

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2020 TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF WINCHESTER, VILAS COUNTY**

Pending Approval from the Town Board

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Monday September 7, 2020 at the Winchester Municipal Building. Attending were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Brownwell, Supervisor Wainio, Clerk Wainio, Treasurer Sell via Zoom; Rolf Ethun representing the Lakes Committee, and town residents both in person and via Zoom.

Supervisor Brownwell moved to accept the agenda at the discretion of the Chair, seconded by Supervisor Wainio. The motion was approved 2-0.

Minutes of the July 22, August 13, and August 27, 2020 special meetings along with the August regular board meetings were approved 3-0 on a motion made by Supervisor Brownwell and seconded by Supervisor Wainio.

Supervisor Wainio motioned to approve the Treasurer's report as given by Treasurer Sell. Supervisor Brownwell seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS:

Supervisor Brownwell

Transfer Site: Supervisor Brownwell presented \$190.00 in disposal fees to Clerk Wainio for Treasurer Sell to deposit and reminded everyone that this service will be ending for the season by early October. New signs will be made to differentiate the metal and electronics bins. The final brush day for the season will be held Sunday October 11th from 9AM-1PM.

Lakes Committee: The Conterra report and new reps to the committee are agenda items. The next lakes to be surveyed are Pardee and Circle Lily. Questions were raised about utilizing a cleared area along Papoose Lake Road for parking vehicles and launching canoes and kayaks. That site was improved, and a dry hydrant was installed at the location by the Winchester Fire Dept. to access water for fire suppression. The location is not to be used for lake access by the public and signage is posted there with this information along with a notice that it is a tow-away zone.

Bike Path: Problems caused by the construction of the bike path along Hwy W are being addressed. Vilas County Highway Commissioner Nick Scholtes will be in the area to survey how the water was diverted along the route. If the normal water flow has been disrupted in any way that will need to be corrected.

Supervisor Wainio

Cemetery Committee: Held their annual meeting 8/12 and decided to increase the cost of plots to be consistent with the surrounding Towns. New signage will be installed banning dogs and activities like skate boarding. Benches will only be allowed in an area around the flagpole and anything done at the cemetery has to be within the dimensions of the owner's plot.

Fire Department: Trained on water shuttle operations in July at Pardee Lake with the cooperation of a landowner. The department wants to remind all landowners to keep all driveways cleared to access the property for any emergency call, or response time may be reduced. There were multiple ambulance calls including mutual aid for the surrounding towns.

The Planning Commission August meeting held via Zoom discussed and worked on proposing an ordinance to allow ATV/UTV, and slow-moving vehicles on town roads, but nothing is ready to present to the Town Board.

Chairman Discianno

The Town Crew is requesting internet access at the new garage and a computer to use for ordering supplies. The crew has cleaned up the garage property and the Fire Department will be picking up the trailer that had been used to transport the mower. Ron Behnke completed the workbench in the new garage.

Don Melzer will be using the red pick-up to move appliances and other items to Hwy G for disposal instead of his own vehicle. After the Labor Day weekend there was an overflow of garage at the transfer site. Don Melzer contacted Eagle Waste on Thursday 9/3 advising of the situation

The Town will hire someone to remove a dying tree that is threatening a home next to town property along W. Birch Lake Road.

Austin of Pitlik & Wick will correct the placement of the handicap parking spot at the Emergency Services building (E.S.Bldg.) by the Town Office.

Messages have been left for BJ Bauers regarding the bad photocell on the bridge lights and the request to install a dusk to dawn sensor on the entrance light to the Town Office. The Town will be looking at options rather than replacing the rotten boards on the Turtle Lake bridge façade.

The tree being donated by Reinders will soon be planted with funds donated by the Lions Club.

A letter was sent to the property at 7763 Townsite Road informing the owners of violations to the Town Nuisance Ordinance.

Mike Bantz presented a sign he made and is donating to the Town notifying Transfer Site users of holidays the Transfer Site will be closed. The Board and meeting participants thanked Mr. Bantz for his donation.

Correspondence: A Thank You card and note was received from the intern who worked on the lakes surveys expressing his appreciation for the opportunity to work with the Town and Discovery Center on the project. Several letters and emails have been received regarding the proposed ATV/UTV and Slow-Moving Vehicle ordinances. Whether delivered to the Planning Commission, individual Town Board members or the Town Office, they have been distributed to all Town Board members for their review and are available at the Town Office for the public. Input has been received from registered voters, non-resident landowners, businesspeople, and non-residents with questions and opinions both for and against the use of town roads in this manner.

