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**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
W/ CLOSED SESSION
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023
GIBRALTAR TOWN CENTER
4097 HIGHWAY 42, FISH CREEK WI 54212
7:00 PM**

Approved:

Call to order: Steve Sohns called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call/quorum:

Board members present: Steve Sohns, Jayson Merkel, Tom Birmingham, Vinni Chomeau, and John Selenica.

Board member(s) absent: None

Adopt agenda: *Motion: (Birmingham, Merkel) to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.*

Approve minutes of previous meeting(s): *Motion: (Birmingham, Chomeau) to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2023, regular meeting as written. Motion: (Merkel, Selenica) to approve the September 18, 2023 and Motion: (Birmingham, Selenica) to approve the September 25, 2023 special meetings as written. Carried.*

Committee/Commission Reports:

Parks & Lands: Buske said committee worked on budget. The poured surface at playground is coming any day. The four deluxe benches are in and need to be placed by maintenance, picnic tables are in place, and the new bike rack is out. More calls are coming in for donations for more benches.

Fire Department/EMR: Chief Bertges provided a written report: August Call Volume 45 total calls (up 50%, 15 from 30 in 2022)

Significant events:

Rowleys Bay Inn Fire on Tuesday

Projects:

Chambers Island CERT-completed their weekend trainings

SCBA Air Compressor install, still waiting on subs

Community Emergency Response Team and Search and Rescue program to start up this fall and winter.

Events: Extrication Training, Plan review training, and Open House Saturday, October 28th.

Law Enforcement: Chief Roesch reported the new base radio has been ordered, after being struck by lightning just awaiting installation. The new town prosecutor is working well. The Homecoming parade went well and will be attending the FD open house to show off the squad and police equipment.

VFC: Lancaster reported a successful Inside Outside Days. Jack Days in coming soon. Business renewals went out. Fall Social is Wednesday, Oct 18th at Welcker's Lounge from 4-6.

Noble House: Big Event last night for the 120th Anniversary Sinking of the Hackley. The feedback was that it was powerful, tears shed, and could hear a pin drop. People drove from Illinois just for the event. The museum is still very busy.

Airport: Drajesk reported that the airport is busy with surveyors for the masterplan. The house that was purchased is set for demolition in January. There will be some runway repairs in spring, prior to the full repair.

1 Friends report, sponsored students is going well, and one just received her private license and the
2 other 2 are set to get theirs before the end of the year. 2/3 are moving forward with careers in
3 Aviation. A fundraiser for the scholarship program will be coming out. 6 new hangar spots are
4 planned with the new land, 5 have deposits and 1 is spoken for. Inspections of the hangars are
5 still ongoing.

6 **Watershed:** No report

7 **Planning Commission:** Thyssen said the commission reviewed the Outdoor Merchandise
8 Display ordinance and is doing some homework and will discuss it again. Reviewing a
9 recommendation for building requirements for the town addressing aesthetics.

10 **Harbor Commission:** Harris reported the weather has been great. The moorings are mostly
11 empty now. We close October 15th and try to get the buoys out shortly after that. The west ramp
12 dock will come out the 16th so it doesn't get beat up with north winds. Swim buoys are coming
13 out soon. Another good season.

14 **Door County Tourism Zone:** Weddig reported the executive committee met to pay bills and
15 review July income. We are down a bit compared to last year, 3.6% for the zone, and July is
16 down 4.4%, but suspect the numbers will improve when the lates come in. The zone is hiring
17 another full-time person to help with the work load and have decided to move the office to
18 Sturgeon Bay, corner of Hwy and Lansing St on the Westside. The office is presently owned in
19 Sister Bay, and probably will rent or sell. The Sturgeon Bay site will offer more space,
20 especially for storage.

21 **Building Committee:** Stubenvoll said we finished inspections and waiting on some bids before
22 making recommendation to the board.

23 **Coastal Byways:** None

24 **Broadband Ad-Hoc Committee:** Will be scheduling informational meetings. Verify if Bertram
25 will be using underground connection boxes.

26 **Clerk:** No report

27 **Treasurer:** Everyone should have received their change of assessment notice. If you have
28 questions or concerns, please call the assessor's phone number on the notice. They will take
29 concerns up until Board of Review, even though the Open Book dates have passed. Many times,
30 issues can be handled over the phone.

31 **Administrator:** Thyssen reported the tractor is on Chambers Island to brush back roads. Fall
32 wrap up beginning. Bid openings soon for TID #1 sewer interceptor and Hill and Bluff St.
33 Groundbreaking and work has started at the Redman property. Demo notice on Main St, GHA
34 has been notified.

35 **Chairman:** Sohns reported we have a new clerk, Cyndi and welcome. Sohns appointed to the
36 LRIP committee, working with the county highway dept for grants for that program.

37

38 **Public Comment:**

39 Karl Stubenvoll supports our contract with Administrator Thyssen, he has been superb in
40 negotiations and outreach and hopes he is maintained in the position. Harris agreed.
41 Cal Burnton (via zoom) said Traffic Utility was a solution to pay for Hwy 42 expenses. The
42 Supreme Court ruling involving Buchanan is different than Gibraltar. Gibraltar's TUF is set up
43 differently than Buchanan as a fee, not tax, separate funds etc. The TUF is a viable way to deal
44 with road expenses. Reassessments and the impact on taxes is on everyone's mind and school
45 referendum, the TUF is a fair way to deal with the road expenses. It may not be a long-term
46 solution but may help now with the tax impact. Please continue with the TUF as a fair and
47 equitable to pay for roads.

