

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF POPLAR BOARD MEETING

March 9, 2021

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Randy Jones at 6:56 PM

In attendance: Dan Bergsten, Ralph Rounsville, Pete Kruit
Jim Tollas, Virgil Nelson, Bruce Bergsten

Clerk/Treasurer: Gina Ormond

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPEAKERS:

- Mark Liebaert – Not present
- Troy Follis – A motion was made by Dan Bergsten, second Jim Tollas to approve the Land Use Permit to add a storage building at Pine Grove Mini Storage at 4520 S County Road P, pending state approval. Motion carried without negative vote.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

- Approve Minutes: A motion was made by Ralph Rounsville, second Virgil Nelson to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2021 meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.
- Pay Bills: A motion was made by Jim Tollas, second Ralph Rounsville to pay the bills for February 2021. Motion carried without negative vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- There was a discussion regarding village roads being opened to snowmobiles and ATVs. All roads in the Village of Poplar are open for ATVs and snowmobiles. The snowmobile routes have signs posted. The ATV routes need signs posted and there was a discussion on buying signs for the routes.
- There was a discussion regarding the resolution to amend the 2020 budget. The board members suggested that the resolution be presented another way, showing the increases and decreases. A motion was made by Randy Jones, second Dan Bergsten to approve Resolution 21-03 to amend the 2020 budget, after the corrections were made. Motion carried without negative vote.
- There was a discussion regarding setting a date to work on the village ordinances. It was suggested that instead of having separate committee meetings, there will be a time set aside at each board meeting to work on the ordinances. This will be an ongoing agenda item.
- Ralph Rounsville presented the first draft of increasing the levy to cover road materials only such as gravel and payment. He will continue to work on the figures and information to present to the Board to vote on passing the referendum to put on the ballot next year. Randy Jones suggested using the money market to help cover the expenses this year. There was a discussion about checking with Lisa Totten with RCAP to see if this would be a possibility.
- There was a discussion regarding the number of accounts that the Fire Department should have. The Ordinance 8.08 Authorization for Fire Department to hold accounts that was passed discussed how the accounts should be handled but not the number of accounts that are acceptable. The Fire Department has a checking account and two savings accounts. The information is provided to the Village Board monthly for the balances of these accounts.

- There was a discussion regarding setting a date for spring cleanup. Gina Ormond will check with Waste Management to see if dumpsters will be available on Saturday, May 22. The cleanup will be from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

CLERKS REPORT: Gina Ormond heard back from the insurance company regarding the loss of the laptop from the theft in October 2020. It will be covered without an additional deductible. Harold Lance from AMKO Advisors contacted the Village of Poplar to present information on lowering the interest on the USDA Debt for the sewer. He would like to attend the board meeting in April to present the information. RBC contacted the Village of Poplar to see if there would be an interest to have them try to collect outstanding debt owed to the village. The board members were not interested in using this service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Fire Department* – There was a discussion regarding the fireworks for the Poplar Fun Days this year. The fireworks will cost \$5,000 this year instead of the \$3000 in the previous years. There will be more fundraising to help cover the extra charge.
- *Sewer* – There was a problem at the lift station at County Road P and Bayfield. The pipe is kinked in the middle. Braun is coming out to look at it. The motor was put on the aerator. One of the motors is shortening out, the cable looks like it was chewed on. Randy Jones did some training for his Wastewater license. Randy Jones is working on the report for the first year variance. Randy Jones is also working with MSA to get the bids out for the repairs at the sewer pond. There will be a couple of bids to see if it would be cost efficient to repair the liner or replace the entire liner.
- *Cemetery* - It has been quiet, no funerals.
- *Parks and Recreation & Building*- Quiet
- *Roads & Culverts* – The road restrictions are out. The bids for the culvert replacement on Bayfield Road will go out after the board meeting on April 13, 2021. A Roads and Culverts meeting was set for April 22 at 6:30. There will be a couple more meetings planned after that.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Running Agenda – Work on Village Ordinance
- Discuss transferring money from the money market to the Village Main Account to help with the roads material and gravel.
- Harold Lance, AMKO Advisors
- Discussion on purchase of culvert.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Bruce Bergsten, second Dan Bergsten to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Motion carried without negative vote.

Randy Jones, President

Gina Ormond
Clerk Treasurer

Date