

PROCEEDS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN BOARD
June 10, 2024

Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Also present were Supervisor Drewa, Supervisor Saak, Treasurer Demko, Deputy Clark Batte and Clerk De Clark.

Constituents present were Pat Wloszczynski, Rich Wenzelow, Paul Batte and Bill De Groot.

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the town minutes from May 13, 2024.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Monthly Report

Treasurer Demko presented the monthly Treasurer's Report which included account balances and interest rates.

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Monthly Bills

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Correspondence

Chairman Erwin stated that he received a letter from Dan Zekor and he is looking for history on the town of Fern. It was suggested he start with Deb DeMuri at the Florence County Museum. Deputy Clerk Batte will follow up with this information.

There was a concern about Red Oak Lane, but this is not a Fern Road.

Patten Lake

Chairman Erwin stated that there are concerns about wake boats on the lake and they would like an ordinance against their use. Chairman Erwin stated that an ordinance needs to come from Florence County and Fern. His concern is that there is no one to police the ordinance.

Chairman Erwin will contact the head to the lake association and refer them to Florence County Forestry and Parks.

Supervisor Drewa stated that this is a tough fight, and other townships are having the same issues. The state needs to take action. Deputy Clerk Batte gave a copy of Townsends policy. The DNR would have to review any potential ordinance and they would just put-up signage.

Consideration is to send it to Forestry and Parks.

County Plow Truck

Chairman Erwins stated that the town's truck has a crack in the head. Chairman Erwin and Constituent Pat learned that the county truck that's for sale only had 5,000 miles on the engine, so they purchased the truck. Chairman Erwin went to Rhinelander for a plate and to title the truck but only Madison can issue municipality plates. He will mail the wrong plates to Madison and the town will receive reimbursement for the \$619 already paid.

Loader

Chairman Erwin stated the town of Florence is selling their old Case Loader. They were going to auction it for \$12,000. He would like action to purchase to loader. Constituent Pat stated that it is a good machine. Chairman Erwin will follow up with Chris about the purchase

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to purchase the loader.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Board Member Comments

Supervisor Saak stated that he is getting inquiries about building permits for Mulberry Lane. He was told to direct these calls to zoning.

Supervisor Drewa stated that Herzog on Birch Lane wants some work done on the road for dust control. Chairman Erwin stated that Joe from county has brine water we can use to hold down the dust. He will ask county to apply the brine

A person on Thompson Road asked for it too but Chairman Erwin stated how hard it is on vehicles. Constituent Pat stated that it would be better to put mine rock down instead. Chairman Erwin agreed.

Supervisor Drewa thanked those who showed up for the town clean up.

Supervisor Drewa stated that Dave Brule asked to connect Ironwood Road to Lake Emily. Chairman Erwin stated that this should be brought to County.

Supervisor Drewa stated that the oil tank needs to be marked better. Pat will spray paint "oil only" on it to identify it.

Supervisor Drewa asked if the light for the flagpole was installed yet. Yes, it was.

Deputy Clerk Batt and Treasurer Demko had met with the town's accountant, and she will help to set up QuickBooks to correspond with the reports she files for the town. There will be an expense for this, but she will also train with the proper procedures.

Supervisor Drewa asked if Joe Testolin was the only person to work on our equipment. Chairman Erwin stated that no, the county works on our equipment too.

Deputy Clerk Batte asked if the town still pays the fire dues. Chairman Erwin stated that yes, we do.

Supervisor Drewa asked how the pump for fire water was running. Chairman Erwin stated that it hasn't been checked in a while. He will contact Joe from county about this.

Supervisor Drewa asked how the gravel supply is. Pat said it's very good yet.

Constituent Concerns

Constituent DeGroot stated he has not experienced any issues with wake boats on Patten Lake.

Constituent DeGroot stated that Norway Pine Lane was not graded very well this spring. Chairman Erwin stated that this will be addressed by Florence County. Pat will apply some gravel to help with the issue.

Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Saak to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patti De Clark
Town Clerk