1 Ken Harrington, disagrees with the TUF. It was a way to get around limits in taxes for roads.
2 The TUF does not distinguish, they are all road utilities. It was established to skirt the issue of
3 paying for roads with tax dollars, the supreme court ruling was clear that taxes should be for the
4 roads. Roads are to be paid for with taxes period, and then in August we all get a bill. It is
5 unconstitutional.

6
7 **2023-2024 Operators Licenses:** *Motion:(Selenica, Birmingham) to approve the 2023-24*
8 *operators licenses as presented. Carried*

9
10 **Special Event Request: Visit Fish Creek Jack -Lantern Days, Noble Square:** Lancaster said
11 this is an add on, requesting a DJ to play Halloween themed music from the gazebo. *Motion:*
12 *(Birmingham, Selenica) to approve the special event request for VFC. Carried*

13
14 **Special Event Request: YMCA-Ugly Sweater Run:** Continuation of last year, a 5k run from
15 the YMCA to Gibraltar Rd, ask the road is closed from Gibraltar Rd to A one lane only. *Motion:*
16 *(Chomeau, Selenica) to approve the special event request for the YMCA. Carried*

17
18 **Oath of Office-Cynthia Gutschow, Town Clerk:** Sworn in by Chairman Sohns.

19
20
21 **Consideration of Budget regarding Traffic Utility:** Thyssen said staff needs direction
22 regarding the TUF, levy limit, and budget. Utility, Levy, or Borrow/Debt service. Birmingham
23 said it was agreed to end the TUF in closed session in 2023 with one final bill in 2023 and
24 prepare the 2024 budget in excess of the levy limit. Further discussion on TUF. No new action.

25
26 **Consideration of options for Town Cleaning Services:** Thyssen said our cleaner is dissolving
27 the business, prices for services ranged from \$60-80k. Another option would be to add another
28 person to our maintenance department, use the cleaning funds to help fund partly fund the
29 employee and reduce the part time hours. *Motion (Chomeau/Merkel), to move forward with the*
30 *staff recommendation to hire another maintenance person and take over the cleaning service in*
31 *house. Carried*

32
33 **Consideration of purchasing cleaning equipment from Lakeshore Deep Clean:** *Motion*
34 *(Merkel, Birmingham) to purchase the cleaning equipment from Lakeshore Deep Clean*
35 *including the extra piece of equipment. Carried.*

36
37 **Consideration to move Parks and Lands 2023 Capital Project Funds to**
38 **Committed/Reserved Funds:** *Motion: (Birmingham, Merkel) to move the \$15,000 funds to*
39 *committed reserve. Carried.*

40
41 **Intent to Apply Application for Clean Water Fund:** *Motion:(Birmingham, Selenica) direct*
42 *staff to file the intent to apply application for the Clean Water Fund as recommended. Carried.*

43
44 **Resolution 2023-07 DNR Surface Water Grant:** *Motion:(Chomeau, Merkel) to approve the*
45 *resolution as presented. Carried.*

46
47 **Consideration of Department Head Purchasing Policy:** *Motion:(Merkel, Chomeau) to*
48 *approve the purchasing policy. Carried*

1
2 **Authorization to open Checking/MMIA account for TID #1:** *Motion:(Sohns, Chomeau) to*
3 *open the account. Carried*

4
5 **Consideration of Dockmaster Housing 2024 Season:** *Motion:(Birmingham, Sohns) to approve*
6 *the dockmaster housing for 2024. Carried.*

7
8 **Consideration of 2024-2025 LRIP Supplemental Application:** *Motion:(Chomeau,*
9 *Birmingham) to apply for the Juddville Road for the LRIP Supplemental Application. Carried.*

10
11 **Consideration right of first refusal Motion:** *(Merkel, Birmingham) to pass on the hangar*
12 *Carried*

13
14 **Consideration of Sale of Hangar D-6 to Rich Bierman:** *Motion:(Birmingham, Merkel) to*
15 *approve the sale of the hangar. Carried*

16
17 **Consideration of Lease Agreement for Hangar D-6 with Bierman:** *Motion:(Birmingham,*
18 *Merkel) to approve the lease agreement. Carried*

19
20 **Set Budget Workshop/Special Meeting Date:** *October 30th at 6 pm.*

21
22 **Approve Payment of Bills:** *Motion: (Birmingham, Chomeau) to approve the payment of the*
23 *bills. Carried*

24
25 **Adjourn to closed session according to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c):** *Motion:*
26 *(Chomeau, Selenica) to adjourn to closed session at 9:47 PM, by roll call vote: Sohns – aye,*
27 *Merkel – aye, Chomeau – aye, Birmingham – aye, and Selenica – aye. Carried*

28
29 **Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any**
30 **public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility:**
31 ***Town Staff Compensation***

32
33 **Reconvene to open session pursuant to State Statute 19.85(2) to take any action(s) or adopt**
34 **resolution on issues discussed in closed session:** *Motion: (Merkel, Chomeau) to reconvene to*
35 *open session at 10:03 PM. Carried*

36
37 **Approve action(s) taken in closed session:** *None*

38
39 **Consideration of Resolution 2023-08, 2024 Compensation Schedule:** *Motion:(Birmingham,*
40 *Chomeau) to approve Resolution 2023-08, 2024 Compensation Schedule as amended in closed*
41 *session. Carried*

42 **Adjourn:** *Motion: (Birmingham, Merkel) to adjourn at 10:04 p.m. Carried*

43
44 Respectfully submitted,
45 Theresa Cain-Bieri, Treasurer