**Town Board Meeting**

**August 11th, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.**

**Manitowish Waters Town Hall**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Town Chairman John Hanson and Board Supervisors Eric Behnke and Chuck Rayala III

**Approval of Agenda** as posted on August 5th, 2016. Approved on motion from Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of July 12th, 2016. Approved on motion from Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke. Motion Carried. The June 14th minutes will be amended per a request by Eric Behnke and approved at a future meeting.

**Visitors Present:** Jean and Lynn Schroeder, Ron and Chris Troller, Benjamin Grenzer, Dan Cardinal, Dan Sleight, Paul Puccinelli, Sheryl Alexsinski, John Roberts, John Butler, Kim Kost, Evan Verploegh, Karen Dixon, Randy Richter, Greg Holt, Bill King, Carol McClellan, Kevin Griffith, Lupi Smith, and Chas and Judy Peterson.

**Subjects from floor:** Concerns were expressed by Lynn Schroeder regarding the water corridor between Fawn and Stone Lake. High speeds in this area are contributing to erosion and due to the narrowness of the corridor; there is increased potential for dangerous situations and accidents. Chair Hanson responded that making this area “No Wake” would have to be submitted to the DNR for approval and a hearing would have to be held. Proceedings for this action can begin at the September meeting.

**Agenda Items Requested to Speak On:** Kim Kost requested to speak on the ***Use of Chainsaws at the Transfer Site*** agenda item. Sheryl Alexsinski, Chris Troller, Kevin Griffith and John Roberts requested to comment on the ***Complaint from Koller Park Neighbor*** agenda item. Kim Kost, Dan Sleight and Greg Holt asked to discuss the ***Water Patrol Enforcement/Policies*** agenda item. Dan Sleight requested to speak on the ***Selection of Town Attorney*** agenda item. Kim Kost asked to comment on the ***Rest Lake Park Pavilion Restrooms*** agenda item and the ***Economic Development Association Report*** standing committee review.

**Old Business:**

**--Use of Chainsaws to Cut Wood at Transfer Site:** Under the advice of our Insurance Agent, a waiver will need to be created and signed by all persons operating a chainsaw at the transfer site. Signage will need to be erected as well, stating the waiver requirement and risks. Action will be taken on this at our September meeting.

**New Business:**

**--Complaint from Koller Park Neighbor:** A letter from Sheryl Alexsinski was read aloud, identifying the many problems that she has fallen victim to since the onset of Music In the Park. Alexsinski attended the meeting as well, with additional explanation of the violations that have been occurring on her property. Many suggestions were made, and in summary, the split rail fence will be extended and NO TRESPASSING signs will be nailed to the Koller Park side of the fence. The Water Patrol will continue to park at her dock and warn trespassers whenever possible. Additionally, it was suggested that the Music In the Park organization should provide portable restrooms because the current bathhouse does not sufficiently accommodate the ever-increasing crowd at their event. If this does not rectify the problem, the Vilas County Sherriff’s Dept. may need to become involved and issue citations for trespassing.

**--Water Patrol Enforcement/Policies:** Supervisor Behnke noted that many comments and letters have come in, both positive and negative, regarding the increased presence of Water Patrol. Behnke went on to explain that a conscious effort has been made this summer to enforce the “Slow – No Wake” ordinance and the heightened presence of patrolling has naturally led to more citations and warnings. Officer Cardinal explained in-depth, that “Slow – No Wake” is very serious, in that wakes are very damaging to shorelines, as well as watercrafts that are tied up to docks. This damage can be very costly to private owners. Cardinal also noted that rain is not an excuse to go fast in the no wake zones. Discussion switched to *bladder* boat s and the damage they are causing everywhere, including to fellow boaters and in the open lakes. Chair Hanson noted that the solution will probably rely on our legislators, and regulating the size of boat for the size of water body. A final suggestion was made that our Water Patrol Officers wear photo ID badges. Later in the meeting, Cardinal expressed that he would like to see Ben Grenzer’s hourly rate be on the same level as Minocqua Water Patrol Officers. He would like to see this raise be retroactive. Behnke said he would put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

**--Selection of Town Attorney:** A recommendation was received from the Planning Commission; however, a potential conflict of interest may need to be resolved before the recommendation can be considered. Our former attorney was recently appointed to a Judgeship, but we still have his former law firm with two other attorneys who are capable of representing our needs for the time being. Behnke stated that he was very impressed with Ruder-Ware and Hanson and Rayala III concurred. No action will be taken until the conflict of interest is worked out and the Board hears back from the Planning Commission.

