

**Minutes of the
August 1, 2022 Winchester Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday August 1, 2022, at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Treasurer Sell and Clerk Wainio. Seven members of the public attended in person along with others 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 July 11th regular Town Board Meeting that The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Sell and approved unanimously on a motion made by Chairman Discianno and seconded by Supervisor Grimmer.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno: If the weather cooperates, the contractor will begin painting the old garages later in the week. The garage generator has been installed. As the meeting was starting Mr. Discianno received a bid from Ritchie Oil via email for the desired 1000-gallon fuel tank. Mr. Discianno will forward the particulars to the 2 supervisors. Employee reviews and beginning 2023 budget talks will be scheduled soon.

Supervisor Whitney:

Fire Department: Procedures to apply for USDA grants was discussed and will continue to be researched.

EMS Director Renee Melzer reported she had completed the annual grant application for the EMS Department.

Transfer Site: The new bulk bin is being well utilized, but its cost needs to be monitored. Mr. Whitney announced that a brush day will be held on Aug 13th from 9 – 1.

Park & Bike Trails: Nothing to report.

Lions Club: Will draw the winner of the E-bike raffle at Noon 9/3 at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Grimmer:

Library: Is purchasing a new laptop computer. Mr. Grimmer is going to bring one of the meeting Owls used for the Zoom meetings to the library.

Broadband Committee: Bill Niemuth, a member of the Vilas County Economic Development Corp. believes that there will be another 100 million dollar granting opportunity opening in September. Mr. Niemuth suggests that Winchester team up with Manitowish Waters and work with the VCEDC to apply for this grant.

Planning Commission: Items are on the agenda for discussion.

Lakes Committee: Is assembling information on hazardous wakes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Discianno alerted the Town Crew about a problem with a culvert on West Birch Lake after receiving a call from Rob Hillerich. Mr. Grimmer was approached regarding road right-of-ways on West Rock Lake Road and depressions in Agony Point and Tillman Roads. Mr. Grimmer referred the questions on the right-of-way to Jim Logan and verified the depressions in Agony Point & Tillman Roads.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carole Theesfeld suggested the Town Board research what is considered a "weapon" in their consideration for restrictive signage. Sulo Wainio questioned why the Noseeum Lake boat landing had not been mowed by the caretaking company or graveled by the Town Crew to date this year.

OLD BUSINESS

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

2) *Building Maintenance Repair Projects:* Mr. Discianno reviewed the projects that have not been completed this year: Community Bldg. siding deterioration; creating gravel perimeters around the Emergency Service (ES) and Community Bldgs. Mr. Discianno feels if any projects are not completed this year, they will be addressed in 2023. Mr. Whitney reported that the electric upgrades at the new garage will begin 8/3; possible relocation of the gas meter at the new garage; locks in the park bathrooms and kitchen have been replaced and programmed; a replacement fan in the park beverage building and problems with the electrical outlet in the grill area are being addressed; Mr. Whitney has sketched out the ES bldg. sprinkler system, will laminate a copy and leave one copy in the control box and give an additional copy to the Town Clerk. Chris Connolly will begin the Fall planting in the area surrounding the Flag Poles at the E.S. Building soon. Sturgeon Landscaping is almost done with the work on the Memorial Brick Path at the Community Building. Mr. Whitney will inquire into the cost to replace the 3 damaged garage doors in the Transfer Site Building. Mr. Grimmer is checking on the problems with the E.S. Building toilets and is getting no response from CenturyLink regarding internet in the park.

3) *EMS Shared Service:* Mr. Discianno is waiting for information on the status of Boulder Jct., Manitowish Waters and Presque Isle participation in the study.

4) *Epoxy Coating for the Fire Department Floor:* Chairman Discianno made a motion to table for discussion in the 2023 Budget. Supervisor Grimmer seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

- 5) *Casper's Plow Truck Builder*: Since the date for projected delivery of the chassis has been delayed until the second quarter of 2023, Casper's is not able to get prices for the necessary parts at this time.
- 6) *John Deere Tractor Mower Date*: Chairman Discianno received a report that the tractor has left John Deere and is on its way to the builders.
- 7) *Town Road Turnarounds*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to task the Planning Commission to update Ordinance #2022-05 Town Roads and Ordinance #2022-06 to include turnarounds.
- 8) *Building Set Back Ordinance*: The Planning Commission needs to do additional research on this subject.
- 9) *Spending Limits for Town Officials*: The procedures set forth in Ordinance #2015-04 were discussed. No change at this time.

NEW BUSINESS.

- 1) *Room Tax for Rental Properties*: Mr. Discianno made a motion to have the Planning Commission investigate the feasibility of a Room Tax. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- 2) *Bridge Repair at the Town Park*: Vilas County Supervisor Dick Logan will inquire on the requirements for any repairs/improvements to the bridge with Vilas County Land, Water & Conservation, and report back to the Town Board.
- 3) *Future Agenda Items*: Dam repair, new fuel tank for garage, weapon signage, ARPA funding, acquisition of land in the proximity of the dam, possible Town involvement in proposed sale of property at NE corner of Old O and Townsite Road.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve vouchers Quick Books DD 1456 dated 7/1/2022 through Liability check Quick Books Payroll Service dated 7/29/2022 Invesco. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38PM

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Wainio, Town Clerk