received:**

Airport Commission Minutes 4-26-2022 (draft)

Sanitary Commission Minutes

Plan Commission

Plan Commission Chair Erba reported that Bayfield County has received grant money for updating municipal comprehensive plans. He will contact county officials to find out how they plan to use this funding.

On Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce e will sponsor a public discussion on housing to follow up on the housing survey data.

The Plan Commission has forwarded their recommendations resulting from the rec park survey.

Roads

Road Foreman Joe Connelly read his submitted report attached to these minutes.

**Public Comment**

Ned Zuelsdorff stated that a portion of the trails behind the Community Centre crosses his property and community garden property formerly owned by the Hancocks. The community garden property was purchased by two people who support public use of trails on their property and are in the process of addressing insurance concerns. The Teasdales purchased property adjacent to the community farm which extends a short distance into the trails. The Teasdales have closed off their property for public use. A sign is posted. The trails on town land and Zuelsdorff land will continue to be open for public use. All trail work is done by volunteers. The trails have become a big asset to the town with over 1000 people enjoying them each year. He thanked the board for supporting the trails that are on town property.

Chair Haag thanked Mr. Zuelsdorff for his report and work on the trails. He stated that the town has no intention of closing any trails.

Tony Erba, reporting as resigning President of the Community Farm Board, stated that the new owners of the property would like to allow community gardens, but not use of the current driveway. A gate will be installed this week along the fence on Perry Lake Road for gardeners to access their plots. The gate will not be a driveway, only pedestrian access. He asked if there would be an issue with cars parking on the shoulder of Perry Lake Road. There is sufficient room for cars to park off the road pavement. There could be 8 to 10 cars at a time.

Supervisor Hambrecht commended the plan and encouraged signage to guide people. Should cars begin to use the gate for access, a driveway permit will be needed.

Mark Dominkowski stated that a letter from the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce will be submitted to support opening a section of County Highway M for ATV/UTV traffic. Chairman Haag responded that this matter is postponed until the town receives approval from the county.

**Discussion/Possible Action – Ben Popp, Director American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation**

Mr. Popp reported that all traffic to Telemark will now be by County Highway M to Telemark Road. The gate on McNaught will be closed.

The grant application to fund a community building at Telemark was denied. The Birkie will be fundraising for this project. Plans are moving forward for a paved walking trail, playground and observation tower to hopefully be completed this summer.

The Birkie plans to apply for a WEDC grant in July. The application has to be within 90 days of the project start. He requested town support for the grant application.

Chairman Haag explained that the town will support Birkie WEDC grant applications whenever possible. However, the town is only allowed one WEDC grant per year. The only time the town would not support a Birkie application is if the town were to apply for a town project.

**Approval/Offer to Hire Seasonal Road Crew Worker**

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to offer the seasonal road crew position to John Sieverson.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of AIS hires for Summer 2022**

Sue reported that Ted Parker has been hired. AIS continues to seek applications.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve the Chequamegon 100 Event on June 18, 2022**

Supervisor Popelka stated that the route for this event only crosses Timber Trail at Randysek.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve the Chequamegon 100 Event on June 18, 2022.

Discussion

Supervisor Merrill asked if there is a map. Ron Bergin responded that most of the event is off road. A map will be provided to Great Divide Ambulance.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve \$300 Donation to Bayfield County for Short Term Rental Software**

Supervisor Weber clarified that this would be a donation of \$300 to \$500 each year for a three-year contract. The town would have unlimited access to the software which could be helpful.

Supervisor Popelka stated that the donation can come from the clerk's computer budget which has \$9000.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to authorize Clerk/Treasurer McCauley to expend up to \$500 per year from the clerk's computer budget for a three-year contract with Bayfield County for short-term rental software.  
Motion carried 5-0.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action on July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Application**

It was the consensus of the board to complete a parade application for three town vehicles.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Cable Community Centre Policy**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley stated that the current policy for use of the Community Centre waives fees for non-profit 501c3 organizations and fundraisers that are not for profit.

At the board's October 20, 2021 meeting fees were approved for weddings, showers, birthdays and private groups. Fees for benefits and public events are waived. Exercise groups do not charge participants for their community classes.

Chairman Haag suggested an annual fee for groups who use the Community Centre regularly, but Supervisor Popelka noted that the Community Centre is used by many community groups that are not true non-profit organizations, such as the Lions. These groups sponsor activities to improve the community.

After some discussion, no further action was taken on this item.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action on 2022 Cleanup Day and Cookout**

Supervisor Merrill stated that at least two or three people will be needed for Cleanup Day to help with mattresses, furniture and garbage. Cleanup Day is June 25, 2022.

