

Town of Plum Lake

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Town Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2023, beginning at 5:30 pm

1. Open Meeting Verification:

The meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner and was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Postuchow. The meeting was duly called with the notice posted at the Town Hall in Sayner, the US Sayner Post Office, and notice was given to the *Vilas County News-Review*, *The Lakeland Times*, WRJO, WERL, as well as posted on the Town of Plum Lake website.

2. Roll Call:

Chair Postuchow, Supervisor Eliason, Supervisor Rasmussen, Treasurer Klager, Clerk Lechner, and 24 other people were present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Approve Agenda to Be Discussed in Any Order:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to discuss the agenda in any order. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s):

Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve the July 11, 2023, Town Board Meeting minutes, the July 11, 2023, Special Town Board Meeting minutes, and the August 1, 2023, Special Town Board Meeting minutes. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Citizen comments or concerns:

Sheehan Donahue wanted to make a correction to a statement that she had made at the Planning Committee meeting on Monday, August 7th, which is that the State of Wisconsin does have binding referendum to be put forward and placed on a ballot for a vote. She would also like the Town Board to take into consideration a crosswalk from the quilt shop across Hwy. 155 to the park. She also requested that the Town Board meet with the Planning Committee as soon as possible to give the committee expectations for the remainder of the year, and into next year. Supervisor Rasmussen asked Planning Committee Chair Chuck Rasmussen if in the TAP grant they are also looking at bike spurs. Chuck Rasmussen stated that was correct. Debbie Seeger would like the Town Board to charge for usage of the Recreation/Community Center, Razorback Ridges for rental and clean-up fees. Treasurer Bob Klager stated that the Town does currently charge for usage, but the Town has not been charging residents of Plum Lake. Currently there is no clean-up fee, but people using the facility have been told that the expectation is that the building will be left as they found it. He also stated that he is unaware of any deposit. Libby Scott would like the Town to do Zoom meetings for all property owners. Doug Scott wanted to clarify the legal distinction between the adoption and the effective date of an ordinance. The ordinance designating ATV/UTV Routes and Regulating the Operation of all ATV/UTV Vehicles was adopted on September 18, 2018, and the sunset clause stated two years from time of adoption, not when it went into effect. Bill Scott would like the language changed in the Comprehensive Plan to include the 2015 ATV/UTV survey, and remove any inaccurate language

and make plan factually correct before it is finalized. Vicky B. is a vacation rental owner in Star Lake who feels that the Town is missing the “quiet sector” and silent sports tourists. She feels that the Town risks losing those quiet people when ATVs are introduced, and she does not support ATV use on roads or trails. She feels that trails will erode the quiet. Randy Vandenberg states he has a friend who cannot sell their home due to an ATV trail in the back of his property, while another friend sold his home for over asking price when the home was near a silent sport trail. Mark Spears is concerned with safety on County K. Ruth Wagner questioned the status of high-speed internet. Clerk Lechner stated that she is having a meeting with a Charter/Spectrum representative on August 9th, and there will be more information to follow. Gail Vandewalker is concerned with ATVs crossing Lake Laura Road and the possibilities of crashes. Jane Vandewalker agrees with the comments so far and does not want ATVs to change the peace, quiet, and tranquility of the Northwoods. Louise Randall requested that a survey regarding ATV/UTVs be sent to all taxpayers and voters. Jeremy Arnold, Fire Chief, stated that there are way more snowmobile accidents than ATV accidents and feels that businesses should be a big part of the decision regarding ATVs. People are not asking to open all town roads, they want a trail in and a trail out, that’s it. Nick Seeger feels that the 2015 ATV survey is not relevant. It is old and worded poorly and means nothing now. He stated that the trends are pro-ATV along our business district. He gave statistics regarding ATV and snowmobile accidents. He is looking forward to moving the town forward. Libby Scott stated that Sayner and Star Lake are different communities, and only one business will benefit, and the route will dead end there. Chair Postuchow stated that we all need to compromise and respect our neighbors. There is room for negotiation and compromise. Clive Reeman feels that the only way to resolve this issue is to truly ask the residents, either taxpayers and voters, or just voters, in a scientific way. Don Novak likes the idea of compromise, but in this case, compromise is one way. Those people who are not in favor of ATVs are asked to give up some of their position, only to have ATVs continue to grow throughout the town. This is seen not as much as a compromise, but as a surrender.

