

**Minutes of the
June 7, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:56PM on Monday June 7, 2021 at Winchester Municipal Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, and Treasurer Sell.

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 May 3, 13 and 24, 2021 which was seconded by Mr. Whitney and approved unanimously. Mr. Discianno made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read, Mr. Grimmer seconded and the vote to approve was 3-0.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno:

E.S. Building: Lakes State Roofing will install ice guards on the Fire Dept. drive-through bay in June or July. The new range for the kitchen was installed thanks to the assistance of past supervisor Galen Brownwell.

Brunell & Strebe Roads: Pitlik & Wick crack sealed which was scheduled to be completed last year.

Town Garage & Crew: Aili Concrete poured the aprons on 6/4 and in the process cut the telephone line to the garage which had not been marked. CenturyLink was contacted and will fix. Town crew has been running gravel to fill potholes on the gravel roads which they then grade with the belly blade of our plow trucks.

Library: Joe & Dorla Osfar donated four flowering crab trees to be planted in the Memorial Garden by the town crew in memory of Ruth Allis, Thelma Fairbanks, Marge Engel, and June Duranso.

Bike Trails Inc. (BTI): Started work on planting of the berm on Hwy W in front of the old garages.

Supervisor Grimmer:

Lakes Committee: Discovery Center will be holding Clean Boats, Clean Waters training. Emily Heald has more information. Town Lake Management Plan was reviewed, the Town website and Library will be given copies. Steve Budnik and Gary Engstrom are in custody of the Dissolved Oxygen Meter purchased by the Town and are conducting training on use of the meter.

Planning Commission: Jay Woolf is working on historical properties within the township. Ideas to encourage economic development were discussed.

Library: Has adopted a long-range plan, new hand-crafted shelving constructed by Joe Osfar was installed. The library board is considering showing movies at the park pavilion this summer.

Cemetery Assn: New signage is being installed including a plaque to honor the Baeseman family for their donation of land over the years.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: No report.

Transfer Station: Fees collected at the site were given to Treasurer Sell.

Met with Don Melzer and reviewed operations and responsibilities.

BTI: Was advised by Dale White and Mike Albrecht of EAU that the DNR does not require bicycles to obey stop signs, and the required umbrella policy between the DNR and EAU holds the Town of Winchester harmless. The DNR granted BTI permission to utilize ATVs and UTVs on the bike paths to maintain these paths with a requirement to display triangular caution signage. BTI made a verbal agreement to refrain from doing maintenance work before 8AM. Plantings on the berm were modified to allow snowmobile access and grooming of the trail along Hwy W into the commercial property at 6683 County W which has been in existence for over 22 years. Dale White informed Mr. Whitney that Eugene Schellinger agreed to the change to his property access at the intersection of Brunell Road and County W. Galen Brownwell was involved in the conversations between Eugene Schellinger (now deceased) and BTI and invited Mr. Whitney to meet and follow up on the situation because the problems have not been corrected. Aerial views from 2015 and 2020 corroborate the problems now being caused by the changes made to Schellinger's access. Mr. Whitney requested this be added to a future agenda.

Lions Club: Lions Club volunteers started the staining projects at the Town Park 6/7 and will continue 6/14. Mr. Whitney thanked the volunteers.

Correspondence:

Mr. Discianno received a letter from Vilas County Sheriff's Department regarding shortage of deputies this Summer. Mr. Grimmer provided a copy of the Town Sign Ordinance to a contractor whose signs were removed from Harris Lake and County W. Mr. Grimmer assured the contractor that they were not removed by the town.

Mr. Grimmer also received a request for the town to check the boat landing on Harris Lake. After being advised the town crew would check the landing, Galen Brownwell requested the crew also check the landing on Birch Lake.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

Lee Stengel questioned whether other private businesses would be allowed to use town facilities like Chairman Discianno is allowing Birchfield Nurseries to use a town garage for storage of equipment while landscaping the berm at Brunell & County W. Mr. Discianno has decided to hold off on Kling Rd repairs until after the town sees what Bren Hartinger is doing on his property although the town spent a lot of funds and time prepping that road in 2020 for 2021 repairs. The board still has not completed their road inspections. This will be discussed under New Business #4. Paul Lewandowski questioned why Joint Ordinance #506 was not listed on the Winchester website although #505 is listed.

Old Business

- 1) Joint Boat Ordinance with Presque Isle (PI): After discussion of differences between Presque Isle's and Winchester's boating ordinances affecting Papoose Lake which lies within both townships, Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to have the Planning Commission review in detail a request of the Papoose Lake Association that the Town of Winchester sign Presque Isle's ordinance subchapters 505 and 506 with our own numbering and paragraph system unless there is a specific reason not to. Since a second to the motion was not made this subject was tabled for more information.
- 2) Town Park Projects: Cory & Maymee Seigner's schedule does not allow them to take on the requests/suggestions by the Lions Club, but a 3-part plan is being developed by Curt Yenchik(sp) which will be presented to the Lions Club for consideration by their anonymous donor. At that point, the proposed plan will be brought to the Town for review.
- 3) Town Facilities use: Mr. Grimmer has reviewed the policies of neighboring towns and discussed possible Town liabilities with our insurer including adding a hold harmless clause to any rental agreements. Mr. Grimmer will bring back his ideas on ways to streamline the process and build new policies for facilities usage.

New Business

- 1) No road/lane name changes.
- 2) Adoption of Ordinance 2021-03: Clerk Wainio read aloud Ordinance 2021-03. After discussion Ordinance 2021-03 was adopted unanimously as follows: John Grimmer, aye; Supervisor Whitney, aye; Chairman Discianno, aye.
- 3) Crack Sealing estimate from Vilas County: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to accept Vilas County Highway Department's estimate to crack seal approximately nine miles of town roads at a cost of \$29,541.07. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 2-0.
- 4) 2021 Road Paving Projects: Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to advertise the 2021 Road Project List as developed by Delmore Consulting in both the Lakeland Times and the Ironwood Daily Globe. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0.
- 5) Increase size of Library Board: Mr. Grimmer made a motion to increase the size of the Winchester Library Board from 5-7. Mr. Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.
- 6) Broadband Topic: Mr. Discianno made a motion to post request for volunteers to serve on a Broadband Committee. After Mr. Whitney's second the motion was approved 3-0.
- 7) Monitor vs. projector for Town Hall: After discussion, Mr. Grimmer was directed to purchase a bracket for the TV "inherited" from the library.
- 8) Sign placement request by Northwoods Land Trust (NWLTL): Chairman Discianno made a motion to deny the request by NWLTL to erect a sign informational sign at West Harris Lake Road & Serenity Lane. Supervisor Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve vouchers 29921-29960. Mr. Grimmer seconded. Approved 3-0.

Chairman Discianno adjourned the meeting at 9:08PM

Respectfully submitted
Joan Wainio
Town Clerk