

June 8, 2015 Special Town Board Meeting

The Special meeting of the Town Board was called to order by Chairman Gaulke at 10:00 a.m. Supervisors Ginger Schwanebeck, Chris Mayer Treasurer Irene Messinger and Clerk Nancy Edwards were present.

Others present: (See attached list made a permanent part of these minutes.) This meeting was properly posted and the media notified as required by law.

Motion by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Mr. Schwanebeck to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

**ATV Routes-Railroad grade-Bridges:** Mr. Gaulke stated that the Town and Vilas County did receive a letter from the tribal president stating they had concerns with the opening of ATV routes within the Town of Lac du Flambeau. The Town Board did pass their ATV ordinance as did the County Board. In light of receiving this letter Mr. Gaulke felt it was a good idea for the town and county to sit down with the tribe and council to go over their concerns. President St. Germaine stated he is here today with the council and Attorney Andrew Adams III from the HogenAdams Law Firm representing the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Indians. He was asked by the tribe to represent them in this issue. Their message is quite clear that they do not agree with the public route that is proposed by the town and county because of multiple impacts it will have on the reservation such as important cultural sites, public safety and environmental concerns. He stated this is something the tribe will not tolerate. President St. Germaine stated if it comes down to filing an injunction with the Federal Court they are ready and have already taken action to begin. President St. Germaine stated he would appreciate it if the town and county would relook at their decision and work with the tribe on the issue. Other council members spoke on their concerns regarding safety, referendum results and tribal member wishes, resident wishes, respect and working together. The tribal ATV ordinance Chapter 29 is in existence. Mr. Gaulke stated he would be happy to sit with the tribe, county, and tribe to see if some type of agreement could be made. Attorney Adams commented it was heard the routes would open by July 4, 2015. Mr. Gaulke stated to his knowledge no date had been set for opening the routes. Attorney Adams stated the tribe would like the town and county to rescind their ordinances at this time. He does not see any way to work out an agreement. He stated either the town and county rescind the ordinances or they will seek any legal remedy to prevent it. The only way talks would continue if there is a change in the tribal views. Mr. Mayer stated for the record that at no time were there any behind the scenes activity taking place. All our meetings are open to the public. County Attorney Martha Milanowski stated the county will be meeting shortly and this item would be on the agenda.

Mr. Gaulke stated the Town Board will meet on June 17, 2015. This will be on that agenda for discussion possible action. Several residents spoke regarding their concerns on safety, growth, other activities available, previous referendums and the ability to get together to discuss the issue.

Motion by Mrs. Schwanebeck, seconded by Mr. Mayer to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Edwards  
Town Clerk