7. Discussion and Action on the following:

A. Approval of Comprehensive Plan Ordinance, Ordinance #23-1:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to accept the Comprehensive Plan Ordinance #23-1 with the following corrections to the Comprehensive Plan:

1. On page 55, sentence three (3) will be change to, “The Town is exploring limited access routes for ATVs and UTVs.” The last sentence on page 55, “The Town does not allow the use of ATV or UTVs on most Town roads,” will be stricken.
2. On page 20 under Town of Plum Lake Recreation Plan, 2023, third paragraph, seventh (7th) line, last sentence will be changed to, “Limited connections for ATV and UTV trails in the Town to connect nearby routes such as routes between Star Lake and St. Germain are being explored.”
3. On page 2, under acknowledgements, Chair Jackey Pustuchow will be changed to Chair: Jackey Postuchow.

And the following corrections to the Ordinance for Comprehensive Plan (#23-1): change all references to Plan Commission to Planning Committee. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and Approval of TAP Award Consultant Selection Participation:

Chuck Rasmussen, Chair of the Planning Committee, would like a Town Board member to assist in locating a consultant firm. Chair Postuchow will assist. Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to have Chair Postuchow assist the Planning Committee with the consultant selection process for the TAP grant. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

C. Approval of DNR Grant AEPP62821 Agreement Cost Amendment (#1) and Grant Project Resolution Regarding Boat Landing Monitoring Devices at Irving, Razorback, and Laura Lakes:

Chair Postuchow stated that this document was to recognize that Will Maines is no longer the Town Chair, and also to acknowledge a cost increase that had been previously approved.

Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve the Agreement Cost Amendment (#1) and Grant Resolution Regarding Boat Landing Monitoring Devices at Irving, Razorback, and Laura Lakes. Chair Postuchow seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

D. Letter Approving the Library for a Raffle License:

Supervisor Rasmussen stated that the minutes from this meeting should suffice rather than a letter for the approval of the raffle license. Supervisor Eliason made a motion for the approval of the raffle license for the Library, and to forward the meeting minutes in lieu of a letter.

Chair Postuchow seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

E. Event Permit Approval for the Sayner-Star Lake Chamber of Commerce for “Bags and Brews” on August 15, 2023:

Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to approve a Temporary Class “B” Beer (Picnic) License for the Sayner-Star Lake Chamber of Commerce “Bags and Brews” event on August 15, 2023. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

F. Public Works Request to Purchase Tires:

, etc.

G. Event Permit Approval for Plum Lake Lions Brat Fry on September 16, 2023:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to approve the event permit for the Plum Lake Lions Brat Fry on September 16, 2023. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion approved unanimously.**

H. Approval of Operator’s (Bartender’s) License for Kristina Krueger:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to approve an Operator’s (Bartender’s) License for Kristina Krueger. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

I. Approve Agreement between the Sayner-Star Lake Lions Club and the Town of Plum Lake regarding Utilities at the Razorback Ridges Memorial Park Shelter:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to table this item until next month. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

J. Approval of Resolution to Pay Utilities for Razorback Ridges Memorial Park Shelter Facility(s), 2023-008

Chair Postuchow made a motion to table this item until next month. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Approval of Monthly Vouchers:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to approve payment for vouchers in the amount of \$58,558.32 with 21355-21391 from the NOW Account in the amount of \$26,934.13, and 1263-1265 from the Payroll Account in the amount of \$31,624.19. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

9. Adjourn:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

These minutes were taken at the Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake held on the 8th day of August, 2023, and were entered in this Record Book by: K. Lechner, Clerk