

PROCEEDS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN BOARD
November 11, 2024

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

Constituents present were Paul Batte, Pat Wolozynski, Bill DeGroot, Mike Lafavre, Clyde Rassmussen, Rich Woloshyn and Tom Tedford.

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

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

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the town minutes from October 14, 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 Saak to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

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

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to review.

Wake Boat Ordinance

Chairman Erwin had gone to Oconto County and Lakewood to pick up flyers with contact information on it regarding wake boat ordinances. Brenda Nordine gave him the DNR person for our area.

Chairman Erwin had also spoke with Tim Bomberg regarding the matter and he stated that the town's attorney is looking into the ordinance for Florence County. Tim stated that the ordinance has no teeth though as the police will not support enforcing any such ordinance.

Supervisor Drewa stated that he would like to see all lakes with the ordinance. Chairman Erwin stated that the town needs to investigate the issue further and that Fern was in favor of the ordinance. He stated that the town has until spring to take action. He will also go to Townsend who has such and ordinance to see what they have done.

Constituent Rasmussen asked if the main concern for the town was enforcement. Chairman Erwin stated yes, it is.

Supervisor Drewa stated that he has spoken with the sheriff's department, and they were not in favor of the ordinance. He also stated that the state is making the counties deal with the issue.

Constituent Lefebvre stated that the town is wrong as the ordinance needs to be in place by spring by either Fern and Florence together or just Fern. Fern can pass the ordinance without having Florence pass it. Because Fern has 80 percent of Patton Lake, they do not need Florence's permission to implement the ordinance.

UTV/ATV Ordinance

The UTV/ATV ordinance was approved at the last meeting and is now in place.

Logging Ordinance

Constituent Kranz gave the ordinance to the town and the town will be approving the ordinance. Supervisor Drewa stated that the town's attorney needed to review the ordinance before it's approval.

Chairman Erwin stated that he has been trying to contact the logging company but has been unable to contact them. He stated he will put up a sign closing the Norway Pine exit until they contact him. Constituent Lefebvre has the logging companies contact information and will get it to Chairman Erwin.

Constituent Rasmussen stated that the culvert is washing out. Chairman Erwin stated that he and Pat are aware of this.

Board Member Comments

Deputy Clerk Batte stated that the town of Fern was randomly selected for an election audit. Pam and Kim will conduct the audit, and it will be done before Thanksgiving.

She also stated that the population of Fern is 189 souls and there were 142 voters at the last election.

Supervisor Drewa thanked the election board for their excellent efforts during the election.

Treasurer Demko asked if the town had any stuffers for the January tax mailing. Chairman Erwin stated that yes, the new dump cards should be distributed with the tax bills. He will get the cards to her.

Supervisor Saak stated that Patton Lake Road is developing potholes. The county needs to be notified. Chairman Erwin stated that he had spoke with Joe regarding this issue and they will be sending some workers out to address the issues. Chairman Drewa asked about Sea Lion Lake Road too. Chairman Erwin stated that he will speak with Joe about that road too.

Constituent Concerns

Constituent DeGroot noticed an expense on the bills report to Pomp's Tire for over \$26,000, he asked what this was for. Chairman Erwin stated that they had purchased tires for the loader and John Deere. Deputy Clerk Batte stated that the cost was actually only \$13,165.91 and that it was accidentally on the report twice.

Constituent Rasmussen asked if the school referendum had passes. Deputy Clerk Batte stated that, yes it had passed.

Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patti De Clark
Town Clerk