**--Rest Lake Park Pavilion Restrooms:** The cleaning of the restrooms needs to be addressed and has not been a part of the Town Crew’s job description in the past. Hilbert explained that the gal who formerly cleaned the park restrooms and the Airport had to give up her position, and the cleaning crew who does the Town Hall was only able to take on the Airport and the restrooms at Star Beach and by the playground. Hilbert also made efforts to hire a janitorial firm, who declined to accept the position. A portion of the July Road Report was read aloud by Hanson, in which the Road Crew Foreman proposed the advantages of a fully funded maintenance agreement of sorts. Hanson went on to ask if the Board would like to see the prospective Maintenance Agreement put back on the agenda for the next meeting. Behnke stated that we have hired help and hired cleaning help for all of our parks and this isn’t anything new. Hilbert reiterated that the former cleaning gal quit and that attempts to replace her thus far had failed. Behnke inquired as to the number of hours needed and associated expenses. Hilbert responded that he would need to obtain that information from EAU Holdings, who were initially cleaning the Rest Lake Park restrooms, up until the Maintenance Agreement was turned down. Behnke stated that he would talk to the EAU crew and Foreman Jerry to gather the pertinent information before seeing the Maintenance Agreement back on the agenda, and revisit this issue at the next Board meeting.

**Standing Committee Review:**

**Vouchers:**  Vouchers for July 26th, 2016 = $27,155.33 and vouchers for August 9th, 2016 = $97,436.35. Approximately $55,000.00 of the July 12th total was offset by donations. A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

**P & L/Bank Balances:** P&L’s were provided to the Board in writing. Bank Balances are as follows:

**Reconciled Bank Balances: Actual Bank Balances:**

**(As of July 31st, 2016) (To date)**

General Account: $ 106,523.09 General Account $ 35,391.18

Tax Account: $ 100,958.99 Tax Account: $ 43,989.68

Investment Account: $ 14,048.84 Investment Account: $ 14,048.84

**Economic Development:** A visitor asked about the *Corridor Plan* and *sustainability.* Chair Hanson explained that it was still at the Planning Commission level and that there was nothing to report at this time.

**Airport:** The Airport Report was provided to the Board in writing. Hanson noted that FAA and Bureau of Aeronautic compliancy tree removal was just about complete, with the exception of one parcel that is privately owned.

**Road Report:** The Road Report was provided to the Board in writing. Chuck expressed concerns about taking down the barricades by the dam/bridge on Monday mornings. The barricades are being left up after Music In the Park, to accommodate the crowd that remains at the Pea Patch for their band that follows the park bands. It was indicated in the Roads Report that the barricades need to be removed immediately following the Music In the Park event and not left out all night and into the morning. Hanson related that he was in the process of trying to get barrels because the barricades and tape have not been particularly effective. He has already reached out to Nick Scholtes from the County Highway Dept. in search of a better solution. Vilas County was able to fund Trip Funding for the 7 participating towns, including Manitowish Waters, so the Town should be receiving approximately $25,000.00 that normally needs to be matched. Hanson would like to recommend that a section of Marathon Road be done by Pitlik & Wick with the new process that is being used on roads that are not high traffic. He will share information on this at the next meeting

**Bike Trail:** Nothing to report.

**Parks:** The Parks and Trails Committee will be meeting on August 23rd, at 4:00pm. A visitor questioned the serious need for a short-term repair of the Rest Lake Park boat ramp. Hanson said he would look into it. Behnke inquired about the pooling rain situation at the Rest Lake Park pavilion. Hanson responded that he had reached out to the contractor and solutions are being explored. Hanson will bring some information back to the next meeting.

**Transfer:** Behnke reported that JM services will complete the concrete work before the end of the month, allowing Pitlik & Wick to complete the paving in September.

**Rest Lake Dam:** This item will be removed from the agenda until there is something to report from a Stakeholder’s Meeting that is supposed to occur before the end of the year.

**Correspondence:**

**\*\***Well water tests performed at Rest Lake Park came back negative for Coliform Bacteria and within the safe range for nitrate.

**\*\***Rural Insurance will not cover the cost of the damaged Little Star Beach sign that was damaged in a car accident, because the property damage deductible is greater than the cost of the sign. Hilbert will follow up on pursuing a claim with the insurance company of the party who caused the accident.

A comment was made by a visitor who thought the changing rooms at the Koller Park Bathhouse should include a commode. This will be checked into and discussed at a future meeting.

**Adjournment:**  The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Hilbert

Clerk/Treasurer