

**Minutes of the  
November 8, 2021 Town Board Meeting**  
Pending Approval of the Town Board

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday November 8, 2021 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, Treasurer Sell, several members of the public, and others via Zoom including Lakeland Times reporter Brian Jopek.

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.

Supervisor Whitney questioned the projected cost presented by Chief Melzer at the 10/8 special meeting for application of epoxy coating to the Fire station floor, Chairman Discianno asked to have the report of work done at Papoose Creek be corrected to "rip rap" from "silt fencing" in the 10/27 minutes, and Supervisor Whitney requested the discussion of transferring funds for additional 2022 expenses be changed to not reflect any specific effect on designated fund balances. Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/4 as written, 10/25 and 10/27 per the listed corrections/changes, and verification of Chief Melzer's cost projection on 10/8. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Chairman Discianno made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given, which Supervisor Whitney seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

**CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**

**Chairman Discianno:**

*Culverts:* The Papoose Lk Rd culvert was completed after Ruotsala installed rip rap & Lupino paved.

*Other Road Projects:* Pitlik and Wick completed paving Old O and the patch work projects. Pitlik will complete shouldering and driveway aprons. Manitowish Waters (MW) Chairman John Hanson is requesting the Town of Winchester share in the cost to pave or chip seal E Circle Lily Rd next year. If approved, half of the cost will be paid by the State, with the balance split between Winchester and MW. Mr. Discianno will participate in a scheduled Vilas County (VC) LRIP meeting the week of November 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Town Crew:* Ordered a replacement fire number sign for the Library, delivered the Library and South Turtle boat landing signs to June Stuner for repainting, and pulled the boards in the Turtle River dam per DNR orders and began pulling docks at the boat landings.

*Beaver Dams:* Chairman Discianno contacted VC to remove beaver dams being built at the Turtle River Dam.

**Supervisor Whitney:**

*Fire Department:* Mr. Whitney was not able to attend the last meeting. The quote received from WI Coating Specialists for epoxy coating was too expensive, so more research will be needed.

*Transfer Site (TS):* Additional work will be needed on the posts for the roof extension over the recycling compactor, WI Coating Specialists will apply epoxy to the floor of the TS building 11/15 and 16. The site will be closed 11/15 through the 17<sup>th</sup> and re-open on Thursday 11/18 for this work.

*Town Park:* Crew cleaned up and moved all picnic tables under the pavilion.

*Lions Club and Bike Trails, Inc:* Nothing to report.

**Supervisor Grimmer:**

*Planning Commission:* The Sign Ordinance has been updated and hopefully be presented to the Town Board in December. A Gardening Task Force has been suggested to oversee the proposed Raised Garden Beds.

*Library:* More information will be needed including drawings and costs for the proposed addition.

*Broadband Committee:* A meeting is scheduled at 10:00AM November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall.

*Webside:* Changes have completed to show links for all agendas and minutes on the Agenda/Minutes tab.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Grimmer reported receipt of a notice from Vilas County that a request to open the County Roads in Winchester will be addressed at the VC Forestry meeting December 21, 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Discianno responded to Dick Smith's question on the beaver dam situation at the Turtle River dam that VC will be removing the beaver dam(s) per our participation in the county beaver dam program. Chairman Discianno advised Craig VanArk the although the roads may appear narrower after replacement of culverts on Bruette, Old O and Papoose Lake roads, Mr. Discianno has measured all at 24' from site to side.

## **Old Business**

- 1) *West Rock Lake Road easement:* Tabled awaiting advice from Town Attorney.
- 2) *Transfer Site Semi Trailer removal:* Mr. Grimmer made a motion to allow TS attendant Don Melzer have it removed by a private party at no cost to the Town. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, and approved 3-0.
- 3) *Acceptance of useable items at TS:* Supervisor Whitney made a motion to discontinue acceptance of items for repurposing at the TS. Supervisor Grimmer seconded; all three board members agreed and approved.
- 4) *TS Cleanliness:* Mr. Whitney will re-write the TS Attendant job description to quantify the work required.
- 5) *Website Protocol:* Chairman Discianno named Supervisor Grimmer as liaison to the Website.
- 6) *Year 'round Electronics Disposal:* In order to provide electronic items all year, the inside of the TS will need to be open up and the fees charged for disposal will be reassessed after reviewing costs charged by other municipalities.

## **New Business**

- 1) *No road/lane name changes.*
- 2) *Recognition of Jay Woolf's Service on Planning Commission:* Supervisor Grimmer made a motion, which was seconded by Supervisor Whitney to pass this resolution: "The Town of Winchester recognizes and thanks Jay Woolf for his dedication and hard work over the past 6 years on the Winchester Planning Commission". The motion was approved unanimously.
- 3) *Addition of internet service at Town Park and Transfer Site:* Mr. Grimmer reported that it will cost \$300 per location to install the service and approximately \$100/month at both the Park and TS. Mr. Whitney made a motion to add this service at both locations. Mr. Discianno seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.
- 4) *Addition of [info@winchester54557.org](mailto:info@winchester54557.org) email address:* Chairman Discianno made a motion instructing Supervisor Grimmer will facilitate addition of this email address, advising the public of the ability to automatically receive town notifications like agendas and minutes by signing up via a link on the Town website and fulfilling these requests. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which passed on a 3-0 vote.
- 5) *Use of shipping containers as garages:* Chairman Discianno made a motion to charge the Planning Commission with the task to write an ordinance regulating the use of shipping containers and semi-trailers as garages within the Town of Winchester. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion. Vote to approve motion was passed on a 3-0 vote.
- 6) *Addition of year 'round containers at TS for disposal of large items:* Mr. Whitney made a motion to bring in an additional dumpster for large items limiting what is accepted after determining the fee(s) to be charged for disposal. Mr. Grimmer seconded and the motion passed 3-0.
- 7) *Survey for support of building addition to Community Building for Library:* Mr. Grimmer presented a request to include a returnable survey for public input on this proposal with the 2021 tax bills. Clerk Wainio informed the Board that these types of requests have never been approved in the past by either the Treasurer or previous Town Boards due to initiation of precedence for future requests. Past surveys like the 2020 Planning Commission ATV Survey were spearheaded and completed by the organization requesting the information.
- 8) *Survey for supporting internet expansion by the Broadband Committee:* Based on information provided under New Business #7, Mr. Grimmer will pass the denial to both the Library Board and Broadband Committee to determine their next steps to acquire this information.
- 9) *Future Agenda Items:* Gardening Task Force, Sign Ordinance, Seal coating of parking lots, letter to VC re ATVs on County roads, filling vacancy(ies) in the Planning Commission.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve October disbursements Liability Check (LC) Quick Books (QB) payroll service dated 10/1 to EFT Department of Workforce Development dated 10/29/21. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion. Approval 3-0.

At 7:29PM Chairman Discianno motioned to recess to closed session under SS19.85 which Supervisor Grimmer seconded and was approved by all.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:45PM. Clerk Wainio reported that after discussion, Supervisor Whitney made a motion to refer the employee matter back to the Fire Department to take action at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting on the motion made at the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan T. Wainio, Town Clerk