

**Minutes of the  
May 2, 2022 Winchester Town Board Meeting  
Pending approval by the Town Board**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday May 2, 2022, at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer and Supervisor Whitney. Clerk Wainio and Treasurer Sell attended via Zoom.

Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to approve the agenda at the discretion of the Chairman. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Whitney and approved on a 3-0 vote.

Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022 Town Board meeting which was seconded by Supervisor Whitney and approved 3-0.

Treasurer Sell read her report, Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the Treasurer report as given. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**

**Chairman Discianno:** The town crew is trying to repair the guardrail on Townsite Road by the dam, but will probably need to replace it. All town roads still have weight restrictions, Vilas County Hwy dept. announced that restrictions will be lifted on all County Roads south of K on 5/9; but not W, J, B, P or K in our area. The town crew is setting up the sweeper so they can begin clearing the sand spread on the roads this winter. Based on lake water levels, the boat landing docks and piers will start to be installed Thursday 5/5. Due to the delay in receipt of the Peterbilt Patrol truck we ordered, it appears a new sander will need to be ordered to replace the 9-year-old rusted unit currently in use on the orange Peterbilt at an approximate cost of \$5,000. The red pickup truck needs a new bed. Delmore Consulting will assist in preparing bid specs for our 2022 paving projects: Old W road, Townsite, approaches to the aprons of the new town garage and pad for mixing road salt and sand. The town crew will mark the locations for concrete pads for the new fuel tanks and generator. Refurbished signs for the library and Art LaHa South Turtle boat landing were installed by the town crew. Winchester will not receive and funds from the state local road improvement program (LRIP) this year. None of the adjoining towns were awarded any LRIP money this year either.

**Supervisor Whitney:**

*Fire Department:* Highlights of the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting: Ambulance was out of service for sway bar/front end repairs, the passed the annual inspections. Application for the DNR 50/50 grant was extended, the department expects to \$5500 on the purchase of \$11,000 in wildland firefighting gear. Picnic in the Park planning was tabled for further discussion; approximately \$4760 in donations were received from December 2021 through February 2022.

*Transfer Site:* Recycling vouchers were received from Vilas County, John Grimmer will get information on the program posted on the Town website under the Recycling/Transfer Site tab. The old semi-trailer is scheduled to be removed by 5/8, as soon as that happens Supervisor Whitney will get the dumpster in place. The board reviewed suggestions for changes to the disposal fee schedule Mr. Whitney distributed.

*Park:* Mr. Whitney requested the town crew remove the chains from the gates and bathroom doors so he can request contractors look at the faucets, toilets, lamps, exhaust fans etc.

*Bike Trails & Lions Club:* Nothing to report.

**Supervisor Grimmer:**

*Library:* Responses are coming back to the library.

*Planning Commission:* Did not meet in April

*Broadband Committee:* Bright speed submitted a grant application with no negative responses. Supervisor Grimmer shared a map showing the section of Winchester covered and is cautiously optimistic the grant will be awarded. Mr. Grimmer indicated that another area of the map showed Verizon proposed upgrades. Both projects had price tags in excess of \$2 million and costs above grant requests were to be absorbed by the telecommunication company with no expense to the Town.

*Lakes Committee:* The Lakes Committee met in April. Rolf Ethun introduced the new Discovery Center water coordinator Jamie Van.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Craig VanArk presented the board with a survey conducted during the month of March at Ye Olde Shillelagh regarding the use of Circle Lily Road by various sports enthusiasts. Mr. Grimmer noted a letter requesting information on the Planning Commission sent by Mike Potts, stating it may be a future agenda item. Joan Wainio shared a letter received from the League of Women Voters thanking the election board for their hard work and commitment to election integrity. Mr. Whitney will follow up on telephone calls received from Island View Road property owners regarding a tree located on private property that is threatening to fall into the roadway.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Upon questioning by Craig VanArk, Supervisor Grimmer clarified the resolution made recently requesting the WI Legislature relax the perimeters allowing Town government to increase the tax levy. Chairman Discianno agreed with Mr. VanArk that the Town's utility costs have risen due to the escalation of natural gas, fuel oil, etc. and will be comparing expenses to the past.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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

10) *Patrol Truck Buildup*: Chris Heinzen of JX Truck (JX) reported that production is still behind and we cannot expect delivery of the Peterbilt chassis before late 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023 or early in the second quarter of 2023. The price estimate of \$118,000 - \$122,000 still appears in line, however at the higher end.

