

**Minutes of the
July 19, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday July 19, 2021 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, numerous members of the public both in person and Brian Jopek of the Lakeland Times and others via Zoom.

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

Mr. Grimmer requested the following correction be made to the 7/5/21 minutes: New Business #8: Strike "Mr. Grimmer will contact Troy Schalinske" and replace with "Mr. Grimmer will advise a representative of WinMan Trails contact Troy Schalinske." Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve the 6/30/21 special meeting minutes along with the corrected minutes of the 7/5/21 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitney and approved 3-0.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno:

Mr. Discianno complimented everyone who worked on the 2021 Picnic in the Park (PIP) & Boat Parade.

Transfer Site: Met with Ron Behnke at the Transfer Site to look at ways to modify the roof line. Mr. Behnke will submit a proposal including cost to the Town.

South Turtle Boat Landing: Contacted Xcel Energy re. removal of the guide wire for the power pole and streetlight that is not working.

Culverts: Waiting to hear from the rep on status.

Maintenance List: In progress.

Missing Winchester Sign: Ms. Wainio has ordered replacement signs for both Hwy O and J from Decker Mfg.

Website: Mary Quass will be taking new pictures of our facilities to update the website.

Gravel Crushing: Brian Pitlik says their machinery is currently being moved to Presque Isle (PI) for the road work in PI, then they will be moving it here for our needs in early September.

Supervisor Grimmer:

Website: Mr. Grimmer will continue to meet with Mary Quass on some changes and corrections to glitches on the website.

Library: The Friends of the Library participated in the PIP and were happy with the event. Small book repositories will be set up in the Park and Memorial Gardens for book exchanges. Mr. Grimmer is working with Ed Fairbanks on adding a faucet for a soaker hose to use on the gardens along the building.

Equipment Lists: Bill Sell and John Melzer are putting together lists of the current Town and Fire Department apparatus.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: Attended the post-picnic meeting 7/13, however Chief Melzer was absent due to being sick. Event was successful in all aspects.

Transfer Site: Attendant Melzer asked if he could install an antenna behind the building and expressed concern over traction on the concrete floor between the compactors during the Winter.

NEXTREX Community Challenge: This has been in existence for 14 years and does not expire. Mr. Whitney is mostly concerned in transportation of the plastics collected and will keep the board advised.

Town Park: Working on maintenance list for future discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dale White contacted Mr. Whitney requesting information on the Papoose Lake Rd "heaving" repairs and was advised a contract for the repairs has been signed. Mr. White also asked about the additional speed limit signs for Papoose Lake Road he was promised would be installed. He is concerned due to cars "speeding" on the road now that it is designated as an ancillary bike trail. Bill Sell told Mr. Whitney the 35mph signs were on order. A Birch Lake resident contacted Mr. Grimmer requesting the Town Crew mow some invasive species. Mr. Grimmer will contact the Discover Center and ask for advice.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sulo Wainio asked when Papoose Lake Road was designated as a bike trail to which Supervisor Whitney answered it has never been designated as such but was used during biking events. Lee Stengele commented that a U-Line employee on an UTV, not wearing a seat belt and towing a blower was speeding down Papoose Lake Road that day and requested how it is that these people can ride on the road when no one else has this permission. Mr. Whitney and Discianno said they would follow up on this.

New Business

2) Xcel Energy Presentation: Curtis Frank of Xcel Energy described a project that Xcel is working on to improve the electric service provided to Winchester. The project will need approval by the Public Service Commission and will take approximately 5 years to complete. Xcel is planning an Open House at the Winchester Town Hall sometime in September. Mr. Frank requested the Town Board submit a letter indicating any support or concerns regarding the project within the next few months.

Old Business

1) Town Facilities Agreement: Mr. Grimmer will amend his proposed agreement to allow leashed animals at outdoor events and the following fees for private use of either the Town Hall, Community Room, or Park Pavilion: \$50 rental fee plus a \$200 security deposit.

New Business-continued

1) Road/lane name changes: None

3) Camping Permission: Chairman Discianno made a motion to accept requests from Larry Sturgeon, Townsite Road and Steve Smith, Harris Creek Ln to camp on their properties for a 1-year period ending 7/18/22 pending approval of the Vilas County Zoning Dept. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion, with Mr. Discianno and Whitney voting aye; Mr. Grimmer abstained because "he has a horse in the race". A copy of the permits from Vilas County will be requested for the Town records.

4) Library Board Membership: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve a request from the Winchester Library Board to add Mary Quass and Jaclyn Anderson to the Library Board of Trustees. Mr. Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

5) LED lights for fire station: Tabled for additional financial data, including research on grant availability.

6) Back-up employee for Town Crew: Supervisor Whitney made a motion to advertise for a part-time Town Crew employee. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

7) Back-up employee for Transfer Site Attendant: Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to advertise for a part-time Transfer Site Attendant which was seconded by Supervisor Whitney and approved 3-0.

8) Clean up at Transfer Site: The board would like to develop a plan to minimize the amount of give-away items stored at the site and encourage users to be courteous and move their vehicles from the entrance to the building as soon as they dispose of their garbage and recycle so that other patrons can pull their vehicle to the entrance for access.

9) Future Agenda Items: Availability of Rest Rooms at Park, inventory of fleet, maintenance plan, service contract for HVAC systems.

At 7:30PM the meeting was adjourned to closed session under SS19.85 considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of any public employee.

At 8:20PM the meeting was reconvened to open session. During closed session, the board determined that responsibility of the Transfer Site and the Transfer Site Attendant be vested exclusively in Supervisor Whitney and employee performance reviews be dealt with expeditiously to begin 2022 budget deliberations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan T. Wainio
Town Clerk