

**Approved 10/04/2016**

Minutes of the September 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Manitowish Waters Planning Commission

Meeting called to order at 7:20 P.M. by Chairman Sleight.

Commissioners in attendance: Sleight, Rayala, Bauers, Hoehn, Johns, Behnke, Hanson

Public Visitors: List attached to these minutes

Motion by Rayala, second by Johns, to approve agenda as posted and to waive the reading. Motion carried.

Public Comments/Correspondence

Comment by Merry Perkins that she is one of the four parties that received the certified letter from the DNR about the bridge over the Manitowish River and that she believes that a public hearing should be held. The hearing must be requested within 20 days of September 7<sup>th</sup>. Additional comments voiced by other members of the public concerning the bridge and the proposed bike trail.

Proposed Pedestrian Bridge over the Manitowish River in Section 7

Hanson read an opinion from the Commission's attorney stating that the Town's comprehensive plan has no authority or control over bike trail development on DNR lands.

Bauers stated that the trail would be a state trail, would enter the woods across from Angler's, and follow the river west to Hwy 51. After crossing Hwy 51 the trail would proceed easterly on DNR land along, and then crossing, the river. Upon reaching private land, the trail would move out to the highway right-of-way.

Behnke reported on his conversation with the DNR's Steve Peterson concerning the application.

Discussion on ownership and maintenance of the trail, who initiated the project, and the status of the County recreation plan.

Hanson recommended that a request be made to the DNR to hold a hearing regarding the bridge.

Sleight stated he would like a lawyer to be retained to obtain an injunction or even start a suit to determine what the Town's rights are in matter of the development of DNR lands.

Motion by Johns, second by Rayala, for the Planning Commission to request a hearing from the DNR. Bauers stated his belief that the agenda item was not properly noticed for action. Motion carried, with Bauers abstaining.

Meeting declared adjourned by Chairman Sleight. Time was 7:56 P.M.