

Minutes of: Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conover Center

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Present: Steve Rhode, Karl Jennrich, Rich Martenson, Nancy Vold, Randy Barnes, and James Hedberg.

Others: Jim Whyte, Ken Mitchell, Kathy Mitchell, Fred Indermuehle, Art Kunde, Jeff Currie, Ann Currie, John Gaspar, Rich Ruffalo, Shirley Kufeldt, Dale Mayo.

Meeting was called to order by Rhode with pledge of allegiance and public comment. Agenda and minutes of the previous meeting were approved in a motion by Jennrich, was seconded by Rhode and was carried.

Steve Rhode & Karl Jennrich read Resolution 141-14: Creation of the Little Tamarack Flowage Baker Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District. Karl Jennrich made a motion to adopt and sign Resolution 141-14 and to make written report part of the record. Steve Rhode seconded the motion. Jim Hedberg made correction per the attorney to page 2 regarding the double listing of paragraph number 2. The Board signed in the presence of Jim Hedberg, Clerk-Treasurer and Notarized by Kathy Mitchell. All were in favor, the resolution carried.

Karl Jennrich made a motion to adopt Resolution 140-14 (authorizing either/or signatures of James Hedberg or Katherine Mitchell on disbursement from the Headwaters State Bank General Checking Account with Town Chair's signature). Steve Rhode seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

GHT Trail Update as of March 2014: Jeff Currie met with Jim Bollmann (MSA) on Friday. The project is in the finalization of real estate plat and next step is to deal with the various property owners to get the right of way acquisition. Jeff noted that MSA will be paying the fees noted on page 3 of the Professional Services contract. Because it has always been the agreement that there would be no cost to the Town of Conover, the Board's signatures were needed for the contract because the Town of Conover would be a sponsor for the grant. This will expedite the services going forward. Steve Rhode will send the signed contract via e-mail to Jim Bollmann at MSA on Wednesday.

Department Reports:

Treasurer's Report given by Jim Hedberg. The Board was asked to read two letters; one from Jim Hedberg, Clerk-Treasurer and one from Kathy Mitchell, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. These letters were requesting that Jim's assistance remain throughout the year as training will need to happen as events happen (e.g. Liquor Licenses, etc.) Karl Jennrich made a motion to approve and Steve Rhode seconded. All were in favor, the motion carried.

Jim said the hours for Clerk-Treasurer's office will be posted after April's Annual & Board meeting.

Fire Department report given by Randy Barnes. Last month, all radios were reprogrammed except for 8 radios and 5 pagers (which could not be reprogrammed, but will keep around for using on the Town Channel. Randy will attend the March 19 Fire Chief's meeting and will ask the Vilas County rep for reimbursement for the cost of the required reprogramming (Approx \$2,800).

In the last 5 weeks there was 1 snowmobile accident, and 2 lifting helps.

Outdoor training started Monday night, and will continue when weather warms. Home inspection training will be rescheduled for April 5 or 26, whenever the snow melts to access driveways. In house training is complete – done online by 18 people.

Ambulance Report was given by Nancy Vold. There were a total of 15 runs in February: 9 to Watersmeet, with 1 no transport; 4 to Conover, with 3 no transports and 2 to Eagle River. Nancy had heard second hand that their person who is now trained in sending reports to LifeQuest will be quitting that responsibility by month end. A replacement was talked about, but will need training. Nancy mentioned that there will be a few people gone for vacations and that Land O'Lakes will need to cover for Conover. Also mentioned that the EMT's would like a raise. Steve Rhode mentioned that was possible, but only if brought to the Board during Budget Review later this year. Nancy also mentioned that the fee for Watersmeet should also be increased for the new budget.

Highway Department Report was given by Rich Martenson. Rich stated that it's been a hard winter. Normally there are 11 major snowfalls. To-date, we've had 19 major snowfalls, with 11 partial snowfalls – and we still have a month to go! 1912 was the last year we had this kind of winter; over 100 years ago. He said the department is staying ahead of the game and the roads are in good condition. The transmission line on the Dodge was fixed as was a tire and a hydraulic line on the International. Fuel costs are higher than normal. Jim Hedberg will give Rich the info from the Michelin Tire recall to investigate any issues the town might have on previous tires. Rich asked to receive the receipts for the Scalupa Truck expenses – to get credit for repairs (specifically a bill for \$5,600).

Sanitation, Cemetery & Town Park report: Rich talked to Randy at the transfer station a week and a half ago. They fixed the hydraulic leak and cleaned up the mess. George asked Rich to get estimates for building a shelter for the transfer station attendant. An 8' x 8' building with a concrete floor, metal roof, light and insulation. No bathroom is necessary as the attendant has use of the Conover Center. The Board gave Rich the go-ahead in George's absence. Building will begin when the break-up begins.

Load limits have not been set yet. They are in a wait-and-see mode, depending on the weather turning cold which would delay putting on weight limits (as some residents are concerned about LP deliveries yet).

Clean up from the Blizzard Blast will be done as weather permits.

Steve Rhode will call Eagle Waste regarding signage for the transfer station.

Correspondence: Condo plat for Deer Path Resort was reviewed. Concerns over the width of the roads for emergency vehicles navigating inside the resort were mentioned. It would be best to bring the concern to Vilas County.

Jim Hedberg and the Board set the date for the next meeting which will be a combined Annual Meeting and a Town Board Meeting. The date is Tuesday, April 8. Start time will begin at 6 p.m. Note day and time change.

Karl Jennrich made a motion to adjourn. Steve Rhode seconded and was carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Kathy Mitchell
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Conover