

**Minutes of the
September 12, 2022 Winchester Town Board Meeting**

Chairman Discianno called the meeting to order at 6:00PM on Monday September 12, 2022 at Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Attending in person were Chairman Discianno, Supervisor Grimmer, Supervisor Whitney, Clerk Wainio, and Treasurer Sell along with Chris Heinzen of JX Truck via Zoom.

Supervisor Gimmer made a motion to accept the agenda at the discretion of the chair. Supervisor Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0.

Minutes: Chairman Discianno made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/1/22 regular meeting, 8/15 and 8/31 Special Meetings with this correction: 8/31 *New Business Electrical outlet for private work room in Library:* "Mr. Grimmer will contact TMC Electric for time and materials to install a 4-gang electrical outlet" which Mr. Grimmer seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as given. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

CHAIRMAN & SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Chairman Discianno: Mr. Discianno reported that Pitlik & Wick would begin the paving project of Old W Road from Harris Lake Road to the Winchester/Presque Isle town line later the week of 9/12 or the week of 9/19.

Supervisor Whitney

Fire Dept: Mr. Whitney was not able to attend the August meeting.

Transfer Site: Mr. Whitney collected money \$220 for electronics recycling and \$625 for bulk item disposal from Don Melzer. He believes the bulk item dumpster receipts covered the cost for the service this time. The Town will be holding another brush day on Saturday 10/1 from 9AM-1PM.

BikeTrails Inc. and Lions Club: Nothing to report.

Supervisor Grimmer

Planning Commission: Is continuing work on the Set-back Ordinance, Shipping Container Ordinance and other items.

Lakes Committee: Heard a report on hazardous wakes on lakes. The committee would like to present this report to the Town Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Wainio received a survey from the DNR regarding the Town's winter salt usage. Mr. Discianno also received this correspondence and completed the survey. The North Central Planning Commission sent a packet regarding their assistance in updating the Vilas County Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2023-2027. They would like input from the Towns and public on this project. Vilas County Zoning will be holding a public hearing 10/6 on proposed amendments to Chapter 15 regarding private sewage systems at the Vilas County Courthouse. Supervisor Grimmer is researching competitive bids for the Town's insurance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Arlene Kellett is planning the 2023 Boat Parade to be held 7/1/23 with a possible Street Dance to follow.

Sulo Wainio requested the Town Board look into the use of fully electric bikes on the Winchester Bike Trail due to an accident which occurred in Manitowish Waters over the Labor Day Weekend.

Old Business

1) *Road/Lane Name Changes:* None.

2) *Maintenance Repair Projects:* Mr. Whitney made a motion to accept a bid from Lakeland Overhead Doors to replace the 3 garage doors in the Transfer Site Building with new 24-gauge doors for \$5233 including installation. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved 3-0. Relocation of the gas meter at the Town Garage is on hold while we wait for a plan from WE Energies that may take up to 8 weeks to receive. In the interim space will be left open on the North end of the garage for the meter when Pitlik & Wick paves that area. Electrical work at the Park has been completed except for the outlet in the BBQ area, but that was started. The Library walkway paver project is almost complete. Connolly Caretaking will continue mowing their mowing of Town properties every other week until October cleanup. The sprinkler system at the Town Hall will be shut down in 2 weeks. Schmidt & Sons advised Mr. Grimmer that there is a retrofit kit available to fix the problems with the new toilets in the Municipal building. The electrical outlet was installed in the new Library work room, and Schmidt & Sons replaced a faulty element in the Community Building water heater.

3) *EMS Shared Services:* A meeting for the public will be held at North Lakeland Elementary School on October 11th at 5:30PM.

