

**Minutes of the
March 7, 2022 Winchester Town Board Meeting
Pending approval by the Town Board**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday March 7, 2022, at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer and Clerk Wainio. Supervisor Whitney and Treasurer Sell attended via Zoom. Candidate for Vilas County Judge David Overbey and reporter Joy Kohegi of the Northwoods Review were also in attendance.

Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022, meeting as presented and Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0.

Treasurer Sell read her report which Mr. Discianno moved to accept as given. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion. Motion to approve passed 3-0.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno thanked Town Crew members Joe Moll and Bill Sell for their work plowing the town roads this winter. Mr. Discianno will be attending the upcoming meeting 3/10 in Boulder Junction (BJ) on ATV/UTV usage in our area. JX Truck Center updated the progress of our ordered Peterbilt truck. At this point it will not go into production until the 4th quarter of 2022 or the 1st quarter of 2023. The new John Deere mower should be available the end of June or beginning of July 2022.

Supervisor Grimmer:

Planning Commission: The commission members will be receiving email accounts for the Town's email.

Broadband Committee: Is still having difficulty in getting support from Lumen.

Library: The survey is progressing well.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: No meeting was held in February. The application for a grant from Xcel on the re-lamping recently completed in the Fire Station is in the works

Transfer Site: Ace Equipment completed additional repairs on the recycle compactor, which should not be charged to the Town since we do not lease that equipment. A salvage company from Weston may be interested in the trailer the Town no longer needs.

Town Park, Bike Trails & Lions Club: Nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Grimmer received a sales letter from Kafka Equipment in Wausau regarding patrol trucks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Craig VanArk read a letter from concerned citizens of Winchester regarding concerns with the appointment process used by the Town Board in the recent appointments to the Planning Commission. Sharon Eichhorn echoed the sentiment expressed by Mr. VanArk asking what the Town Board would do.

OLD BUSINESS

1) *Road/Lane name changes:* None.

2) *Revised bid for Stand-by generator for Town Garage:* The revised bid was \$720 less and after discussion of the Town Crews' desires, Mr. Grimmer made a motion to accept the original bid of \$11,424.72 for the 18kw generator. Mr. Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Mr. Discianno then proceeded to New Business item #1 and introduced the candidate Daniel Overbey who proceeded to describe what he would like to accomplish if elected Vilas County Circuit Judge.

3) *Building maintenance repair projects:* Bids and specs for the proposed sprinkler system, landscaping projects, epoxy flooring for the Fire Dept. station floor, upgraded security cameras for the Transfer Site, air conditioning for the Town Hall with the possibility of replacing the Town Hall furnace in the process. More information on all these projects will be needed before any decisions can be made. After completion of the retrofit from fluorescent to LED lighting in the Fire Station main bay, it was discovered that we could have installed higher wattage bulbs producing better light output. Plier Power LLC proposed installing new cover kits in the Town Hall meeting room utilizing the 14-watt bulbs currently in the Fire Station, while upgrading the Fire Dept. lights to higher 24-watt bulbs. Mr. Whitney made a motion to accept Plier Power's bid of \$1825 to complete the Town Hall and Fire Station project. Mr. Grimmer seconded, and the motion passed 3-0.

4) *Community Gardens:* Mr. Grimmer reported that the Planning Commission is still considering locations and waiting for people to return to town this Spring for input.

5) *EMS Shared Services:* Manitowish Waters Chairman Jon Hanson wants to have another inter-town meeting to keep the dialogue going.

6) *Modifying levy limits*: The request to approach the State Legislature was initiated by the County Board. After a reading of resolution by Mr. Grimmer, Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the resolution as read. Mr. Whitney seconded, and the motion passed 3-0.

7) *Posting of agendas and minutes and delivery to Town Board*: Standardizing a procedure and format for agendas and minutes is in the works. The Town Board is requesting receipt of meeting minutes a week prior to the meeting for approval.

New Business

2) *Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*: Mr. Discianno is working with Darren of Delmore Consulting to proceed with the application process.

3) *Insurance Policy Review*: Mr. Grimmer would like to shop our current coverage and see if we can get a better premium through another insurer.

4) *Town Hall Storage Rooms*: Mr. Discianno will get information on shelving for the storage room.

5) *Audit of Town Books*: The board would like to review the report from the previous audit and be prepared to budget for an audit in 2023.

6) *Appointment of Glenn Goldschmidt as alternate to Planning Commission*: After discussion, Mr. Grimmer made a motion to appoint Glenn Goldschmidt as an alternate on the Planning Commission. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

7) *Update on Community Card from Associated Bank*: The account was approved, cards for Mr. Discianno and Ms. Wainio were approved. The board will develop a policy for use of the account.

8) *Internet & Wi-Fi updates and upgrades*: Mr. Grimmer will meet with Ty Rayala of Great Escape Technologies on Tuesday 3/8 at the Town Hall for a review of the current systems.

9) *Future Agenda Items*: Review of LRIP/TRID programs/QBS Process/Maintenance Lists/Patrol Truck build/Air Conditioning for Town Hall/Garage Lights.

At 7:46P.M. Mr. Discianno made a motion to go into closed session with the Fire Chief under SS19.85 (1)(c) to review performance with volunteer. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion. Mr. Discianno, Mr. Grimmer and Mr. Whitney all voted aye.

Mr. Discianno reconvened the meeting to open session at 8:57PM and reported that no action was taken in closed session. The board will meet in closed session under ss19.85 (1)(b) at the Town Hall on Wednesday 3/9/22 at 8:30 A.M.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve vouchers check #30263 dated 2/1/22 through EFT#062599 dated 2/28/22. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Wainio, Town Clerk