

Town of Niagara, Marinette County
Regular Town Board Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2023 at Niagara Town Hall, W6889 US Hwy 8

Agenda of Town Board Meeting

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order and Roll Call.
 - a. The July 18, 2023, Monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was met.
 - b. Present: Chairman Bob Butler, Supervisor Ron Neuens, Supervisor David Sanicki, Treasurer Debbie Emond, Clerk Sara Wentzel. Absent: None.
- 2) Approve / Amend agenda items for July 18, 2023.
 - a. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve the agenda for July 18, 2023. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 3) Approve / Amend minutes of June 20, 2023 Town Board Meeting.
 - a. M/S: Sanicki/Neuens to approve minutes of June 20, 2023, regular Town Board Meeting as presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 4) Treasurer's Report as submitted/presented by Debbie Emond.
 - a. Income for June equaled \$3,659.66. Expenditures for June equaled \$14,954.94.
 - b. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve Treasurer's Report as submitted/presented. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- 5) Public Comment; non-discussion from Board.
 - a. Reminder that any public comments brought forth with requests for discussion/action need to be created as an item for the next month's meeting agenda.
 - b. Bruce LaLiberte and American Legion replaced the American flag on town hall flagpole with brand new one.
- 6) Discussion / Action Item: Mark Farley Presentation re: New John Deere Tractor for Township.
 - a. Discussion: Lead time for new equipment is conservatively 9-10 months. Different financing options were presented (full purchase outright, rent-to-own with interest-free 12-month loan). After trade-in allowance of \$28,500 on current Kubota tractor owned by township, quote for new tractor is \$161,285. John Deere also offers sales of existing used machines from their tractor fleet. Price increases will take effect November 1, 2023. Chairman Butler asked Board for direction if public notice needs to be posted to take open bids. Chairman Butler also contacted Beaver Machine, Inc. about options through their dealership (Case, Kubota, etc.). Supervisor Neuens stated historical protocol has been to obtain minimum of three (3) bids. Board agrees to post/publish notices that Township is accepting other bids by August 7, 2023.
 - b. M/S: None. Clerk Wentzel will submit/post notices for bids.
 - c. Status: In Progress. Table this topic to August's meeting agenda for further discussion and review of any bids that are received by deadline of August 7, 2023.
- 7) Discussion / Action Item: Road Inspection and 3-Year Road Plan including LRIP/TRIP project.
 - a. Discussion: Chairman Butler talked with Pat from Scott Construction concerning LRIP application process and funding. Clerk Wentzel will research if there's any confirmation at this time that Niagara Township is guaranteed LRIP funds in 2024. Board will review Road Inspection Report for potentially two (2) other roads for future projects.
 - b. M/S: None.
 - c. Status: In Progress. Table this topic to August's meeting agenda for further discussion.
- 8) Discussion / Action Item: Update on the Animal Ordinance.
 - a. Discussion: Chairman Butler and Bruce LaLiberte met to discuss prospective changes to existing Animal Ordinance after conferring with Dog Catcher, Kim Deforge, and reviewing other

municipalities' animal ordinances. Major changes to our ordinance include: \$75 fine for first offense of animals running at large and returned the same day, one-time only; Multiple Dog License changed to 10 dogs maximum and cost of \$60; Kennel license fee implemented at \$100; Kennel license required for more than 10 dogs, and \$100 fine for Apprehended Dogs with No License. Revised Animal Ordinance will be posted at Town Hall in addition to two (2) public places and residents can request an electronic copy from the clerk. Fee Schedule will also be updated and posted at Town Hall.

- b. M/S: Neuens/Sanicki to approve changes as presented to Animal Ordinance and Fee Schedule. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.
- c. Status: Complete.

9) Discussion / Action Item: New 1-Ton Truck Update.

- a. Discussion: Chairman Butler talked with Era Chevrolet today. Truck leaves next week for Monroe for box installation. New plow is ready to go. Chairman Butler will contact Badger in Niagara concerning old plow (as they accepted it as trade-in).
- b. M/S: None.
- c. Status: In Progress. Table this topic to August's meeting agenda for further discussion.

10) Discussion / Action Item: Tar for crack sealer.

- a. Discussion: Chairman Butler reached out to confirm pricing on the tar from Midwest and Sherwin Industries. There are still a few discrepancies especially concerning shipping/delivery, so Supervisor Sanicki will go back for clarification before proceeding.
- b. M/S: None.
- c. Status: In Progress. Table this topic to August's meeting agenda for decision.

11) Road Chief's Report as submitted/presented by Ken Romuald.

- a. Ditches being cut; dealing with machine break-downs.
- b. Patching done over by North Star on Chapman Road.
- c. Snow fence inventory reviewed for condition; 19 "very good", 14 "good", and 4 "not good". Chairman Butler will research reasonable price for potential sale.

12) Planning Commission Report as submitted/presented by Bruce LaLiberte.

- a. Planning Commission Committee did not meet.

13) Zoning Administrator's Report as submitted/presented by Bob Grandaw.

- a. Clerk Wentzel presented this report in Mr. Grandaw's absence. For the month of June 2023 there were 6 permits. By request of Town Board, Bob visited N22845 Michelle Street, Niagara, to review report of trash/garbage blowing around. Nothing was found. After further investigation, a neighbor reported the owner of property brought in a trailer, cleaned up garbage and hauled away.

14) Lake Shannon Report as presented by Bob Butler.

- a. Biggest issue appears to be the dam; they are working to get a certified dam, collaborating with the DNR. There is an "Airbnb" operating, and committee asked Chairman Butler if Township has ordinance against such operations. Planning Commission states there is an ordinance against, outlining only 25% of business can be run out of a home. There are also State laws above and beyond Township ordinances concerning such operations. Shannon Lake District Association will have to determine what their rules will allow.

15) Multi-Jurisdictional Court Report as presented by Bob Butler.

- a. Township is now up and running with the Court. Clerk Wentzel will obtain copy of contract for records.

16) Announce next meeting: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Niagara Town Hall.

17) Adjourn

- a. M/S Sanicki/Neuens to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm. Voice votes taken; no negative votes. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Sara Wentzel, Town Clerk

Chairman Butler

Supervisor Neuens

Supervisor Sanicki