- 4) *Update on Peterbilt Plow Truck:* Chris Heinzen explained that due to the difficulty in obtaining the vocational hood needed for the new truck the estimated build date will not be until late quarter two of 2023 or not until quarter three of 2023. Until this point Mr. Heinzen has not been able to place the order, only take a reservation, now he will be able to place the order. At this time the estimated price of the truck is around \$135,000 for the chassis, but that still is not a protected price. Mr. Discianno made a motion to sign the updated paperwork from JX Truck for the Peterbilt truck. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0. Sulo Wainio questioned whether it would be wise to check with other manufacturers on possible earlier delivery and better pricing. Mr. Discianno doesn't feel anyone else could supply a chassis sooner, but will attempt to make contact.
- 5) *Foot Bridge at Town Park:* Mr. Grimmer researched the process to make repairs to the bridge and will contact the water wizard at the DNR to set up an inspection meeting and continue to research the possibilities.
- 6) *Turtle Dam Inspection:* The firm that performed the last inspection has not responded to Mr. Grimmer. MSA's specialist in Madison gave an estimate of \$3500. Mr. Grimmer also obtained a list of qualified engineers from the DNR and will be in touch with additional companies before the mandated inspection in 2023.
- 7) *Firearm Signage:* Mr. Discianno and Mr. Grimmer both found potential signs for posting. After discussion Mr. Discianno will contact our attorney for his advice.
- 8) *Broadband:* Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) hosted a meeting between Brightspeed, the Winchester Broadband Committee and the Manitowish Waters Broadband Committee to discuss broadband expansion in the area. At this point, it is not known when the next round of grant applications will open.

New Business

- 1) *Town Board Pay Increases:* A request to increase the salaries of the Town Chairman, Supervisors, Treasurer and Clerk may be brought before the electors at the Annual Budget/Levy meeting in November. These salaries have not changed since 2015.
- 2) *Transfer Site Contracts:* Our costs have gone through the roof. Mr. Whitney will contact Republic Services and request clarification of our costs.
- 3) *Domain Name:* We will invite our Information Technology representative to attend a future meeting and explain our options.
- 4) *Adelaide Lake Road Culvert Problem:* The Town Crew brought coarser stone to the area in an attempt to alleviate the problem, but the culvert may not be large enough to handle the water flow. Mr. Grimmer will contact the landowner and Mr. Discianno will get in touch with Delmore Consulting to review the road surface.
- 5) *Camping Request for 14243 Falling Star Trail:* Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve the request from Christine Swets. Mr. Whitney seconded the motion which was approved 3-0. Mr. Discianno will advise Vilas County Zoning of the decision.
- 6) *Business Signage in Town right-of-way's:* After discussing the Town Sign Ordinance and potential methods to have these signs removed, it was decided to request the Town Crew pick up any signs except for real estate signs placed on site. The signs will be brought to the Town Garage for the owners to pick up.
- 7) *Clearing of brush/trees Township lakefront property:* Mr. Discianno will ask our attorney to write a letter to the person who has been doing the cutting along with advising Vilas County Zoning about the illegal shoreline cutting.
- 8) *Lions Plaque:* Mr. Whitney will research plaque costs for the \$1000 donation from the Lions' Club for Town Hall plantings.
- 9) *Budget Meeting:* The Town Board will meet at 8:30AM on Sep 21st to continue work on the 2023 budget.
- 10) *Future Agenda Items:* Presentation on Wake Boats by Lakes Committee, Electric Bikes on Bike Trails, 2023 Boat Parade, Insurance Renewal.

Mr. Discianno made a motion to approve August disbursements Payroll direct deposit 1475 dated 8/1/22 through check number 30498 dated 8/30/22. Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion and it was approved 3-0.

At 8:20PM Mr. Discianno made a motion to go into Closed Session under SS19.85 (1)(c). Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion, motion approved 3-0.

At 9:35PM Mr. Discianno made a motion to reconvene in open session, Mr. Grimmer seconded the motion which was approved by all.

During closed session the board began discussion of employee reviews, job descriptions and possible benefits for new hires.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan T. Wainio, Town Clerk