

**Minutes of the
May 3, 2021 Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 7:04PMM on Monday May 3, 2021 at Winchester Municipal Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, Treasurer Sell plus 40+ members of the public both in person and via Zoom.

Supervisor Whitney made a motion to amend the agenda as published to have public comments after correspondence and limit them to one minute per speaker. Chairman Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, March 11, April 3, and April 22, 2021 as published on the website. Supervisor Whitney made a motion to amend the minutes of the April 22nd meeting to show that Supervisor Whitney, not Supervisor Grimmer would be the "go to" person for Bike Trails, Inc.

Supervisor Grimmer made a motion to accept the minutes of the 4/22/21 meeting as amended. Chairman Discianno seconded the motion. Motion was approved 3-0. No action was taken on the 3/1, 3/11 and 4/3 meetings since neither Mr. Grimmer nor Whitney were present.

Chairman Discianno made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Supervisor Grimmer

Library: Will be re-opening with limited hours and enhanced health procedures on 5/6/21. The Library Board will meet on 5/20.

Lakes Committee: Requested a review of the building use policy. This will be discussed as an agenda item. The Discovery Center has magnets available reminding of lake use best practices. The Lakes Committee and Onterra have completed a lakes management plan for the 7 major lakes in the township and would like to determine how to make it a living document. The Discovery Center has posted the plan online and the Town has a hard copy.

Planning Commission: Jay Woolf and several citizens are discussing historical sites in the town. The draft Land Use Plan is on the Town website for review before the hearing 6/7. Members have requested guidance from the Town Board on whether to pursue the position of an Ordinance Enforcement Officer and the best way to promote Winchester going forward.

Cemetery: The Cemetery Association will meet 6/12.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: Electronically introduced himself to Chief Melzer and toured the station with Cory Siegner.

Transfer Station: Met with Don Melzer and reviewed operations and responsibilities.

Bike Trails, Inc: Dale White made him aware of the planting schedule on the berm along County W.

Lions Club: Met with Nancy Johnson and Betty Forster to discuss the club's planned projects there and supplies needed. After inspecting the park and visiting the parks in Manitowish Waters, Mercer, and Boulder Junction he feels a lot of maintenance needs to be done. He will add suggestions for the park during the discussion of future agenda items.

Chairman Discianno: Boat docks will be installed at the landings soon. The Town Crew are prepping a site for the new fuel tanks, along with the graveled areas for concrete aprons to be poured by Aili Concrete as contracted by the previous Board, started on road sweeping, straightening road signs, cutting trees and other Spring projects. The Town Crew and Fire Dept are working together to install the new flagpoles along County W. Vilas County Highway Dept will be doing tree cutting along Hwy W on either side of our driveways as agreed last year and will be repaving a section of County W south of County O. Dale White requested Joe Discianno be a liaison between the Town and WinMan Trails to keep the town abreast of the facilities plans.

Correspondence: Atty. Harrold forwarded a copy of Bike Trails, Inc. (BTI) response to a request September 10, 2020 from the Winchester Town Board for a review of the land use agreement between BTI and Winchester. The BTI board does not believe any amendment(s) are needed. BTI's primary concern is the safety of the users of the bike trail but have advised their workers to limit maintenance operations between 8AM and 5PM weekdays and refrain from work on Sunday.

A thank you letter from Librarian Betty Forster for the attention the Town Crew gives to the Library was read.

Mr. Discianno read a letter from Winchester property owner and Presque Isle Town Supervisor Carl Wolter commending the Winchester Town Board's forward thinking in passing the ATV/UTV ordinance citing the positive impact it would have for tourism and the economy, promising his cooperation to link the Towns of LandO'Lakes, Presque Isle, and Winchester to the trails in Iron County.

A letter from the Township of Marenisco, MI was shared regarding the update to their land use plan along with a letter from WE Energies requesting information on upcoming Winchester road projects so that all possible utility relocations are considered.