New Business

6) *New Flagpoles:* At 7:25 PM Chairman Discianno, Supervisors Brownwell and Wainio moved outside to determine the location of the new flagpoles which were purchased and received.

Old Business

1) *No road/lane changes*

2) *Town Garage:* The crew found sufficient material to repair the North Wall of the garage.

Chairman Discianno has contacted and will continue to contact various vendors regarding the potential for cement entryways at the garage. This will probably not be completed until 2021.

A&B Construction is ready to begin constructing the salt shed. They have contracted with Thrasher to compact the site and will compact the gravel driveways for the garage while they are here.

3) *Ice Control at E.S. Bldg.:* We are trying to get someone from CustaFoam in Mauston here to install the controls. If not available, Lakeland Roofing is looking for someone in the area to do the job.

4) *Maintenance Agreement with Bike Trails Inc. (BTI):* Chairman Discianno has emailed the concerns discussed to Attorney Greg Harrold for review and transmission to BTI.

5) *COVID-19 restrictions:* Supervisor Wainio made a motion to continue the restrictions put into place in March. Chairman Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

6) *Road Management Consultant:* Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to accept the proposal from Delmore Consulting for all 4 items at a cost of \$15,500 for the initial year. Supervisor Wainio seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

7) *Annual Meeting Date:* Supervisor Wainio made a motion to hold the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Town of Winchester at 7:00 PM on Monday October 19, 2020 at the Winchester Town Hall. Supervisor Brownwell seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

New Business

1) *New Lakes Committee Reps:* Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to approve the appointment of the following representatives to the Lakes Committee: Blaze Burton, Adelaide Lake; and John Grimmer, Harris Lake. Supervisor Wainio seconded the motion. Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Brownwell & Supervisor Wainio all voted aye.

2) *Joint Papoose Lake ordinances with Presque Isle (P.I.):* Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to send P.I. Joint Ordinance 505 and 506 to the Planning Commission for review and revision. Chairman Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

3) *Comprehensive Lake Management Plan:* Because this document is 89 pages long and the result of 6 years work, Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to table this in order that the Board can review it properly. Supervisor Wainio seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0.

4) *Loan Application for Fire Dept Tanker:* Supervisor Brownwell read the preamble and resolution to borrow \$100,000.00 from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands for 10 years at 3% interest. Supervisor Wainio made the motion to approve the resolutions approving and authorizing an application for the loan and to levy taxes sufficient to pay the annual installments of principal and interest which Chairman Discianno seconded.

Chairman Discianno voted aye, Supervisor Brownwell voted aye and Supervisor Wainio voted aye.

Motion passed unanimously.

5) *Sale of liquor license to the Town of Presque Isle*: Both Chairman Discianno and Clerk Wainio were approached by the individual interested in procuring a "Class B" liquor license for use at a property in P.I. Chairman Discianno also had a conversation with the P.I. Town Chairman on the subject, however a formal request has not been received from the Town Board of P.O. Supervisor Wainio made a motion to table until the Town Board of Presque Isle acts on the matter. Supervisor Brownwell seconded, motion to table passed 3-0.

7) *Offer to paint old Town Garages*: After discussion including problems with painting the metal siding on one of the garages, Supervisor Wainio made a motion to table. Chairman Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

8) *Inspection & Inventory of Town Assets*: After a drive around town, Supervisor Wainio suggested that the Town Board needs to assess the property and equipment owned by the Town, including boat landings and necessary upgrades, requesting the County Forester determine what timber cutting is in order, possible consideration of trading land with the DNR, etc. All agreed this was a good suggestion and will set a date to proceed in the future.

9) *Black Bins stored at old Recycling Site*: Rather than leaving these items sit in the sun and deteriorate, they will be moved to the Transfer Site on County W for use in the trailer, or possible sale.

10) *2021 Budget*: The Town Board will meet at 8:00 AM on Wednesday September 16th at the Town Hall to begin work on the 2021 budget.

11) *Future Agenda Items*: Moving fuel tank at Town Garage, input from townspeople on ATV/UTV/SMV ordinances, findings of town property assessment including possible property swap(s)

Chairman Discianno moved to adjourn to public participation at 8:36PM. Supervisor Brownwell seconded, approved by all.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:53PM on a motion by Chairman Discianno, seconded by Supervisor Brownwell and approved 3-0.

Supervisor Wainio made a motion to approve vouchers QB Payroll 8/3 through EFT0745 totaling \$146,234.20. Supervisor Brownwell seconded the motion, approved 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Wainio, Town Clerk