9) *Ambulance & Engine #1*: Chairman Discianno asked Mr. Heinzen about the possibility of ordering the chassis for the fire engine direct from JX and completing the build like the plow truck. Chris indicated that there would be no difference in pricing or delivery by buying the chassis through JX or Pomasl. Chief Melzer answered questions about the need to purchase an ambulance with only 28,000 miles explaining the current vehicle is 15 years old, has had multiple problems over the years including the recent replacement of the front sway bars. A special meeting will be set to continue this discussion.

2) *Building Maintenance Repair Projects*: Transfer Site overhead door repair/replacement was tabled. The epoxy flooring bid will be published now that Mr. Whitney has completed the specifications. Supervisor Whitney suggested use of a "handyman" for inside jobs like adding receptacle or fixing wiring. Both Chairman Discianno and UDC Inspector Rick Clem responded the Town was required to hire a commercially licensed Master Electrician. Mr. Whitney will meet with representatives of the companies chosen to do caretaking at the Community Building, install the irrigation system and landscaping at the Emergency Services Building (E.S.). Mr. Discianno verified the location of septic fields on the E.S. property. Wisconsin Coating Specialists will inspect the sidewalks of the Community Building to propose epoxy coating.

3) *EMS Shared Service*: This is a continued discussion between the Towns of Boulder Jct, Presque Isle, Manitowish Waters and Winchester. It has been determined this will probably be funded through an inter-governmental agreement. The next meeting will not be set until MW Chair John Hanson finalizes the proposed agreement. Winchester EMT Steve Herzberg commented that the overall goal of this proposal is to get patients care as quickly as possible with people with the right training level.

4) *Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)*: After further research into the program with area engineers, it was determined that the requirements of everything from application to use of the funds were too involved for a small town like Winchester to take advantage of.

6) *Winchester Boat Parade July 2<sup>nd</sup>*: Mr. Discianno noted that the Lions Club will take care of the food and made a motion to set July 2<sup>nd</sup> as the date for the 2022 Winchester Boat Parade. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

7) *Town Audit*: Clerk Wainio will present the findings of the previous audit performed in 2017 by May 7<sup>th</sup>.

8) *American Rescue Act report due April 30<sup>th</sup>*: Clerk Wainio submitted the report before the deadline but will need involvement of the Town Board in the upcoming months to comply with the federal requirements.

5) *Joint Papoose Lake Ordinance*: Chairman Discianno reported that after making minor adjustments to the ordinance, the Town Board of Presque Isle approved the ordinance on 4/23/22. Supervisor Grimmer explained that Winchester needs to pass an ordinance with the same language as Presque Isle in order to enact a joint ordinance controlling the Papoose Lake body of water at which time the ordinance will be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WIDNR) for review. Mr. Grimmer made a motion to adopt the language of subchapter 505 Motorboats and Winchester Joint ordinance Town of Presque Isle and Winchester. Mr. Discianno seconded the motion and it was approved with all supervisors, Discianno, Grimmer and Whitney voting aye. After questions were raised by members of the Planning Commission (PC) present at the meeting Mr. Grimmer stated that since the PC had not completed the ordinance within 30 days of the request the governing body may proceed without input from the PC.

## **NEW BUSINESS.**

4) *West Circle Lily Road as an ATV/UTV route*: Mr. Discianno introduced Rich Hajt, the President of the Winchester/Manitowish Waters ATV Club. Mr. Hajt answered questions and described efforts being made to work with the Towns of Manitowish Waters and Winchester to provide safe viable plans to offer residents access to trails outside of their towns.

*Projects*: Will be tabled until it is determined if there is a process that makes sense.

1) *Spring Brush Days*: Brush no larger than 3" inches in diameter will be accepted at the old Winchester Transfer Site on South Turtle Road between 9AM and 1PM on Saturday 5/14 and Sunday 5/22.

2) *Engineering Certificate from MSA*: The fee from MSA Professional Services to supply an engineering certificate for the Old Hwy O project completed in 2021 would be \$2500. Sulo Wainio suggested that Pitlik and Wick may be able to supply names of additional qualified providers. Mr. Grimmer made a motion that if Pitlik &

Wick cannot supply an engineering certificate for less than \$2500, the Town go with MSA for \$2500. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

- 3) *Board of Review Date:* Will be held Wednesday June 29 beginning 9:00AM at the Winchester Town Hall.
- 5) *Operator's License approval:* Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve the application for an Operator's License for Christian Krull at WinMan Trails pending receipt of all documents and payment of the \$5 fee. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Grimmer and approved by all.
- 6) *Future Agenda Items:* Maintenance project list, Harris Lake Camp Mishikee Shores deed restrictions, updates to disposal fee schedule.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve vouchers Quick Books DD 1388 dated 4/1 through Liability check Quick Books Payroll Service dated 4/29/22. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38PM  
Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Wainio, Town Clerk