

**TOWN OF CABLE BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 17, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.  
Cable Community Centre**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Haag called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported the following:

- She will attend training for new clerks on August 24 and will be out of the office Tuesday afternoon, August 23, returning Thursday morning, August 25.
- Lakewoods Fall Workshops are Monday, September 26, 2022. Workshops will be available by webinar. Anyone wishing to attend let Bobbi know by August 26, 2022.
- Three cemetery lots were sold. The deed has been sent to the Register of Deeds to be recorded.
- McCormicks are pursuing town vacation of Evergreen Court. Currently, they are working with a surveyor to get a legal description of the road.
- A Flu Clinic will be held at the Cable Community Centre, but the date is not yet known.
- A draft audit report should be received within the next week.
- The Town of Cable has received the August tax settlement check in the amount of \$283,791.11.
- A new quote has been received from Outdoor Fitness that is in line with the amount the board wants to spend. The horizontal ladder has been eliminated, but there is one included in the playground equipment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES July 20, 2022**

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the July 20, 2022 board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

As of June 30, 2022, balances are as follows:

General Fund:	\$666,410.95
Cemetery annual care:	\$ 2,406.10
Cemetery perpetual care:	\$ 4,165.41

## **REPORTS:**

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Merrill to accept the reports submitted, including the Forest Lodge Library Report received at this meeting:

Sanitary District Meeting Minutes – 7-12-2022  
Plan Commission Meeting Minutes – Draft, 8-2-2022  
Airport Commission Meeting Minutes – Draft, 7-12-2022  
Connect Communities Minutes – 8-2-2022  
Road Report  
Notes from Cable Housing Conversation – July 26, 2022  
Forest Lodge Library

## **Discussion:**

Kristine Lendved noted the big tree between the library and book house have been taken down.

Motion carried 5-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brian Semansky asked the status of West Cable Lake Road. Chairman Haag answered that it is high on the list for blacktopping. Work was delayed because of the demolition being done by the school.

Jim Braaken noted a wayside past the old town dump that is now being used to dump brush. This area has become an eyesore. If the brush were taken further south to the old dump site, nothing would be seen.

Jim Braaken stated that East Cable Lake Road was last resurfaced in 1981, and is a roller coaster. EMTs do not like to drive on it, especially with a patient. He would like to see repairs before it needs total reconstruction, which would save the town a lot of money. Chairman Haag stated that the board adopted a road priority plan last year and is adhering to that plan.

Supervisor Merrill requested a special category report for the road crew to record how much time is spent on each road. This would provide a better accounting of costs, including labor, on each road. Chairman Haag agreed to mention this to Road Foreman Joe Connelly.

Jim Braaken stated that he lives on Wiley Lake. He is interested in applying the Wake Protection Ordinance for Tahkodah Lake to Wiley Lake. A wake boat, such as water skiing, that throws one foot of wake is no problem. New wake boats designed to throw a wake of 3 feet can do a lot of damage on small pristine lakes. The WI DNR is working on developing regulations for the use of wake boats, but they have not been issued yet. As a spokesman for the Bayfield County Lakes Forum, he requested the Town of Cable be to rule that wake boats are not allowed on any lake without at least 700 feet between shores. No lakes in Cable have even 500 feet. He requested the Wake Protection Ordinance be applied to all lakes in the Town of Cable.

Chair Haag stated that the board is considering each lake on a case-by-case basis rather than applying the ordinance to all lakes. That is why a blanket ordinance was not done.

Supervisor Hambrecht explained that Tahkodah Lake District went through the whole ordinance process as a result of an incident that occurred.

Jim Braaken noted there is always the question of enforcement. The state does not enforce town ordinances. A sign posted at Rice Lake imposes a \$300 fine. A sign stating, "Wake Boats Prohibited \$300 Fine" might be enough to not have a problem. He submitted research information on the issue to Chair Haag.

Elizabeth Holland reported that the Tri Lakes Association also discussed this issue at its Annual Meeting. The consensus is that boats that create large wakes are not wanted on the tri lakes. She supports the ordinance, which is proactive and preventative. It would also help property buyers to understand that such boats are prohibited because real estate agents would provide the ordinance information.

