

**Minutes of the  
October 4, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday October 4, 2021 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, Treasurer Sell, eleven members of the public along with 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 made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/6, 9/20 and 9/29 meetings. Mr. Whitney seconded this motion, and it was approved 3-0.

Although delayed due to the board decision to start meetings at 6:00PM, Treasurer Sell presented her report as of September 30, 2021. Chairman Discianno made a motion to accept the report as given; Supervisor Grimmer and the motion passed 3-0.

**CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**

**Chairman Discianno:**

*Crack Sealing:* County Hwy Commissioner Troy Schalinske reported the work on South Turtle, Old Hwy O north of West Rock Lake, Harris Lake, Keppler, Island View, and Hiawatha Lake roads had been completed and Papoose Lake Road would be finished by Tuesday 10/5/21. Although South Turtle required more time and materials than had been estimated, since the remainder of the roads were in such good shape, it would probably be a wash. The County is on schedule to complete the right-of-way clearing along Hwy W north and south of the Town Hall driveways. Mr. Schalinske expressed interest in purchasing the five' culvert originally scheduled for installation on Papoose Lake Road; the section of County W south of County O has been marked for repaving; stop ahead signs, reflective markers and rumble strips are being considered on County O where it intersects County W.

*Old County O Paving:* Pitlik and Wick has begun preparation for repaving the road from County W to Town Site Road.

*Town Crew:* They are moving the bench from the South Turtle Boat Landing to the park and will contact June Stuner about repair/repainting of the "Art Laha" and Library signs. Chairman Discianno received one applicant for the Assistant Town Crew position.

*Meeting with Other Town Chairs:* Mr. Discianno recently met with Presque Isle Chair John McClean, Boulder Junction Chair Dennis Reuss and Manitowish Chair John Hanson to discuss area town concerns on issues like establishment of a joint paramedic service. Pitlik and Wick will be installing an additional culvert under West Circle Lily Road which will benefit Winchester property owners along East Circle Lily Road. Manitowish Waters will receive half of the project cost from Vilas County and is requesting Winchester assume half of the remaining cost since it will reduce flooding along East Circle Lily Rd.

**Supervisor Grimmer:**

*Library:* The Town Crew installed the new "Little Library" boxes

*Broadband Committee:* The committee met with a representative of Lumen and may receive a tentative proposal with a couple of weeks. It will take approximately 6 months for Lumen to produce a full proposal for services. The Towns Association presented a webinar with information regarding funding opportunities.

*Planning Commission:* Will bring ordinance updates to the Town Board as they are completed., continued discussion on developing a Community Garden, were advised that the Town already has a logo "The Real Northwoods" and is working on additional training for members. Planning Commission member and Fire Chief John Melzer requested the Town's support in his conversations with Vilas County Highway Department regarding safety concerns at the intersection of County Roads O and W after numerous accidents at that location.

**Supervisor Whitney:**

*Fire Department:* Members of the department participated in six calls including one at WinMan Trails. Music and food for the 2022 Picnic in the Park are already set. Matt Schmidt is working on grant paperwork.

*Transfer Site:* Construction addition of a roof from the main building to the compactor is delayed due to a difficulty in procuring the metal needed.

*Town Park:* Mr. Whitney is checking on weed eradication and control.

*Lions Club:* Nothing new.

*Bike Inc:* Nothing new.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Crew is working to mitigate a complaint Mr. Grimmer received from an Adelaide Road resident about water and gravel draining into her culvert and driveway. rom the town road. Both Dr. Bill Melms of Marshfield Clinic and Mr. Jelinski of North Lakeland Elementary School want to be kept up to date on the status of the Broadband Committee's work.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dan Zach reported a potential conflict with a neighbor who is looking to put a road across Mr. Zach's property. Mr. Discianno explained this is a situation that will need to be settled between the affected landowners.

## **Old Business**

- 1) *Easement on or sale of town property*: Besides Cheryl Loew, Jerry Gryttenholm has also expressed interest in acquiring the property in question. Due to possible need for a title search, legal representation and DNR involvement, Mr. Whitney commented that he felt the potential buyer(s) should bear any costs associated with this research. Mr. Discianno will contact Atty. Greg Harrold for further direction.
- 2) *Turtle Lake Bridge Façade*: Mr. Discianno reported that the Turtle Lake Chain Association is willing to assist in the cost for these updates and is scheduled to meet with local mason Chuck Benson to determine a plan for next Spring.
- 3) *2021 Ward Plan*: After completion of the 2020 Census the Town is required to adopt a new Ward Plan for elections. Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-08 "Adoption of a Ward Plan" as read by Mr. Discianno. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, Mr. Discianno, Mr. Grimmer and Mr. Whitney all voted to approve the resolution.
- 4) *WinMan Trails Endorsement*: Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve a funding campaign endorsement of WinMan Trails as follows: "WinMan Trails is an asset to the Town of Winchester because it provides high quality, year-round, family-friendly recreation. The positive impacts it has for our residents and community are healthy outdoor activity and an expanding economic development run by professionals. The Town Board fully supports WinMan Trails and their mission, and we will continue to support their efforts moving forward in whatever way possible. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

## **New Business**

- 1) Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve the request to name a new private road off West Birch Lake Rd. "Old Swanson Ln." Mr. Discianno seconded the motion, and it was approved 3-0. No road/lane name changes.
- 2) *Electronics Dumpster*: Jim from Eagle Waste advised the unit needs to keep inside; he will provide us with a list of what is considered electronics vs. metal waste, etc.; and the fee for rental and pickup. Mr. Whitney will research costs and possible fee changes for providing this service.
- 3) *Compactor Ramps*: Mr. Whitney noted that the current dumpsters are OSHA compliant, but they need attention. He is researching the cost to apply an epoxy coating like on the exterior stairs at the "Lodge" in Manitowish Waters.
- 4) *Chairperson for Broadband Committee*: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to name Jim Hochstetter chairperson of the new Broadband Committee which Mr. Discianno seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 5) *Tax Collector Bond*: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve purchase of the 2021-22 bond for Treasurer Geri Sell. Mr. Discianno seconded the motion which passed 3-0.
- 6) *Minute Taker for Planning Commission*: Request for a volunteer for this position will be placed on the Town Website and in the Betty Forster's newspaper column.
- 7) *Request to Vilas County Forestry regarding notification of recreational use of County Roads in Winchester*: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to send a letter to Al Murray of the Vilas County Forestry Dept. requesting "Notification to the Town of Winchester prior to any consideration or action regarding opening of County Highways for any recreational use in the Town of Winchester." Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved on a 3-0 vote.
- 8) *Use of UTVs on Bike Path*: Mr. Discianno reported that the maintenance agreement with Bike Trails Inc does not include any reference to the use of UTVs, however #20 of the Land Use Agreement with Vilas County allows the permittee "Town of Winchester" to use UTVs to maintain the trails.
- 9) *Veterans Recognition*: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to pass Resolution 2021-19 recognizing Winchester Veterans for 2021 Veterans Day. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, and it was approved 3-0.
- 10) *Future Agenda Items*: Shipping containers in residential areas.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve September disbursements #DD1245 through check #30103. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion. All 3 Town Board members voted to approve these disbursements.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan T. Wainio, Town Clerk