New Business

Chairman Discianno changed the order of the agenda to open the bids received for the installation of culverts to allow the representatives of Snow Country Contracting and Howard Bros. in attendance to depart at their leisure.

Snow Country Contracting:

Project 1: \$34,700	Project 2: \$44,920	Project 3: \$37,200	Total: \$116,820
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------

Howard Bros:

Project 1: \$37,376	Project 2: \$51,588	Project 3: \$47,715	Total: \$136,770
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------

Musson:

Project 1	Project 2:	Project 3:	Total: \$112,000
-----------	------------	------------	------------------

Ruotsala Construction:

Project 1: \$14,200	Project 2: \$18,200	Project 3: \$16,000	Total: \$48,400
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----------------

Pitlik & Wick:

Project 1: \$46,250	Project 2: \$80,550	Project 3: \$72,250	Total: \$199,050
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------

FA Industrial, Iron River MI

Project 1: \$57,677	Project 2: \$95,306	Project 3: \$77,317	Total: \$230,300
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------

The following discounts will be given if all projects are awarded to FA:

Project 1: (\$2,000)	Project 2: (\$4,000)	Project 3: (\$2,000)	Adjusted Total: \$222,300
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	---------------------------

Chairman Discianno then announced that no decision would be made until after the board was able to review and discuss the bids received.

At 7:35PM Chairman Discianno opened the meeting to public comment advising that each speaker needed to introduce themselves and limit their speaking to 1 minute.

1) Maymee Siegner introduced herself as a full-time resident since 2015 after visiting the area for over 30 years. She and her husband Cory are small business owners and active members of the community through their active membership in the Fire Dept and the Sno-Bunnies snowmobile club. She expressed her concern with the divide being caused in the town by the current board realizing that change is scary but necessary to move forward. Other areas have proven that silent and motor sports have proven they can co-exist and begged the board to keep the ATV/UTV ordinance in place until March 2022 and review it then as scheduled.

2) Craig VanArk asked Supervisor Whitney, a resident on Papoose Lake, how the 200 ft buffer from boats, boat docks and shorelines would affect water skiing and tubing on that lake under the joint ordinance with Presque Isle which is a subject under Old Business on the agenda and being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Mr. Whitney expressed that he had not yet reviewed the ordinance and could not answer.

3) Marjean Schuelke, a 30-year property owner and 17-year full-time resident expressed her desire that the Town Board repeal the ATV/UTV ordinance per the results of the survey sent to all property owners of the Town. She noted that several political signs from the April 6th election are still up and need to be removed per SS 12.04.

4) Sulo Wainio, past Town Supervisor, business owner and full-time resident for over 22 years encouraged the Town Board to look out for the best interests of the entire Town in their decision making. As a seasonal resident of North Turtle Lake since 1961 he compared Winchester to Oma "that void between Mercer & Hurley" which has been steadily declining. He asked the new board if it were going to repeal the ATV/UTV ordinance without even giving it a chance because they were afraid it would work that you want to kill it before it even starts?

5) Craig VanArk explained the 4 steps the Planning Commission looks at when a topic is raised. 1) If there are prejudicial underlining tones they need to be addressed. 2) Do we agree that tourism is a bloodline for the community? 3) Do we support all facets of tourism? The answer to the first 3 questions on the subject of the ATV/UTV ordinance were no, yes, and yes which brings the commission to question 4) Is the decision being made prejudiced? If not, everything falls into place.

6) Pat Rose, a grandmother, great-grandmother who now lives full-time on Papoose Lake Rd in part of the old Totem Pole Lodge requested the Town Board to repeal the ATV/UTV ordinance because Papoose Lake Rd is a dangerous road for cars, must less ATVs and UTVs.

7) Mark Schuelke requested the Town Board to repeal the ATV/UTV ordinance. Per Vilas County Sheriff's department ATVs and UTVs must stay on the paved portion of the road and can go no faster than 30 mph while other vehicles are driving at 60 mph. Due to the discrepancy in speeds this is a disaster waiting to happen.

