

TOWN OF LAKESIDE

Regular Board Meeting April 13, 2021

Agenda:

1. Meeting: Called to order by Chairman Scott Luostari at 6:30 pm.
2. Roll Call: Present: Tom Schnepfer, Mark Saari, Nova Nordrum, Tracy Ruppe, Hope Nordrum, Chuck Deye, Robert Dahlberg, Martin Pflug, Andrew Castleberry, Dottie Bolme, Dale Loukes, Tim Johnson, Gerald Tutor, Brian Stockinger, Supervisor Mary Peterson, Supervisor Jon Winter, Chairman Scott Luostari, Treasurer Vicki Luostari and Clerk Ruth Ann Schnepfer.
3. County Board: Scott-Zoning postcard went out regarding septic tanks. POUTS letter should be coming out soon, letter will explain the requirements. County zoning is out in the county checking things out right now; storage containers, buildings etc. that were placed without permits, flood plains being filled in. Make sure you re getting the required permits. Transportation meeting-weight restrictions will be coming off the roads on 4/26. Still engineering the slide area on FF. Truck wash; still looking into opening it to other entities, the county would charge a nominal fee, to be decided. County board meeting tomorrow night. Scott can be contacted through the county board website or by phone.
4. Town Board Report: none
5. Approval of Minutes: Chuck wanted to clarify that it is not the appraiser who advised the value of his house would change, but the realtor told him he would get more money for the house if the road remained blacktopped. Nova to email Ruth Ann with officer corrections. Jon motioned to approve the March 16th meeting minutes with those corrections, Mary seconded, carried 6:39 pm.
6. Treasurer report: Vicki presented, Jon motioned to approve the treasurer report, Mary seconded, carried 6:40 pm.
7. Approval of March Bills: Mary motioned to approve the March checks 23119-23153 + EFTs as presented, Jon seconded, carried 6:41 pm.
8. Approval of April bills for payment: Mary motioned to pay the April bills, checks 23166-23242, Jon seconded, carried 6:42 pm.
9. Correspondence:
none

Department and Committee reports

10. Fire Department: Nova-read a prepared statement, attached to these minutes.
11. Town Employees and roads: Mark-grading roads and patching holes before it rains again. CenturyLink dug a line across Peterson Road without notifying anyone and it sat

like that all weekend. Board needs to address the private driveway sign on Berglund road. Bardon Creek needs to be graded. 2 ATV signs are up, will get more up. Scott had a call wanting to know if Camp road was open. Scott met with the residents on Hanson road about pulverizing, we will leave alone and try to patch as we can. Still set to do River Road if they are pulverizing in the area. Question was raised on why the new brush cutter was designed incorrectly, has required new parts but is under warranty. The shaft is too small for that large of a piece of equipment.

12. Building permits:

- a) One person called but no paperwork turned in.

Public Comment

Question was raised as to how someone gets a list of the residents of the town, and the fire department. No one knows, but mailing list are public knowledge.

Question was raised by a resident if the town could assist. They built a lean to, to cover their wood. Now the county is saying they need to pay for a variance as it is 13 feet too close to the road, The County wants them to tear it down. Scott to investigate.

Old Business

13. Town truck: ongoing, but truck is in bad shape.

14. Grader: ongoing, as is fire engine.

15. SVL: Scott went to look at the crack on the bridge. Scott is also in contact with multiple individuals with WI DOT, trying to straighten things out, there were revisions in 2012 & 2019. Should have an answer soon.

New Business

None

Scott thanked Jon for his years of service.

Motion to adjourn made by Jon, seconded by Scott, carried 7:07 pm

Next meeting May 11th, 2021 6:30 pm

Annual meeting April 20th, 7 pm

Location: Town Hall,
Collection Site, online

Respectfully submitted by:
Ruth Ann Schnepfer, Clerk
4/28/2021

These minutes are posted as **unapproved**.

It has come to our attention that the residents of the Town of Lakeside may not understand what the fire department is, who it consists of and how it functions. Therefore, we would like to share some information for everyone to gain some factual insight.

The town is required by State law to provide fire protection. The Town of Lakeside's fire department is made up of volunteer members. The only means of compensation for these members' service is through the incentive funds set aside to give the encouragement to take the classes that are required and for those in the town, the town plows their driveways if they chose. We currently have 5 members that reside within our town and 6 that reside outside of our town.

