

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN  
***Town Board Meeting***  
***January 7, 2020***

Chairman Opall called the January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Rib Mountain Town Board to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 227800 Snowbird Avenue, Wausau Wisconsin.

Other Supervisors present included Fred Schaefer, Gerry Klein and Jim Legner and Brad Conklin via telephone conference.

Also present were Administrator Gaylene Rhoden, Building Inspector Paul Kufahl, Community Development Director Jared Wehner, Clerk Joanne Ruechel, Finance Director Nicole Dunbar, and Fire Chief Matt Savage.

On January 3, 2020, copies of the meeting notice were made available to the media, Town Board, Town Attorney, and posted at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, SAFER Fire Department, Rib Mountain Sanitary District office and the Town website. On January 7, 2020, copies of the emergency amended agenda were made available to the media, Town Board, Town Attorney, and posted at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, SAFER Fire Department, Rib Mountain Sanitary District office and the Town website.

Comments from the Public Related to Town Board Agenda Items- None

Approve Minutes of the December 16, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes, and Open Meeting Minutes. **Motion by Schaefer/Legner to approve the December 16, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes and Open Meeting minutes. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Approval of Sale of Town Property at 2800 Martin Avenue- Administrator Rhoden stated that the closing on 2800 Martin Avenue will be taking place on Friday, January 10, 2020. The purchase price is \$275,000 and the property is being purchased by Adi Shabani. **Motion by Schaefer/Legner to authorize the sale of Town property pursuant to the agreed upon term and to authorize the Town Chairman and Town Clerk to execute the appropriate paperwork for the transfer of the property including the Town Deed. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Approval of Assessor contract 2020-2022- Administrator Rhoden explained that this is a 3-year contract for \$24,200 per year. Supervisor Klein asked that when this contract is up in 2022, that the Town go out for bids with other assessors. **Motion by Schaefer/Legner to approve the attached agreement for assessment services subject to attorney review. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Approval of New Hire-Ice Rink Attendant- Administrator Rhoden stated that the Town needed an additional ice rink attendant as one of the current attendants needs to cut back on hours. Jeff Tesch applied for the position and a background check was completed on him. **Motion by Klein/Legner to**

**approve the hiring of Jeff Tesch for an Ice Rink Attendant at \$11.67 per hour. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Approval of Operator's License- Clerk Ruechel stated that the background checks have been completed. **Motion by Klein/Legner to approve the operator's licenses for Daniel Bridson, Matthew Philipp, Leah Finucan, Zachory Carper, Brenda Drake and Lacey Crowe Mortenson. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

### Reports/Minutes

Town Board – Supervisor Legner thanked the Town for the plant that he received after his father passed away.

Supervisor Klein sent a note to Andrea Larson regarding 2 possible bike routes around the State Park that he would like to see included in the master plan for the park. The first route would be from Bittersweet Road into the State Park and then connect with Park Road. The second route would be from Robin Lane into the State Park to the Rib Mountain Inn. The long-term plan would be to take this route to Thornapple Road and Whippoorwill Road. Supervisor Klein also stated that the snow plowing has been good.

Supervisor Schaefer stated that his experience getting rid of his old garbage and recycling totes has been good. He asked that the Department of Public Works scrape the roads when it warms up to get rid of the ruts on the road.

Supervisor Conklin thanks Administrator Rhoden for updating Facebook with the changes to the garbage service. He also stated that he was contacted by a resident who complained that they were paying more in taxes and received a smaller garbage tote. Administrator Rhoden asked Supervisor Conklin to have the resident contact the Town with any questions about their garbage tote size or questions on their charges. Supervisor Conklin also stated that a resident inquired if we could put in a drop box to collect taxes at the end of the year. Supervisor Klein stated that he was not in favor of a drop box as there are many different ways to get the taxes paid on time.

Supervisor Opall stated that the Village of Weston is concerned about the purchase of a second fire truck. They are questioning the rules of the Charter of the Wausau Area Fire and Emergency Response District. It states in this charter that all SAFER Board members must vote on any purchases over \$5,000. At the meeting where the vote was taken to purchase the fire engine, one Board member was not present. That Board member however was present the next day to vote in favor of the budget which included this fire truck. We already have a signed contract between the Town of Rib Mountain and the Village of Weston to purchase a fire truck which is in the process of being constructed right now.

SAFER – Chief Savage that he is trying to set up the next SAFER Board meeting, but some of the Board members have conflicts with the dates. He is still working on this. SAFER finished the year with 3,001 service calls in 2019. He is currently working on the annual report as well. He discussed the current fire trucks that they have and the repairs that are needed on them.

Other Agencies – Supervisor Opall reported that the Marathon County Executive Committee is looking into downsizing the County Board.

Town Attorney – No report

Town Administrator – A written report was provided. Administrator Rhoden has been working on the sale of the Town property. The property is scheduled to close on Friday, January 10, 2020. She will also be forwarding an informational sheet from Harter's Disposal to the Town Board members regarding the services and dates of services.

Community Development Director – Community Development Director Wehner was introduced to the Town Board. There is a report in the packet. Building Inspector Kufahl has been working on the Town's Comprehensive Plan update and the Zoning Code. He has also been getting the bids for the new Town garage that will be built at the Municipal Center.

Street-Parks Superintendent – A detailed report was provided.

Finance Director – A written report was included in the packet. Finance Director Dunbar stated that it has been a busy few weeks with the collection of taxes and the implementation of a new garbage collector.

Town Clerk – A written report was included in the packet. Clerk Ruechel stated that three people have filed paperwork to run for the Town Board. She also asked the Town Board for direction regarding recording votes in the minutes. The Wisconsin Town's Association has advised that we can list the vote totals or just list if the vote carried or was not carried. According to the Wisconsin Town's Association, there is no requirement one way or another. After a brief discussion, the Town Board recommended that the vote totals be listed in the minutes just as it is done now.

Code Enforcement Officer –A report is in the packet.

Park Commission – The next meeting is on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Finance & Personnel –They have not met recently.

Public Works Committee – There is nothing scheduled at this point. The Trillium Trail bids is the next item coming up.

Public Safety Committee – There are no updates. Administrator Rhoden stated at the next meeting, the no parking resolution on Buttercup Road would need to be discussed.

Bicycle/Ped Committee –There will be a meeting on January 16, 2020. They will be discussing the State Park's master plan and what the Town would like to see added to the plan.

General Comments –No comments.

Adjourn - **Motion by Schaefer/Legner to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Submitted by  
Joanne Ruechel, Town Clerk

Note: These minutes are not to be considered official until acted upon at an upcoming regular meeting, therefore, they are subject to revision.