

# *Town of Plum Lake*

P.O. Box 280 715 – 542 - 4531  
8755 Lake St. Sayner, Wisconsin 54560  
E-Mail: [office@plumlakewi.gov](mailto:office@plumlakewi.gov)  
Website: [www.plumlakewi.gov](http://www.plumlakewi.gov)

## **Annual Meeting**

Tuesday, April 18, 2023, beginning at 6:00 pm

### **1. Calling the Meeting to Order:**

The meeting was held at the Town Hall in Sayner and was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Maines. Chair Maines read a statement and a poem and handed the gavel over to incoming 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 29 other people were present, and 4 participating via Zoom.

### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

### **4. Recognition of Will Maines:**

Chair Postuchow thanked former Chairman Maines on behalf of the Town Board and the Town by presenting him with a plaque.

### **5. Approve Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting:**

Deb Seeger made a motion to accept the 2022 Annual Town Meeting minutes from May 10, 2022. Gail Nardi seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

### **6. Approve Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report:**

No questions regarding the 2022 fiscal year report were asked. Deb Seeger made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report. Sheehan Donoghue seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

### **7. Reports:**

#### **A. EMS:**

Kevin Rasmussen stated that 2022 was a busy year. The 2022 Annual Report of the Plum Lake EMS was available and is on file. Currently they have more than 10 staff. The Reading Heroes Program will be held in 2023. They are hoping to have a Bike Rodeo in 2024 and to have an Open House every two (2) years.

#### **B. Fire Department:**

A handout was available and is on record. Jeremy Arnold, Fire Chief, stated that they currently have 13 members, but are still looking for new members. They have their first Junior Firefighter. Discussed Knox Box for Fire Departments, which is a box outside a home that has a key so that a door would not need to be knocked down in an emergency. Arnold stated that at some point they will be asking the Town for a \$34,000 loan to cycle-out old gear.

**C. Public Works:**

A handout was available and is on file. Jeremy Arnold was rehired in January as the Supervisor of Public Works. A discussion was held regarding the number and types of trucks owned and their purposes. Deb Seeger questioned if the Town maintains the bike paths. Arnold responded that falls within Parks and Grounds of the Town. Arnold also stated that they would like to begin addressing trees that are too close to the blacktop.

**D. Broadband Committee:**

A handout was available and is on file. Madeline Conrad, Chair of Broadband Committee, stated that initially it was thought that it would cost millions of dollars to bring broadband to the entire community. Charter/Spectrum is laying fiber faster than anticipated, and hope to have fiber laid by October, 2023, for the downtown area, and the rest of the Town by December, 2023. Approximately \$40,000 will be needed from the Town to pay for the project. They are still waiting for a contract from Charter/Spectrum, but it should be arriving soon. The biggest need from the community is easements, which could help lower the cost.

**E. Chamber of Commerce:**

Jessica Drallmeier, President of Chamber of Commerce, stated that they work with the Wisconsin Department of Tourism and Vilas County Tourism. The Chamber cannot afford an Executive Director at this time, so they are volunteer based. To date, there are 45 business members, and 13 Friends of the Chamber. There are currently five (5) strong chamber-sponsored events.

**F. Library Committee:**

A handout was available and is on file. Emilie Braunel, Library Director, stated that the FORK Pantry has the most usage of the area FORK Pantries. EverGood Farms will not be offering delivery to the library this summer. Transparent Language is available through the library and offers over 100 languages and KidSpeak. The libraries 2023 theme is Reading is so Delicious. Braunel stated that they are currently 2<sup>nd</sup> in circulation, behind Eagle River. They are now a fine-less library. This summer they will offer a Passport Program, and a Wisconsin State Park Day Pass Program.

**G. Lakes Committee:**

A handout was available and is on file. John Richter stated that the Rusty Crawfish population is declining on Plum Lake. There are currently eight (8) people on the Lakes Committee and anyone who is interested can attend their meeting.

**H. Cemetery Committee:**

Will Maines stated that two (2) acres were purchased for the Star Lake cemetery and about one (1) acre is complete. Numbered markers will be installed in July, 2023. Sheehan Donoghue stated that both the Sayner and Star Lake cemeteries allow above ground monuments (versus flush), and that they are looking at placing a columbarium in Sayner and possibly in Star Lake. Maines stated that Columbariums range in price (depending on size), and that you buy a box (similar to a vault) to hold an urn. This will extend the life of the cemetery.

**I. Planning Committee:**

A handout was available and is on file. Shane Zaruba stated that they are a new committee and looking for another volunteer for the committee. They are currently working on a Comprehensive Plan, and hope to have a hearing in June for a Recreation Plan.

**J. Sayner Barnstormers – ATV/UTV:**

Dennis Horan stated that there is finally grant money to begin working on an ATV/UTV trail system. Vilas County Forestry, Recreation and Land filed for the grants because the DNR did not have any funds available. Plum Creek will be the start, then Birch Springs, and then Lost Lake. Todd Bierman from Vilas County stated that they were given parameters from the DNR, and the first grant will be for Birch Spring, which is just under a mile. This is currently being reviewed for a storm water permit before the DNR will “bless” it. The DNR also gave parameters from Lost Lake Road to County K, which is 7.5 miles in length. These are the same routes that the Town approved back in 2018. Both of these trails are currently snowmobile trails. Chair Postuchow stated that there is a sunset clause of two years in the proposed ordinance for ATV/UTVs. Jason Molle, Recreation Office for the Vilas County Sheriff’s Department stated that if anyone sees something illegal they should get as much information as possible (description of ATV and driver, license number, etc.) and report it to the Sheriff’s Office.

**8. Citizen Comments:**

**A. Outdoor Bathroom:**

Sheehan Donoghue stated that she felt an outdoor bathroom was necessary for events, park, bike path, etc. There was a possible use of the Community Center bathrooms for approximately \$10,000. She asked that bathrooms be seriously considered by the Board. Supervisor Rasmussen has researched into this, including a sliding gate and key card with a closer for the Community Center door. Also, a camera system would be needed (i.e. Ring). He stated that \$10,000 was for materials, not labor, and that this would be a band-aid until something more permanent could be found. Shane Zaruba would like all options discussed before any type of vote. Will Maines stated that the Town would need to vote for a new building. An informal vote of the attendees was fairly even between an immediate solution versus a more permanent solution. Ida Nemek stated that Porta-potties would be available this summer.

**B. Change Street Lights from Sodium to LED:**

Chair Postuchow stated that the Town had received a proposal from WPS to change the street lights from sodium to LED, which will be discussed at the next Town Board Meeting.

**C. Statement of Policy Regarding Quorum Issues:**

Chair Postuchow read a statement of policy regarding possible quorum issues.

**D. Resurfacing Main Street:**

Chuck Rasmussen stated that the Wisconsin DOT is planning on resurfacing Main Street in Sayner (Hwy. 155) next summer. Their current plan only mills and resurfaces the center 24”. It does not pave or repair just south of Eliason and Lake Streets. He is suggesting that the Town Board request an estimate to complete the work. His concern is that the Planning Committee will be evaluating biking and walking around the community and that includes the paved shoulders. Also, aesthetically, he feels that the Town Board should consider requesting an estimate from the DOT.

**9. Set the Next Meeting:**

Chair Postuchow set the next meeting for Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

**10. Adjourn:**

Deb Seeger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm. Sheehan Donoghue seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**