Supervisor Popelka suggested Jim Braaken contact all lake associations. The ordinance could be done for all lakes in Cable at the same time.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Operator License for Carlie Calkins**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported that all paperwork is in order for this license.

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to approve an operator license for Carlie Calkins.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Tour de Chequamegon Event Application for September 23-25, 2022.**

Supervisor Merrill noted that this event is the same time as Fall Fest. The application requests parking in the public parking lot that will be needed for the town.

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley responded that the event will start and end at the Birkie Start area.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Merrill to approve the Tour de Chequamegon Event September 23-25, with the understanding that parking for the event will primarily be at the Birkie area.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve NICA Cycling Event, September 2-5, 2022**

Clerk/Treasurer McCauley reported that this event is expecting 2000 youth participants with their families and coaches. There may be as many as 4000 at the event. NICA has submitted payment but has not provided proof of insurance.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the NCIA cycling event September 2-5, 2022, contingent upon receipt of the Certificate of Insurance and that no town facilities will be used.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Northwoods Preschool**

Justin Boysen reported that the board for Northwoods Preschool has been unable to find a teacher to keep the preschool open. The school is non-profit. It is proposed to close the preschool, dissolve the non-profit organization and donate the assets to the Town of Cable. If a teacher is found, the school could open again, and the town could donate the assets back to the new preschool. At least six students are required to open.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Merrill for the Town of Cable to accept the donation of the Northwoods Preschool assets and hold them in trust for two years for another possible preschool in Cable. Should a preschool not reopen in two years, the assets will be dispersed as the town sees fit with proceeds used for the Cable Rec Park.

Discussion:

Supervisor Weber asked the requirements for a teacher. Boysen agreed to send the teacher requirements for posting. He added that the board did no advertising was done this year.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Removal of Berm at the Community Farm**

Chairman Haag explained that at the last board meeting it was reported that cars are parking in the road right-of-way because of berm. The board was asked to remove the berm so there would be enough room to park off the road. Road Foreman Joe Connelly has submitted a report to the board indicating that the project would take approximately 5 hours and would need a grader loader and dump truck. Diggers Hotline would have to be contacted. The estimated cost is \$1000 to \$2000.

Supervisor Merrill expressed concern that if the town does this work, it will set a precedent for other requests. Chair Haag responded that he understands the concern, but the Community Farm is used by many in the community.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to authorize the town crew up to one day of time to expand the right-of-way for the Community Farm.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2022-06 Regarding Public Participation Plan for Updating Town of Cable Comp Plan**

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to adopt Resolution 2022-06, to approve participation in the Public Participation Plan.

Discussion:

Supervisor Popelka stated that Plan Commission Chair Tony Erba wants to be sure that the Comp Plan will accurately reflect the Cable community and not just be a general document.

There must be engagement from the community. Deputy Clerk Allen noted that the Public Participation Plan specifically requires focus on: "Offering opportunities for public comment (oral and written), and consideration of, and response to, public comments."

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Forest Lodge Library Request to Proceed with Destruction of Old Fire Hall and Village Garage and Proceed with Construction of Municipal Parking Lot.**

Library Director Kristine Lendved reported that town electors voted to give permission to dispose of the old fire hall and village garage at the 2019 Annual Meeting. When developing the new library plan, the main entrance would be changed to the north facing a future potential parking lot. She requested the work for to destroy the old buildings and build a new parking lot be scheduled in the near future. Whatever happens to plans for the new library, the parking lot will serve the Town of Cable.

Supervisor Popelka agreed and noted that on any given weekend there is a lot of traffic and congestion on County Highway M close to businesses and the Chamber. A closer parking lot would be helpful. The buildings are deteriorating. The town might be able to recoup some money. The Lions sold their small building behind the fire hall for \$1000. There are no asbestos or lead paint issues. The big building is a steel frame. The other building has cracked walls and a bad roof. He suggested the steel building be listed on the WI Surplus Auction with buyers paying the fee, not the town. The town crew could remove the small building yet this year.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to proceed with action on Resolution 19-05 to advertise for sale and destruction and removal of the old fire hall and old town garage between County Highway M and Spruce Street.

