

**Minutes of the
May 24, 2021 Special Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Monday May 24, 2021 at the Winchester Municipal Building. Attending were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, Rebecca Nelson of the Northwoods Review, of WJFW Channel 12 News and numerous local residents. Due to an error by Clerk Wainio posting the Zoom link for the meeting an unknown number of people were not able to connect via the internet.

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

Old Business:

- 1) Culvert Installation Contract Approval: Supervisor Whitney questioned who would inspect the work on Completed, why the contract did not include any retainage, waivers on payments or liens? Chairman Discianno explained that no payments would be made until the work was completed so these requests were not necessary. After discussion Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to approve the contract for \$50,400 to include 10% retainage, a waiver of material on payment and lien on final payment. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which passed on a 3-0 vote.
- 2) Weekly Town Board Meetings until new supervisors get "up to speed": Chairman Discianno explained that the WI Towns Assn. online training both Mr. Whitney and Grimmer were enrolled in addressed these issues, and asked if either of them had completed the courses. Both men admitted they had not finished. Mr. Discianno stated the new supervisors must get the training and explained that he did not have time to participate in meetings every week. Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to hold meetings at the Town Hall twice during the months of June and July as follows: 6/7/21 and 6/21/21; 7/5/21 and 7/19/21; all at 7:00 P.M. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which passed 3-0.
Clerk Wainio will copy and distribute a copy of the current Employee Handbook explaining employee responsibilities to Mr. Whitney and Grimmer.
Although Supervisor Whitney stated his attitude that the public had no right to speak during "the Supervisors' Board Meetings" Chairman Discianno explained public participation plays an important role in the operation of the Town with good ideas coming from the process. Public comments will be taken from the floor before the Board begins their business.
During a discussion on how the Town can foster economic development, it was stated "this was up to the Chamber of Commerce". The Board was informed that Winchester's Chamber of Commerce folded before any of the three elected officials moved into town. Property owner Bernie Klotz, although not a full-time resident, offered his insight that more residents need follow his lead and invest in the community as he does by hiring only local people.
- 3) In order to assist the new supervisors prepare for the meetings in advance, Clerk Wainio will forward them additional financial reports as soon as practicable.
- 4) Town email system: It was explained that although the email system is only accessible by authorized Town officials, messages can be received from fraudulent sources.
- 5) Removal of public participation in Town Board meetings: No motions or official act taken.

Respectfully submitted
Joan T. Wainio
Town Clerk