The one exception to this is the Chief's minimal salary intended to accommodate administrative time, which averages 240 hours yearly. The Chief also attends monthly Vacationland Fire and Emergency Association meetings, which averages an additional 33 hours annually. Public relations, education and training required to be Chief is more than any other member or officer.

The fire department members and equipment are required to meet standards set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS). The minimum education and training required by NFPA that each member must meet in order to be able to fight fires (interior and exterior), operate equipment and respond to other call types are Firefighter (Parts A, B and C) and Entry Level Driver-Operator. This training falls just shy of 300 hours of classroom time. This does not account for reading, testing, study, travel time, etc. This also does not include continuing education and maintaining skills or advancement to officer positions. Officers, including the position of Chief, are elected by department members. The Chief's election is approved by the Town Board and the Chief is sworn in just like the members of the Town Board.

Fire department vehicles and equipment are routinely maintained, operated and trained on. Testing is required annually for hoses, pumps and SCBA's. Fire department members and town employees share these responsibilities.

In addition to providing fire protection, the Town of Lakeside Volunteer Fire Department provides medical service at the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) level. The initial class is 60 hours plus an 8 hour cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification class. Upon completion of both components, a test is required to become nationally certified and then license may be granted through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). To maintain an EMR license in the state of Wisconsin, a refresher consisting of a minimum of 24 hours is required every 3 years along with a 4+ hour CPR refresher every 2 years.

This department has two meetings each month: business and training. For membership, individuals must attend at least 6 of 12 business meetings. This may seem lenient, however with a job, family and other commitments, this is a gracious flexibility. Trainings cover a wide variety of subjects from HAZMAT and extrication to wildland fires, search and rescue and medical topics. We are required to train on every skill we perform on calls bi-annually. We also try to train frequently through the year with our neighboring departments as we respond together

as mutual aid. Additionally there are many other classes that members need to take for specialized skills.

Total hours spent by members of the department:

2019 – All members combined = 780, Chief = 302 Total 1082

2020 – All members combined = 546, Chief 280 Total 823 (COVID impacted)

2021 as of 04/12 – All members = 161, Chief 175 Total 336 YTD

The department has been trying to get all gear and equipment up to the nationally required standards. All fire gear must be no older than 10 years. Fire vehicles (Engine and Tender) can be no older than 25 years. A new Tender was purchased in 2012 thanks to a FEMA grant, which was applied for and written by fire department members. The current Engine was not designed for rural use and has had a number of issues over the years deeming it unreliable. Engine was 2 years old when it was purchased in 2001. The department is doing all it can to keep Engine in service; however, it is 22 years old and thus soon approaching the maximum age by national standards. The continuous maintenance and repairs (often repeat repairs) are costly. The department is trying to be proactive in replacing Engine to be compliant with NFPA regulations and meet the needs of the Town of Lakeside.

The same is true for all gear. The town is liable for any injury or death associated with failure of equipment not maintained and replaced by national standards. Additionally, equipment and gear that is 10 years or older is not allowed to be used for training purposes.

Turnout gear must be kept clean, which is why a washer and dryer were purchased. Fire residue is carcinogenic, and members want to keep exposure to themselves and those at home to a minimum. Unfortunately, there is not a shower at the fire hall. This is also required to minimize fire residue being brought home to reduce further exposure to themselves and their families.

The fire department has budgeted for the past 5 years for a new fill station for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Currently, our fire department members must rely on other departments to fill SCBA tanks. If there is a fire at a time when other departments are not able to fill for ours, such as in the middle of the night or if there are two fires within a short period of time), our department would be out of service for any type of emergency requiring the use of SCBA until those tanks can be filled.

Water rescue equipment and gear has also been budgeted for. Lakeside has 3 rivers and Lake Superior. There have been multiple calls that have required the use of specialized water equipment, for which our department has had to rely on other organizations to provide. The department is trying to achieve a state of compliance without causing undue financial burden to the town. Without these updates, the Town of Lakeside Volunteer Fire Department cannot legally or safely serve the residents of the Town of Lakeside.

We are in dire need of members. Our Training Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 18:30 and our Business Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month at 19:00.