

TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 26, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of Supervisors, Town of Florence met on the 26th day of April, 2021 with Chairman Tim Bomberg and Supervisor John Holbrook present. Supervisor Shane McLain was excused.

On a motion by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg the agenda was approved as posted. All in favor, motion carried.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on March 22, 2021 were approved on a motion by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg. All in favor, motion carried.

Marcia Krcma addressed the board under communications from the floor. Krcma asked if it shows up that there is a problem with the Dominion Voting Machines is there a back-up plan for the elections? Bomberg stated that if it would show up that there is a problem with the Dominion machines, then they would be rejected and we would try to resurrect the old ones. By State Statute we have to have an electronic machine for handicapped voting purposes, plus we have paper ballots that can be used as well.

Bob Walther and other Town of Fern North Shore Rd residents came to address the board regarding the condition of North Shore Road and the proposed work to be done to it. Bomberg and highway foreman, Chris Steber, answered questions about the Road. Bomberg stated that the work is planned to be done after school is out due to the fact that there needs to be maintenance done to the roads prior to the work done, and maintenance can't be done until the frost is out of the ground and the weather clears up. Steber informed the board that they would be digging out the clay on both sides of the culvert and replacing it with Rip Rap. The Town has used this method on three separate roads and has had great success in all three of those locations. Walther questioned the easements on the Hummingbird Ln/Chickadee Ln cut off to the boat landing. Bomberg informed Walther that it is the County who owns the boat landing, and that it is the County who has the easement. Pat Smith is working on it, and Tim will continue to be in contact with Pat to stay up-to-date on the situation.

Two proposals were received for the LePage Creek Culvert Installation. The proposals were opened. Midwest Asphalt had a proposal for \$102,951. Pitlik & Wick had a proposal for \$95,600. Holbrook made a motion to table taking action on the proposals to allow time (a week or so) to review the bids and the budget, seconded by Bomberg. All in favor, motion carried. Steber questioned Scott Goodwin on the potential impact on the financial aspect in regards to the grant and funding if the project was not completed this year. Goodwin stated he would talk to Scott Wolfe, County Zoning Administrator and get back to the board.

On a motion by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg, an operator license was approved for Stephanie Lenehan at LaFaive Oil. All in favor, motion carried.

The board discussed the proposed Florence Volunteer Fire Department Honorary Members Policy. Bomberg stated that the insurance company has asked to have a policy in place. He contacted Joe Witynski, Town of Florence Fire Chief, who met with his officers to develop a policy regarding the times when it is necessary to have honorary members help in time of need when a number of members are out of town for various reasons and the honorary members are needed to fill in. Bomberg read the Policy, which states "Honorary Members of The Florence Fire Department will be utilized in time of need in a supportive role. Upon arrival on scene, they should notify the officer in charge immediately. Signed, Fire Chief Joe Witynski." Tim reiterated that item on the agenda is that the insurance company has asked for, and that's the policy that the Fire Department had brought forth. That is the issue that the board is addressing. Discussion was held regarding this policy. Tim Bomberg made a motion to approve the Florence Volunteer Fire Department Honorary Members Policy as submitted by the Florence Fire Department. Holbrook seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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The board reviewed and discussed the wages of part-time summer employees. Bomberg stated he asked for this to be put on the agenda. In discussion with other agencies in Florence County he learned that the summer LTE employees are being paid \$12 an hour. On a motion by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg it was moved to raise the Town's wages for the part-time summer employees to \$12 an hour. All in favor, motion carried.

The board discussed the request from the County to name a private road "Robbins Island Rd." Bomberg stated this request came from the County due to Fire Number purposes. In this case the property owner, David Brule asked that the road name be "Robbins Island Rd." This road is located off of Hayes' Ln which is a private road off of Town Road, Dunn's Point. Even though it is a private road, it is the Town's responsibility to officially name the road. On a motion by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg, it was moved to name the private road "Robbins Island Rd." All in favor, motion carried.

An update on the Ad-Hoc Committee regarding the Florence County Rescue Squad was provided by Bomberg. Re-structuring has begun. The next meeting will be May 12, and then will not be meeting until after the EMR class is completed in August/September. Then at that point, the Ad-Hoc Committee would adjourn a time in the future should it need to meet again. The Florence Unit is currently 100% in coverage. Bomberg stated that we need to continue looking for and encouraging new members. there is an upcoming EMR class being held at NWTC in Aurora beginning in June and anyone interested in joining the rescue squad should look at attending.

Klumpp submitted all March bank reconciliation reports for board review as well as journal entries that were completed per Scott Sternhagen from the audit. Klumpp reported that vouchers approved for payment on April 12th, 2021 by Bomberg totaled Checking \$56,829.84, automatic withdrawals in the amount of \$2,162.54 and Fire Department \$2,765.60.

Fire Department bills totaling \$325.80 were approved for payment on a motion by Bomberg and seconded by Holbrook. All in favor, motion carried.

Monthly town bills totaling \$19,630.37 and automatic withdrawals in the amount of \$15,110.25 were approved on a motion by Bomberg and seconded by Holbrook. All in favor, motion carried.

Klumpp brought up the minutes from the January 25, 2021 Town Board Meeting. During the meeting discussion was held regarding the purchase of the new Dominion Voting Machine and holding simulated elections to allow the election inspectors and voters to be able to try out the new machine. In the minutes, the word "fake" elections were used when referring to public open houses using the new Dominion ICE voting machines. It was brought to the attention on Clerk/Treasurer VanPembrook by a constituent that in today's climate, a better word for describing these public open houses would be a "trial" or "practice run" of actual elections would be held. For the official record, Klumpp stated that we will not be having "fake" elections, but rather practice elections to allow voters to observe and get familiar with using the new voting machines.

Under board member concerns, Holbrook mentioned a junk car by the school that has been there since at least the first of the year and needs to be addressed. Bomberg stated that there are other places in Town that also need to be addressed. He will stop by the office with a list of addresses that need to be followed up with.

There being no further business it was moved by Holbrook and seconded by Bomberg to adjourn until May 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the community center. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Jessica Klumpp
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer