

**TOWN OF FIFIELD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Minutes of August 15th, 2023**

The meeting was brought to order on August 15th, 2023 at 6:03pm at the Fifield Town Hall

This meeting was being recorded by reporter Trevor Greene of the Lakeland Times.

ROLL CALL: William Felch, Ann Sloane, John Smith, also present K. Kleinschmidt, T. Fleming and 36 others
The pledge of allegiance was recited

VERIFICATION OF PUBLIC POSTING: This agenda was posted at the Town Hall, Post Office, Pike Lake Fire Hall and on the Town of Fifield's website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 4 residents spoke on the matter of Ordinance 28 regarding the skiing hours and the speed limit. They feel the ordinance is outdated and the speed limit is not enforced anyway. Water sports rely on the weather and with everyone's busy schedules, they would like the skiing hours extended. One resident suggested a trial period with any changes. Another resident submitted his comments via email that he would like Ordinance 28 to stay the same. A resident is still concerned with the movement of and/or placement of buoys. A resident had concerns with the EMR incident and that the Town Chair had to order interviews to be held and also questioned the resignation of HR. A resident asked if it's the Town's responsibility to maintain alleys. He had concerns of whether a new resident on one of the allies could be reached by ambulance or fire truck. This same resident also questioned the layout of the agendas for town meetings.

APPROVE MINUTES MEETINGS: A **MOTION** was made by A. Sloane and J. Smith to approve and accept the minutes of June 22, 2023 Special Meeting with HR Training, motion carried. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve and accept the minutes of July 11th, 2023 regular board meeting, motion carried.

CEMETERY REPORT: The report was reviewed and accepted.

CLERK/TREASURER: Financial reports were reviewed and accepted. The Clerk asked the Board to approve paying the additional trucking bills for Cy's Drive, J. Smith made a **MOTION** and A. Sloane seconded it, motion carried. VV 3-0. T. Fleming did a written request to keep track of her milage on a separate time sheet vs keeping a milage log as she has in the past. She supplied a master sheet showing all the milage she would be doing, this would free up some of her time. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve and accept the new milage time sheet. VV 3-0. Clerk requested permission to attend the WTA Fall Workshop, the Board approved. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve the temporary liquor license for the Pike Lake Fire Dept/ Fun Days. The Clerk is still trying to finalize details with credit card company for the Town's card and has contacted Forward Bank in regards to possibly having to borrow for the TRID Project, for the streets west of Highway 13. The Clerk informed the Board she has had to hold back on paying invoices, waiting for the August tax settlement.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

FIRE #1 REPORT: They had 10 EMR calls and 2 Fire calls. Both trucks have been re-certified.

FIRE #2 REPORT: Chief Johnson wanted to clarify to the public that we were waiting for a response from the Town's attorney on how to proceed with records requests when involving an employee. Fire #2 had 0 fire calls and 1 EMS call. A maintenance inspection revealed a jump bag had been stolen and replaced with a different one holding expired supplies. W. Felch will contact Custom Security regarding the cameras. There has been some dispatch issues regarding a call with a Lac Du Flambeau address. They will have complete fire inspections next week. The generators are old and kick in once a week to test, using excess propane. Still waiting to hear from the DNR regarding grant. The proposal from Pomsal, for the flex grant vehicle, will be revised to not include the brush guard. Been working on repairs around the hall. They request that the transfer station in Pike Lake be named the Dan Brandt Transfer Station. Chief asked if he could get a vendor list from Fire #1, so they can order from vendors who are already on file.

TOWN CREW REPORT: Road Superintendent T.Fleming reported due to heavy rains, they had to re-seed and mulch Cy's Drive. They worked on the turn around on White Rock Rd. Changed a culvert on Old 13 Rd. The new truck could possibly be here by the end of September. The crew is working on Riley with the forest service, have one mile done, at least three more miles to go.

TRANSFER SITES REPORT: T. Fleming had nothing new to report. There was one incident report filled out, the attendant at Pike Lake Site found bullets on the ground, the Board feels there is no follow up necessary at this time.

DISCUSS THE PLACEMENT OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDAS: After a brief discussion on public comment and the format of meeting agendas, it was decided to hold a special meeting to go over this. A special meeting was set for September 5th, 2023 at 6:00pm.

APPROVE ORDINANCE #99: The final draft of the revised Ordinance #99 was presented to the Board for approval and signatures. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve and accept the final draft of the revised Ordinance #99. VV 3-0 The Clerk will publish, post and email a copy of the signed ordinance to Robin Miller.

ORDINANCE #28 – REQUEST TO CHANGE SKIING HOURS: There was discussion from residents regarding this ordinance being 35 years old and not realistic anymore with the 12 mph speed limit, some residents would like the skiing hours extended or dropped altogether. Some residents feel that there should be input from the PLCLA, some voiced that not all residents belong to the association. The PLCLA will hold a listening session towards the end of September, members and non-members will be invited to this. This matter was tabled for the regular October board meeting, hoping to have more input and information by then.

DUMP CARD POLICY REVIEW: There was brief discussion on how to move forward with the system of having to show a dump card at the transfer sites. This matter was tabled for the Special Meeting on September 5th.

HR POSITION UPDATE: After some suggestions regarding the possibility of requesting the County to see if they have a broader resource we could use and that we also have the WTA we could contact when in need. It is felt that a part-time HR person is needed. There is already a job description for this position and it is part of the budget. The Board feels HR is needed for approximately 18-20 hours per month. A **MOTION** was made by A. Sloane and J. Smith to pursue filling the Human Resources position. VV 3-0

ABANDON ALLEYWAY REQUEST UPDATE: The Town's attorney has advised the process for discontinuing the alley between Maple Street and Spuce Street per a resident's request. A date for the notice of hearing needs to be set. The Board set it for October 17th at 5:30. The residents located on that alley need to be served this notice, the resolution regarding this matter can be viewed in the Clerk's office.

CONSIDERATION FOR TWO REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS A MONTH: This will be tabled until the special meeting on September 5th.

EMR INCIDENT OF 6-26-23 UPDATE: Interviews with the persons involved in the June 26th incident have taken place with Fire Dept #2 Fire Chief and a Board Member, either W. Felch or J. Smith were present for those interviews. Before the in person interviews, the discipline handed out was 6 months probation, not to go on calls by himself but always have someone with him. W. Felch & J. Smith questioned and feel that the proper procedures were not followed. W. Felch made the recommendation that there be a suspension instead of probation. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and W. Felch to suspend the EMS responder for one year. At that time he can address the Board with a request to come back. A. Sloane abstained. VV 2-0-1

CORRESPONDENCE: Board general correspondence was reviewed; two building permits, WTA Price County Unit Meeting, a Special Exception Permit filed with Price County, USDA cooperative agreement letter, a records request regarding flags and a request from the FSD to hang a bulletin board at the town hall, a **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve this bulletin board, motion carried.

REVIEW PAID INVOICES: Paid invoices were reviewed and accepted

ADJOURN: A **MOTION** was made to adjourn at 8:17 PM by A. Sloane and J. Smith, motion carried.

This is a draft until approved at the next scheduled regular board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly E. Kleinschmidt
Town of Fifield Clerk/Treasurer

09/05/2023