

**Minutes of the
August 2, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday August 2, 2021 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Treasurer Sell, Clerk Wainio, 10 members of the public along with others via Zoom.

Supervisor Whitney made a motion to accept the agenda at the discretion of the chair. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 19 and July 21, 2021 minutes which was seconded by Mr. Discianno Whitney and approved unanimously. Mr. Whitney made a motion to accept the Treasurer's given by Treasurer Sell. Mr. Grimmer seconded and the vote to approve was 3-0.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno:

Website: Mary Quass is taking new pictures for the Home Page of the website and will be forwarding them for approval by the board.

Town Garage: The Town Crew is continuing to work on grading needed around the garage and sand shed. The crew worked overtime cleaning up the recent storm damage.

Culverts: The culverts for the Turtle River at Bruette Rd. and No Mans Creek at Old O have been delivered, but we are still waiting for the culvert for Papoose Lake Rd. Routsala Construction will hopefully start installation within a week

Snow Guards for Fire Station Drive-Through Bay: Chairman Discianno is waiting on a response from Lakes States.

South Turtle Boat Landing: Xcel Energy surveyed the power pole at the boat landing and will be replacing the sleeve on the guide wire.

Supervisor Grimmer:

Planning Commission: Carl Watras of the Presque Isle Planning Commission requested we write up our questions/concerns with the Papoose Lake Joint Ordinance. No action was taken on an ordinance enforcement officer, pickleball courts, or implementation of a town-wide room tax on short-term rentals.

Lakes Committee: New Lake User Guides have been printed and are available from the various lakes' associations or Supervisor Grimmer. The lakes associations will be installing recycling spots for fishing line spools and fishing line that were constructed by Discovery Center interns at the town boat landings. AIS training will be held at the Rest Lake Pavilion on 8/8 from 1-3PM. Reservations to participate are necessary and can be made through the Discovery Center. The Lakes Committee is assembling a list of the rental properties in town.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: A tire on the ambulance blew out on a recent transport to the hospital, repairs are being assessed to determine insurance coverage.

Transfer Site: Mr. Whitney and transfer site attendant Don Melzer discussed maintenance of the site including control of the donated items, traffic control and purchase of plastic sleds for use in keeping the area between the compactor and building clean. Under the direction of Mr. Whitney, Mr. Melzer will remove all the items stored in the semi-trailer including the snowblower so that the trailer can be disposed of. The clerk will have more copies of the recycling guideline printed for hand-out. In order to participate in the plastic bag recycling program, the town would need to either purchase or rent a baler, but we do not accumulate enough to do this. Mr. Whitney suggested that anyone interested in recycling these plastic items bring them to the local grocery stores and Wal-Mart which provide this service.

Town Park: Will be discussed under the agenda.

Lions Club: Is requesting use of the fire station and town hall meeting room kitchen/bathrooms for a Tailgate party on 10/11. This request will be presented to the fire department members at their 8/10 general meeting.

BikeInc: Dale White informed Mr. Whitney that the EAU grounds crew worked double shifts to clean up after the recent storms and usage of the trails is noticeably up this year.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Grimmer reached out to the Discovery Center regarding the correspondence addressed at the July 19th meeting about mowing invasive species present around Birch Lake. That is not an option at this time of year, however it is acceptable in the Spring. A request regarding the date of the latest inspection of the Turtle Lake Dam was also received by Mr. Grimmer. Xcel Energy supplied Mr. Grimmer more information on grant savings available. Mr. Discianno will follow-up on the energy savings questionnaire. Mike A. from EAU responded to Mr. Whitney on the complaint by Lee Stengele regarding speeding of an EAU maintenance UTV on Papoose Lake Road recently. EAU employees will all be reminded to follow the speed limit and wear seat belts when

operating their equipment on the bike trails. Mr. Whitney requested any infractions be reported to one of the Town Board members immediately.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Stengele requested information on the Town's policy for usage of town facilities since Birchfield Nurseries and EAU had access to the old Town Garages for storing equipment and use of water for watering the newly planted trees, etc. along the bike trail. Mr. Stengele questioned why EAU employees were allowed to access the transfer site the previous Tuesday when the site was closed. Mr. Brownwell observed these individuals unlocking the gate before they entered the property. Mr. Discianno and Whitney both denied any knowledge how the EAU employees obtained a key to the facility.

Sulo Wainio requested information on compliance with ADA requirements for the bollards referred to in New Business #3, along with locations for handicapped parking spaces. Mr. Whitney said replied that the bollards would be installed at the walkway to the pavilion and the north gate to the park. Mr. Discianno stated that parking places were not required. Mr. Wainio presented a print-out of ADA requirements for small towns.

Carole Theesfeld requested the Town supply a garbage can by the recycling compactor for disposal of plastic garbage bags. She was informed these bags are to be disposed of in the household waste compactor.

Joe Guenther requested information on the fee for rental of the park which he had reserved for 8/28. Mr. Discianno explained that would be discussed and determined under Old Business #1.

John Melzer requested why Mr. Discianno sent him a letter citing a nuisance, rather than just talking to him in person. Mr. Discianno replied that Mr. Melzer has known about the problem for 2 years and refused to provide Mr. Melzer with the name of the complainant.

Old Business

1) *Town Facilities Agreement*: After discussion and an agreement to correct the agreement and show that residents and property owners were subject to both a fee of \$50 and \$200 deposit for use of facilities, Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve the draft which Mr. Discianno seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

2) *Park Bathrooms*: The current policy to keep the bathrooms locked except for rentals or Town functions was reaffirmed. Mr. Discianno will instruct the Town Crew to clean the pit toilets for use by the public.

3) *Town Properties Maintenance List*: The board will meet on 8/16/21 at the Town Hall and via Zoom to develop a maintenance list for the Town properties.

4) *Roof Work on Transfer Site Compactor Area*: Mr. Discianno presented a bid submitted by Ron Behnke for extension of the roof from the building over the recycling compactor to be completed by the end of September. Mr. Grimmer made a motion to hire Mr. Behnke to build a roof over the dumpster to keep snow and ice off the dumpster allowing enough clearance space for maintenance of the motor with a total cost of \$1615.00. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

New Business

1) No road/lane name changes.

2) *Ward Plan*: Tabled.

3) *Parking Bollard in Town Park*: Tabled.

4) *Expansion of Broadband Committee*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to expand the proposed Broadband Committee from 3 to 7 members. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, and it was approved 3-0.

5) *HVAC Service Contract*: Mr. Discianno has been in contact with Quality Heating but has not received any actual cost figures yet, so this was tabled.

6) *Lakes Committee membership*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to accept the request from the Lakes Committee to name Jim Evans as representative from Harris Lake, with John Grimmer the alternate, and Jim Logan as the Rainbow Lake alternate. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

7) *Future Agenda Items*: Nothing new.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan T. Wainio
Town Clerk