On June 26, 2022, from 11:00 to 2:00, the Town Board will host a cookout at the Cable Rec Park as a cleanup appreciation. Hamburgers, brats and hot dogs will be served with beverage and chips.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action to Adopt Event Application**

Supervisor Weber thanked the Plan Commission for all their work on the proposed Event Application. It is easy to read and fill out. It will help the board understand what each event entails. There has been a huge discussion regarding fees. The purpose of the fee is not for town profit but to offset the amount the town absorbs from these events.

Plan Commission Chair Tony Erba commended Shelly Wilson for her leadership in developing the current draft of the Event Application. The recommended fee of \$25 would be submitted with the application. No exemptions or exceptions are identified. That would be the decision of the town board.

No fee is identified for use of town personnel or equipment. That would be decided by the Event Coordinator. Work with the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses is encouraged to incorporate their interest in events.

Supervisor Popelka stated that fees are to cover administrative costs. A good example is the recent Hungry Bear event. Previous to this year the town received no notice of its occurrence. This year Hungry Bear officials worked with the town and Fire Department and made a substantial donation. Event promoters are becoming aware of the need for notifying the town and showing they are willing to contribute.

Supervisor Weber asked if the Event Application would cover events like the Portage comedy show. Mr. Erba responded that if the event is contained on the property with no outside parking needed, the Event Application is not needed.

Supervisor Weber suggested a fee of \$50 with the Event Application to cover administrative costs with the Clerk/Treasurer and Event Coordinator.

Supervisor Merrill asked if standby emergency service is not arranged, then 911 would be used. He would like to see a waiver to be sure the town is not held responsible. Mr. Erba noted part c under No. 7 of the Event Application that requires the Event Coordinator to ask the plan of an event organizer if they are not working with Great Divide Ambulance. Event organizers would commit in writing to rely on 911.

Chairman Haag noted that if the town is not hosting an event, the only liability would be town negligence of some kind.

Supervisor Merrill asked about uniform parking signs. Shelly Wilson stated that the Chamber of Commerce is ordering uniform Customer Only parking signs.

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Merrill to approve the Event Application with the change of the application fee from \$25 to \$50.

Discussion:

Chairman Haag suggested keeping the fee at \$25 to see how it works the first year. The fee can be reviewed in a year if anything further is needed. It is easier to raise a fee rather than decrease it.

Motion carried 4-1.

Chairman Haag voted against the motion due to the raise in fee from \$25 to \$50.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action to Appoint an Event Coordinator**

Chairman Haag expressed his appreciation to Shelly Wilson for all the work she has done on the Event Application and her previous work with events. He asked if she would be willing to take the position of Event Coordinator. Shelly agreed to be appointed.

Chairman Haag formally appointed Shelly Wilson to the position of Event Coordinator. At a future closed meeting compensation will be discussed.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Resolution 2022-05 Regarding Disposition of Former Cable School Building**

Supervisor Popelka stated that in order to apply for a WEDA grant for disposition of the school building, a resolution is needed stating the town's position on how to proceed with this property. The resolution covers what was discussed at a previous town board work meeting and shows how the town will have a controlling interest in the building.

Supervisor Merrill asked if the agreement with the owner would mean that the town owns or controls the property. Supervisor Popelka explained that if the town purchases the property it would have to be voted on at a special elector meeting. The proposed option agreement would give town control to proceed with the grant application. The owner's signature will be needed on the option agreement.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve Resolution 2022-05 regarding disposition of the Cable school building and apply for the grant.  
Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Accept Contract for Audit in 2022**

Two quotes were received: 1) Clifton Larson in Eau Claire for \$6500; and 2) Carlson SV in Amery for \$7500 to \$8500.

Chairman Haag asked if there is a staff recommendation for a particular firm. Deputy Clerk Allen explained that Carlson SV was highly recommended by Wascott, a town that also has a Clerk/Treasurer position.

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to approve the Carlson SV proposal for the 2022 audit.

Discussion

Supervisor Popelka noted that this cost will come out of the clerk's budget.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Set Date for Public Hearing on Tahkodah Lake Wake Protection Ordinance and Evergreen Court Vacation**

A 30-day notice is required for public hearings.

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to set the public hearing date for Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Adopt Town Board Meeting Policy**

Supervisor Popelka requested an addition to the policy that town meetings are set by the board after the April election each year. The policy will be posted.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve town board meeting policy with the addition that the regular town board meeting schedule is set in April of each year.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of Checks**

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the following checks:

|                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fire Department      | Check Nos. 3239 through 3244   |
| Forest Lodge Library | Check Nos. 3843 through 3857   |
| Town of Cable        | Check Nos. 10378 through 10403 |

Discussion:

Supervisor Merrill requested that the board be notified of any expenditure over \$5000.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Next Meetings:**      **May 19, 2022, Possible Quorum/Conference Call with WEDC**  
                                 **May 23, 2022, Board of Review**  
                                 **June 15, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting**

**Adjournment:** Chairman Haag declared the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.