

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 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, January 6, 2020. Attending were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Brownwell, Supervisor Wainio, Treasurer Sell, Clerk Wainio, 7 residents and reporter Kayla Houp of the Lakeland Times newspaper.

Supervisor Wainio moved to accept the agenda at the discretion of the Chair which was approved 3-0 after being seconded by Supervisor Brownwell.

Chairman Discianno made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 16, 20 and 23rd meetings. Supervisor Wainio seconded, which was approved 3-0.

Supervisor Wainio moved to accept the Treasurer's report as ready by Treasurer Geri Sell. Supervisor Brownwell made the second. The motion was approved 3-0.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS:

Supervisor Brownwell

Library: The Library Board did not meet in December. Supervisor Brownwell commended Librarian Betty Forster for the programs she arranged over the past year.

Transfer Site: The scheduled Landfill Venture Group meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

Miscellaneous: Supervisor Brownwell will attend a culvert seminar put on by the Vilas County Highway Dept. on Wednesday January 15th in Eagle River.

Supervisor Wainio

LRIP: The request for funding assistance under the Local Road Improvement Program to repave Old O from Bucks Road to the Town Park was approved. The Town will receive \$25,288.38 from the State of Wisconsin on this \$182,000 project, leaving the Town's cost around \$156,712.

Cemetery Committee: No report.

Fire Department: The department responded to multiple calls in the past month. Two members are enrolled in the EMT class at Nicolet College. One member attending is taking for the first time, the other as a refresher.

Planning Commission: Awaiting the ordinances written by the Planning Commission in October on buoys, electronic payments from Town Treasury, and destruction of public records. Due to changes in State statutes, Supervisor Wainio recommended the Town Board refer some ordinances be sent back to the Planning Commission to review and update.

Chairman Discianno

New Website: Hopefully the new website should be completed and functional by February.

Municipal Parking Lot: Chairman Discianno is still working on a proposed schematic for the lot.

Salt Shed: It was determined that the membrane covering needs to be non-combustible or flame resistant. This will add an extra \$2,500 - \$3,000 to the construction cost.

Miscellaneous:

Chairman Discianno has requested information from Ben Peck of Earthworks Excavating for estimates on the cost to install culverts.

The Vilas County Zoning Committee approved the amendment to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance regarding Boathouses as presented to the Town Board by Chuck Hayes on 12/2/2019, but still needs approval by the entire Vilas County Board of Supervisors.

Chairman Discianno closed the snowmobile route on Town Shed Road and moved access to the right-of-way on the West side of County W after discussion with Cory Siegner and Dale Mayo.

A few items need to be purchased for the Town Garage that were on the original bid from Athens Lumber like paper towel holders, toilet paper holders and a mirror for the bathroom.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Discianno read an email complaint on snowplowing received from Jeff Neely asking the Town to re-thing our snowplowing procedures. Chairman Discianno feels the Town Crew is doing an outstanding job plowing. Supervisor Brownwell suggested that one member of the crew possibly work later to sand or re-plow problem areas being mindful of maximum hours allowed behind the wheel per day. Supervisor Wainio shared correspondence received from Coleman Engineering regarding their initial investigation into upgrading the South Turtle Lake boat landing. An informational correspondence on Oak Wilt will be available for the public at the Library.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road/lane name changes: None to report.

New Town Garage: The boiler has been vented, but not completed in the new garage. Phase One took care of the door closers, sweeps, etc. and have installed the sleeve for the PTAC unit. The electricians still have the CO detector and timer control for the make-up air unit. Chairman Discianno will check with the electricians on the possibility of installing a motion detector for the light on the North side of the garage. The Town Crew will need to keep both the windows and gas meter located on the West side of the building clear of snow falling off the roof. Lee Stengele commented that in his quest to obtain internet service at his house adjacent to the new Town Garage, State Senator Tom Tiffany contacted the WI Public Service Commission which reported that CenturyLink would not upgrade the telephone box at County W&K at this time, so service would not be available to either the Town Garage or Mr. Stengele's house could not provide it to either the Town Garage or his home at this time. Chairman Discianno will make phone calls to check on available grants to expand Broadband coverage to that area. Chairman Discianno will contact Giovannoni's for clarify their recent billing for HVAC work at the garage.

Birch Lake Buoys: Chairman Discianno signed the revised Birch Lake buoy applications approved at the July 1, 2019 Town Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinances: Supervisor Wainio noted that the Town Board had not yet received copies of the ordinances requested from the Planning Commission in October. After noting that there have been changes in State Statutes which effect some of the Town's ordinances, Supervisor Wainio made a motion to send the Town Ordinances back to the Planning Commission to review and correct as needed. Supervisor Brownwell seconded, motion approved 3-0.

Cluster Mailbox Replacement: The current mailboxes are old, outdated, take up a lot of space, and are in a poor location. After discussion, Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to table any action since what we have is functional, seconded by Supervisor Wainio. Motion approved 2-0.

Lighting Update: After looking at some estimates Chairman Discianno received on replacement of the fluorescent fixtures in the Town Meeting room and original portion of the Fire Station, Supervisor Wainio made a motion to table the subject until more information was obtained on retrofitting the current fixtures. Chairman Discianno seconded, approved 3—0.

Future Agenda Items: Special meeting with Fire Dept. Chief Melzer to review specific desires/needs for a new tanker; closer consideration of either Peterbilt, Western Star and International trucks for purchase to replace the 2010 Peterbilt currently being used by the Town; developing a road plan for 2020 based on the monies available; Noseum Boat Landing repairs to bring it up to useable condition.

The meeting was adjourned to Public Participation at 7:50PM on a motion by Supervisor Wainio, seconded by Supervisor Brownwell with unanimous approval.

Concern over enforcement of ordinances was raised by both Dick Smith and Lee Stengele including the need for the Town Board to be fully informed of the ordinances in place so that they can be enforced. The public was also reminded that they need to inform the Town Board, the County Sheriff and DNR if violations are observed. Upon questioning it was explained that reinstating the position of Town Constable was not feasible due to the training required and the cost.

The meeting was reconvened to open session at 8:18 PM on a motion by Chairman Discianno, seconded by Supervisor Wainio.

Supervisor Brownwell made a motion to approve the November 2019 disbursements, seconded by Supervisor Wainio, approved 3-0.

Supervisor Wainio made a motion to approve the December 2019 disbursements, seconded by Supervisor Brownwell, also approved 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21PM on a motion by Supervisor Wainio, seconded by Supervisor Brownwell.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Wainio, Town Clerk