- 8) Mike Potts supports and enjoys silent sports, ATVing and snowmobiling. When he visits WinMan Trails a lot of vehicles sport "Coexist" bumper stickers and does not understand the hate he sees being expressed toward ATVing. He is afraid the mantra for Winchester is becoming "Welcome to Winchester, the gateway to intolerance."
- 9) Glen Doerring resident of Harris Lake supports repeal of the ATV/UTV ordinance.
- 10) Rob Hillerich, owner of Deer Lake Resort of 45 years is in total support of the ATV/UTV ordinance because in his time here he has watched the town die and realizes we need more opportunities in Winchester.
- 11) Adam Fischer introduced himself as a new resident and ex-law enforcement officer who supports ATVing and moved here to be part of the community. With his experience he told the audience that allowing ATVs and UTVs on town roads could be done safely.
- 12) Sandra Goggin a part-time resident on Papoose Lake encouraged the Town Board to repeal the ordinance so she can enjoy nature which ATVs ruin with their noise.
- 13) Nils and Shirley Olsen questioned the effects of non-insured ATV/UTVs on the roads.
- 14) Mike Wolf a part-time resident on West Circle Lily Road asked Chairman Discianno whether Joe had shared the economic impact report of ATVs on the local economy had been shared with the new members of the Town Board. After Mr. Discianno replied that the report had not been shared, past Supervisors Brownwell and Wainio informed everyone that it had not been shared with them either.
- 15) Maya Discianno introduced herself as the Chairman's wife, 8-year property owner and 4-year full-time resident expressed her feeling that ATVs and UTVs belong on the farm and that the Town Board should repeal the ATV/UTV ordinance.
- 16) Howard Feddema, an Island View resident questioned whether the Town assumes any liability with allowing the use of ATV/UTVs on Town Roads. He was advised that there would not be any liability to the Town.
- 17) Amy Stengele, full-time Winchester resident for years voiced her opinion that the ordinance should be kept as is and not repealed.
- 18) Galen Brownwell commented that although BTI stated in their letter that no work would be done on Sunday, he observed them working on the bike trails the previous Sunday.
19. Ed Wegner, long time resident on Rainbow Lake noted that more ATV/UTVs are registered In the State of Wisconsin than snowmobiles and encouraged the Town Board to keep the ordinance in effect.
- 20) Curtis ? encouraged the Town Board to give the ordinance a chance and review it as allowed in March of 2022.

Old Business

- 2.) No road/lane name changes
- 3.) Zoom Camera Options from Great Escape Technologies (GET): Mr. Discianno is waiting for a response from Becky at GET, so no discussion or action was taken.
- 4) Changes to policy for use of town facilities by non-profit organizations: No discussion or action was taken.
- 5) Joint Papoose Lake Ordinance: Supervisor Grimmer will contact Presque Isle Supervisor Cathy Logan-Weber for more information on Presque Isle's position.
- 6) Date(s) for 2021 Boat Parade (BP) and Picnic in the Park (PIP): The Fire Department will host the Picnic on Saturday 7/10 with times to be determined. Arlene Kellett has volunteered to manage the BP on 7/3 but needs additional volunteers.
- 7) Lions Club park projects: The Lions Club has volunteered to paint/stain the pavilion trusses and fire pit and will provide a materials list for the Town to purchase. Supervisor Whitney does not feel the current grills need to be replaced, just cleaned, and attach a brush on a chain for future cleaning.
- 6) A new 10-gallon water heater is available for \$329 through Menards. After discussion, Supervisor Brownwell will contact Schmidt & Sons Plumbing and have them either repair or replace the water heater for no more than \$700.00 Chairman Discianno seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.
- 7) Lions Club Lease: Supervisor Brownwell contacted the Lions Club regarding the problems with people dumping at the site. We will be replacing the lock, but the lease still needs to be reviewed. Clerk Wainio will make copies of the current lease so the board can review and come up with ideas for corrections, etc.

New Business