

Town of Plum Lake

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Special Town Board Meeting

Friday, January 12, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am

1. Open Meeting Verification:

The meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner and was called to order at 9:00 am 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, Clerk Lechner, and 5 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):

None.

6. Citizen comments or concerns:

None.

7. Discussion and Action on the following:

A. Fish Sticks Program/Lakes Committee:

1. Liability waiver for all members of the Lakes Committee on Town of Plum Lake properties, for cutting and removing several trees for Fish Sticks program going forward for unspecified years:

The original agreement was that the Lake Committee would mark several trees and then the town crew would cut the trees. The Fish Sticks project will continue for at least three (3) years. The number of trees requested has increased and will depend on how many trees they are able to cut near the proposed lakes (i.e. Star, Laura, etc.). The Town Board has requested that the Lakes Committee present the number of trees to be taken each year. A Waiver and Release of Liability form will need to be completed yearly by each person cutting trees, or on Town of Plum Lake property while trees are being cut. Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to accept the proposed Waiver and Release of Liability, and that the appointed Supervisor going forward have the permission and power to renew the liability unless that Supervisor thinks it needs to be brought to the Town Board's attention. Supervisor Eliason seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.** The Lakes Committee will provide the Clerk with a listing of names, as an addendum, for the waiver.

Jona read Resolution 2024-001, Resolution to Allow Lakes Committee to Remove Trees from Town of Plum Lake Property, into the record.

Resolution 2024-001

Resolution to Allow Lakes Committee to Remove Trees from Town of Plum Lake Property

Whereas the Lakes Committee has received a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for a “Fish Sticks” program; and

Whereas this program will require several young balsam trees, approximately 10-20 feet in height; and

Whereas the Lakes Committee received approval from the Town Board at a Town Board Meeting held on September 12, 2023, to harvest these trees from the Town of Plum Lake property located at the corner of County Hwy N and Froelich Dr, Parcel #20-485-01; and

Whereas this winter habitat project is anticipated to run through 2025, and

Whereas members of the Lakes Committee and/or their representatives will be responsible for cutting the trees, and

Whereas each person involved in the project, regardless of whether they are involved in the actual cutting of the trees, who will be on Town of Plum Lake property during this process, will be required to sign a Waiver and Release of Liability; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Plum Lake agrees to the cutting of above mentioned trees, as long as all other conditions are met, and waivers are signed and on file.

Resolution approved/rejected on this 12th day of January, 2024, on a vote of:

Ayes _____ Nays _____ and _____ Abstentions

Jackey Postuchow, Chair

Jona Eliason, Supervisor II

Kevin Rasmussen, Supervisor I

Attest: Kim Lechner, Clerk

Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-001, as read in with the following correction: paragraph four (4) change the year 2025 to read “project will be perpetually renewed until further review.” Chair Postuchow seconded the motion. Chair Postuchow voted aye, Supervisor Rasmussen voted aye, and Supervisor Eliason voted aye. The Resolution is accepted.

2. Timeline, state permit, landowner permit issues for Plum Lake and Laura Lake Fish Sticks projects:

Permission has been received from the DNR to continue with the Laura Lake project.

3. Utilization of Town of Plum Lake employees for Fish Sticks project:

No discussion.

B. Public Works Issues:

1. Approve and/or Make Changes to Policies and Procedures:

Chair Postuchow presented a Winter Road Maintenance Policy for review. Jeremy suggested that town roads be plowed when two or more inches of snow have accumulated no matter if it is Monday through Friday, or on a Holiday or weekend. Supervisor Rasmussen agreed. Chair Postuchow made a motion to accept the Winter Road Maintenance Policy, the changes to remove weekends and holidays and just an overall, “Town Crew will plow when two or more inches of snow have accumulated. Start time and order in which roads are plowed is at the discretion of the Town Foreman and/or a

Town Board Supervisor.” Also, add, “During severe weather, or weather emergencies, the town garbage/recycling locations will be closed.” Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Approve Scheduling of Responsibilities and Duties:

A sheet stating when restrooms are cleaned and by whom will be placed in sleeves and posted on the doors of the restrooms. Chair Postuchow stated that she would like the town crew to make a maintenance schedule so that everyone knows what should be cleaned and what needs to be done daily, monthly, yearly, etc. Clerk Lechner will forward any upcoming meetings/events to Chair Postuchow to ensure that the buildings are cleaned and/or set up appropriately prior to the meeting/event.

3. Overtime:

Per the Employee Handbook, “Management, based on the needs of the Town, may have employees work more or less than the overall job schedules outlined.” Supervisor Rasmussen made a motion for a letter from the Board stating that per our Employee Handbook overtime is covered and is at the discretion of the Chair and Public Works Foreman. Chair Postuchow seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Road Safety and Citations:

Board members will address these issues with employees as necessary.

C. Possible Restructure/Combination/Addition of Committees to Advisory Committee(s):

All committees need to have guidelines and expectations on how to proceed, and how to get their issues to the Town Board. Supervisor Eliason and Supervisor Rasmussen feel that separate committees are needed to address certain areas like we have had in the past. The committees should be restricted in size to only 3 or 5 members. It was suggested that an Elected and Appointed Officials Handbook would assist with committee guidelines. Chair Postuchow would also like to see residents of Star Lake on more committees. Chair Postuchow made a motion to place on the February Town Board agenda the creation of an advisory committee for the Alexander Property with 3 or 5 members, including a Town Supervisor, who would be a non-voting member. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

D. Possible Restructure/Repurpose of Planning Committee:

No discussion was held, and this will be addressed at the February meeting.

E. Letter of Support to Dedicate a Portion of the Barnstormers Snowmobile Trail after Carl Eliason:

Supervisor Rasmussen stated that he would like to add in the letter that this honor is part of the 100th Anniversary of the invention of the snowmobile. Supervisor Rasmussen stated it would be his honor to make a motion to endorse the letter dedicating the snowmobile trail to Carl Eliason and his family. Chair Postuchow seconded the motion. Supervisor Eliason abstained from the vote. **Motion passed.**

8. Adjourn:

Chair Postuchow made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Rasmussen seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

These minutes were taken at the Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Plum Lake held on the 12th day of January, 2024, and were entered in this Record Book by: K. Lechner, Clerk