

**Minutes of the  
September 6, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday September 6, 2021 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, 12 members of the public, Discovery Center representative Emily Heald along with others via Zoom.

Supervisor Gimmer 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 8/2/21 8/16/21 and 9/1/21 meetings with the addition of the phrase "to the Planning Commission" to #3 of New Business. Mr. Discianno seconded this motion, and it was approved 3-0.

Clerk Wainio read the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion was approved unanimously after being seconded by Mr. Whitney.

**CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**

**Chairman Discianno:**

*Culverts:* The Bruette Road and Old O culverts have been installed, but we are waiting for the delivery of the culvert for Papoose Lake Road. That delivery is expected this week for the Papoose Lake Rd. culvert.

*Other Road Projects:* Weather permitting, Vilas County is scheduled to begin crack sealing the week of 9/13; Pitlik & Wick will be moving their plant to Mercer the end of September or beginning of October so they can commence our paving projects; and Pitlik & Wick plans on crushing gravel for us the week of 9/20.

*Lighting for Flags:* A solar light will be installed on the pole for the American flag 9/7. Purchase of additional solar lights for the other flags will be considered.

*Snow Guards for Fire Station Drive-Through Bay:* Lakes States Roofing will install the snow guards this month.

*Holiday Lighting:* Mr. Discianno completed the application needed to allow the Town to attach seasonal lighting to Xcel Energy light poles.

**Supervisor Whitney:**

*Fire Department:* Mr. Whitney would like to meet with Chief Melzer to review a submitted list of budget items.

At the August membership meeting it was reported that the "Help Wanted" sign erected in front of the Emergency Services building is getting some responses, and the department set Saturday 7/9/22 for the annual Picnic in the Park.

*Transfer Site:* Eagle Waste delivered 2 additional waste containers for use during emergencies like power outages. Mr. Whitney ordered sleds as discussed for catching excess waste from under the compactors. The Fall brush day will be held 9AM-1PM on Sunday 9/26 at the Old Transfer Site. Cleanliness and reduction of the "Reuse" items is improving.

*Town Park:* Nothing new.

*Lions Club:* To be discussed under New Business.

*Bike Inc:* Nothing new.

**Supervisor Grimmer:**

*Planning Commission:* There was a good discussion on developing a Community Garden.

*Library:* Is working on their 2022 budget request. Average attendance for the Summer programs was 28 adults and 10 children.

*Lakes Committee:* There has been good use of the dissolved oxygen meter purchased this year and there was discussion on DNR grants available to lakes associations.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Both the Town and the Lakes Committee received a Thank You card from the three interns who worked with the Discovery Center on Aquatic Invasive Species. Clerk Wainio also received open records requests from Lee Stengele regarding ATV/UTV use on the bike path and Galen Brownell for copies of correspondence regarding Nuisance complaints, video recordings from the Transfer Site in July along with the report submitted to the Town from Delmore Consulting. Ms. Wainio delivered the written requests to the board noting that she could supply Mr. Brownell with the Delmore report as she had that in her possession, but the remainder of the requests would need to be handled by the board members.

**New Business**

2) *North Lakeland Discovery Center Update:* Emily Heald, Water Program Coordinator from the Discovery Center distributed written copies of the 2021 Lakes Management Study to the Town Board noting that a partnership was founded in 2010 between the Towns of Winchester, Manitowish Waters, Boulder Junction and

the Discovery Center to study Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in the area. Due to this partnership Winchester has a strategic plan in place manage our lakes for the future. All lakes were monitored in June for invasive species and then in August primarily for Purple Loosstrife. An intensive study is conducted on a rotational basis with North Turtle and Circle Lakes being studies in 2021. In 2022 Harris Lake and South Turtle will receive the intensive study. Additional in person and online AIS training for the public was held in 2021. A draft request for 2022 funding was presented and will be considered in the budget process.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sulo Wainio questioned whether the land referred to under item #5 of New Business was lake access property because the Town may be required to purchase alternate land to replace such access. Chairman Discianno answered the board was trying to determine the status of the land.

### **Old Business**

- 1) *Safety related maintenance lists*: After reviewing the list, the only things that appear to be critical at this time are replacement of the safety cones by the Transfer Site garage doors, further study on reducing the Winter slip hazard in the entry area of the Transfer Site and upgrading the compactor ramps to provide more grip.
- 2) *Division of Maintenance List Responsibilities*: Mr. Discianno will take on the HVAC, carpentry items and parking lot seal coating; Mr. Whitney will take on the electrical and landscaping projects; Mr. Grimmer will be responsible for the painting proposals. After discussing the holding tank in the Park with plumber Rob Schmidt, it is Mr. Whitney's belief that is cheaper for the Town to continue pumping out the tank annually than to invest in a riser or trying to determine where water is leaking into the tank.
- 3) *Electrical Maintenance List*: Discussed and determined under OB #2.
- 4) *HVAC contract*: Mr. Discianno presented proposal submitted by Quality Heating to maintain all of the heating units in the Town buildings. After discussion, Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve the contract with Quality Heating for annual maintenance of all Town HVAC units at a cost of \$5,040.00. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, and it was approved 3-0. Mr. Discianno will verify that we will only be liable for the Fall maintenance in 2021.

### **New Business**

- 1) No road/lane name changes.
- 2) *Discovery Center*: Dealt with earlier in meeting.
- 3) *Appointment of Broadband Committee Members*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve Jim Hochstetter, Dave Lull, Nicholas Newton, Nancy Johnson, and Gary Engstrom to a Winchester Broadband Committee with Mr. Grimmer as liaison to the Town, which Mr. Whitney seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.
- 4) *Picnic License application by Lions Club for Tailgate Party 10/17/21*: Correspondence received by Fire Chief Melzer from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Public Services advising against use of fire department facilities by any outside group was reviewed along with an offer from the Fire Department for use of only the drive-through bay rather than the original portion of the station. After discussion, Mr. Discianno made a motion to allow the Winchester Lions Club to use the "main" part of the fire department this year and this year only and going forward we come up with a better solution. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion. The motion carried, Discianno aye, Whitney aye, Grimmer aye. Mr. Grimmer made a motion to approve the Lions Club application for a picnic license 10/17/21. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion and all approved.
- 5) *Easement on or sale of town property*: Request by Cheryl Lowe tabled for further information.
- 6) *Operators License Applications*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve the applications of both Vanessa Embling and Nicolas Brown for Operators Licenses. Mr. Grimmer seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.
- 7) The next *2022 budget preparation* meeting will be held at 9:00AM Sep 20, 2021 at the Town Hall.
- 8) The board will meet with Don Melzer, Bill Sell and Joe Moll individually beginning at 8:00AM on 10/7/21 at the Town Hall to conduct *annual employee reviews*.
- 9) *Future Agenda Items*: Posting of minutes and website.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve July disbursements Liability Check (LC) Quick Books (QB) payroll service dated 7/1 to LC QB payroll service dated 7/30. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion. Approval 3-0. Mr. Discianno motion to approve August disbursements numbered DD1213 dated 8/2/21 through LC EFT062255 Wis Dept. of Revenue dated 8/31/21. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitney and approved 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan T. Wainio, Town Clerk