

Presque Isle Municipal Ordinance Committee Minutes
Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 9:30am
Presque Isle Community Center

Attendees: Carl Watras (chair), , Eric Benn, Bob Berdan, Mike Brandt, Carl Wolter (Town liaison). Kelly Dyre, Phil Harris & Tom Preston were absent. Also present, Constable Pat Eesley.

Call to order: Chairman Carl Watras called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Reading/approval of minutes: The motion to approve the December meeting minutes, previously distributed, was unanimously approved, upon the motion of Eric Benn and the second of Mike Brandt.

Old Business Citation Ordinance: Chair Watras led further discussion on his redraft of Subchapter 117, created from the Town's Association model Citation Ordinance, particularly the 9 required items to be included in any citation issued. Constable Eesley was provided with a copy of the most recent. Messrs Benn and Berdan expressed support of the draft as written, as did Constable Eesley, following his review of the document. Mike Brandt questioned the broad approach taken in section 117.4 concerning those empowered to issue citations. Following discussion, a consensus was reached to limit authority to issue citations to the Constable or the Town's authorized designees, which of necessity includes for example the Zoning Administrator and Noxious Weed Commissioner. Upon the motion of Bob Berdan, with a second by Eric Benn, Section 117.4 was unanimously amended to limit the issuance of citations to the Constable or the Town Board's official designees. After completing the review of the balance of the Ordinance, Eric Benn moved, and Bob Berdan seconded a motion to send the Ordinance, as revised, to the Town Clerk for submission to the Board for its consideration and approval. Mike Brandt then suggested the committee should make 117.1 consistent with the changes just approved for 117.4. Motion by Mike Brandt, second by Bob Berdan, and approved unanimously.

Carl Watras also informed the committee of the necessity of changing Subchapter 808 to 106 for numerical consistency. Eric Benn moved and Mike Brandt seconded a motion to so renumber the Municipal Judge subchapter to accomplish same. Unanimously approved.

Comments from the Public: 1. Eric Benn, committee member, inquired whether the Committee should relook at its inventory of pending Ordinance requests for future assignments to which Chairmen Watras suggested the next priority will be to bring the forfeiture fee schedule up to date, and to try to reduce same to a single page table, if possible, for use by both the Constable and the Vilas County Clerk of Courts. Carl Watras agreed to begin tabulating the necessary information, with the assistance of Bob Berdan, but with the understanding that each committee member will be assigned existing subchapters of the Code of Ordinances at the next meeting for review and updating, as necessary. Carl Wolter, Town Liaison, inquired about meeting attendance by committee members, noting the number of absences. All new members aren't attending. Mike Brandt, Committee member, suggested the committee give consideration to removal if some agreed upon number of meeting absences occurs. Bob Berdan, committee member, offered to poll members of their planned attendance or absence when distributing meeting materials. Eric Benn, Committee member, said Zoom will be available, going forward, if necessary, upon advance arrangement. Zoom may assist member attendance as well.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Watras at 10:12 am.