

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN BOARD
October 10, 2022

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

Constituents present were Patrick Wloszczynski, Gary Blank, Berit Helledy, Ann Drewa, Don DeGroot, Janet and Rich Woslyn.

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 Saak to approve the town minutes.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

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 treasurer's report.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

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

Monthly Bills

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the monthly bills.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

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

It was also decided that because GFL Environmental is due upon receipt that this bill will be paid upon receipt per Chairman Erwin.

Correspondence

Chairman Erwin stated that the Town received a letter via email that there will be an annual charge for EMS services per capita by municipality. The Town of Fern's charges will be \$4,625.00.

Fire Hydrant

Chairman Erwin stated that he will speak with Joe Witynski regarding getting the hydrant flushed.

Aspen West Sign

Supervisor Drewa stated that the sign will be completed by the upcoming weekend. The Town will need to paint the sign.

Balsam Lane Culvert

Chairman Erwin stated that the project is coming along nicely. The electric lines are trenched in already. The new culvert will alleviate the water issues on Balsam Lane. The culvert will be put in by Florence County.

Dump Hours

Supervisor Saak stated that he had spoken with several of the residents at the dump and they indicated that it really did not matter if the dump were open on Wednesdays in the winter, but some did indicate they would like it.

Supervisor Drewa noted that the dump is already being over used and the containers are filled up very quickly now. He stated that the dump is already open 125 days per year and he is not favorable to the idea of being open on Wednesdays in the winter months. This should be brought up at the Annual Meeting.

Supervisor Saak stated that he would let the residents who come to the dump know this decision.

Tamarack Gate

Chairman Erwin stated that he was informed that the people on Tamarack Road will gate off the road for the winter themselves.

Chairman Erwin stated that no, the constituents on the road could not gate off the road.

Motion to not allow the gating of the road made by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

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

Dump Fee Increase

Supervisor Drewa mentioned that a \$10 increase may be in order for the annual dump fees to bring it from \$40 to \$50 annually.

Chairman Erwin stated that this should be brought up at the Annual Meeting. Supervisor Drewa stated that he would run the numbers on the actual cost of running and maintaining the town dump for the meeting.

Treasurer Demko stated that the Town cannot make a profit on the dump and that the biggest increase that would be acceptable would be \$2.

Board Member Comments

Clerk De Clark stated that she had been on the phone just previously to the Town Meeting with Got Your Back Support. She explained that this is the computer company that supplies the support for her computer programs and the maintenance of the computer. She was informed that the one-year contract will be expiring shortly.

Clerk De Clark presented the cost for a one-year, three-year or five-year contract. It was decided that the Town would go with the three-year contract.

Motion to contract with Got Your Back Support for three years was made by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak

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

Clerk De Clark will notify Got Your Back Support of the board's decision after the meeting.

JET Logging

Chairman Erwin stated that he has spoken with the Town attorney regarding this matter. The attorney said that sending a certified letter was not going to get the Town anywhere. He suggested the Town put on their next agenda that Jack must appear at the next town meeting to let the board know his intentions.

Chairman Erwin spoke with Jack from JET Logging and he was in the process of getting the logs removed. (Noted: upon completion of the town meeting the necessary machinery to remove the logs in question was seen driving to the location of the logs).

Constituents Concerns

Supervisor Drewa noted that he had spoken with Josh from Asplundh Tree Service and the Town is on their agenda. They are running a little behind because of the storm in Florida.

Supervisor Drewa inquired of constituent Pat W. if he was going to sell the old sander now that he had the new sander. Constituent Pat W. stated that, yes the Town would be selling the old sander. He had spoken with Boss Snowplows and they stated that \$4,500 was a fair price for the old sander. Chairman Erwin stated he would put the sander for sale in the Florence Mining News. Constituent Pat W. stated that he would put the word out too. Constituent Rich W. stated that he could put the sander on Facebook Marketplace and Craig's List.

Constituent Gary B. inquired if the Town had found the sign that shows the Sea Lion Lake and the no wake zone. Chairman Erwin stated that these types of signs are usually taken care of by the Lake Association not by the Town.

Constituent Gary B. stated that the stop sign on South Shore and Birch Lane was knocked over. Chairman Erwin stated that these are private roads and needs to be addressed by the road owners.

Constituent Don D. inquired about the Air B&B problems. Don lives on Patten Lake and is concerned about their being too many people and too much noise at these places.

Chairman Erwin reiterated that these concerns should be addressed by the lake associations and that the town has no authority to enforce these issues.

Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion seconded Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti De Clark, Town Clerk