Discussion

USDA grants are available for electrical fast charge stations which require 3 phase power. That site has the power required and would be a good place for electrical charge stations. Xcel is willing to help with a grant application. Clerk /Treasurer McCauley noted that LGIP has \$40,000 set aside for municipal parking.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Fund Posting NO ENGINE BRAKE Signs on U.S. Hwy. 63**

Doug Hescher stated that he lives on Hwy. 63. There used to be No Engine Brake signs on 63. He contacted Bob Anderson at Bayfield County to ask why the signs were taken down. He received a letter from the county stating that if the town wants to post No Engine Brake signs, the town must authorize action by adopting a resolution and sending a letter of request to Bob Anderson who will work with the DOT. The reason for this request is to have trucks slow down sooner because of the noise factor. The signs would only be on Hwy. 63 north and south. The reason is noise factor and have trucks slow sooner - only on 63 north and south

Motion by Supervisor Hambrecht, seconded by Supervisor Weber to pursue No Engine Brake signs to be posted north and south on U.S. Highway 63 and submit a request to Bob Anderson at Bayfield County for sign installation to be funded by the town.

Discussion:

Supervisor Merrill noted that the regulations require enforcement of the signs. An ordinance can be written, but he does not believe it will be enforced. Chair Haag stated that he will get a copy of the ordinance used in Hayward as an example to use. The Sheriff's office can be notified of the new ordinance to enforce.

Supervisor Hambrecht amended the motion to include drafting an ordinance for No Engine Brake signs. Supervisor Weber seconded the motion with the amendment.  
Amended Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Non-Payment of Five Star Electric Invoice, Dated 3-21-2017, for Work at New Town Garage**

Supervisor Hambrecht stated that Five Star Electric never clarified what work was done, and they did not comply with the itemized list provided.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Merrill to deny payment of the Five Star Electric invoice, dated 3-21-2017, for work at the new town garage because no information has been provided of the work done, and there was no supervisor authorization.

Discussion:

It was the consensus of the board that a letter is not needed to respond to the invoice. In December last year, the town sent a request for clarification and received no response.  
Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion on Grant Planning for School Project**

The report from Legend shows there is asbestos in the school and a small amount of art lead paint. The floor tile and gym have asbestos. The glue used on the ceiling tile also has asbestos, as well as the glue used around doors and windows.

Estimates for removal of asbestos and lead paint range from \$62,000 to \$65,000. This amount would be eligible for part of the WEDC grant. There is also a possibility of getting a grant from the DNR for removal. The WEDC grant requires a cash match of \$150,000.

The owner of the building has indicated interest from a person wanting to submit an offer to purchase, including demolition. The seller's attorney was contacted. The proposal would be eco friendly with housing, a community garden and green space.

Supervisor Popelka stated he would not support disposal of demolition materials at the town disposal site if the town does not own the property. He would support the town helping with removal as long as tax base funds are not used. The buyer needs to cover the additional cost.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to affirm the town decision to provide the required matching funds for the WEDC grant application for demolition of the old school.

Motion carried 5-0

**Schedule Short-Term Rental**

A work meeting will be scheduled September 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Public comment is welcome. (As of writing of these minutes, the date was changed to September 8, 2022, immediately following park meeting.)

**Schedule Playground Design for Town Park**

A work meeting will be scheduled September 7, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Park to discuss layout of new playground equipment and new sidewalks. (As of writing of these minutes, the date was changed to September 8, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.)

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Checks.**

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the following check payments:

Fire Department	Nos. 3249 through 3258
Forest Lodge Library	Nos. 3876 through 3887
Town of Cable	Nos. 10480 through 10521

Motion carried 5-0

**Schedule Public Hearing for Vacation of Town Hall Road**

A public hearing for the vacation of Town Hall Road is tentatively scheduled for October 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. A letter will be sent to Trinity Lutheran Church explaining the required process.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Haag declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.