

**Town Board Meeting
April 10th, 2018 at 10:00am
Manitowish Waters Community Center**

Meeting called to order at 10:00am.

Present: Town Chairman John Hanson and Board Supervisors Bob Becker and Mike Kramer.

Approval of Agenda as posted on April 6th, 2018. Approved on motion from Mike Kramer and seconded by Bob Becker. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve the minutes of March 13th, 2018 and March 21st, 2018. Motion Carried.

Visitors Present: Gale Wolf, Wayne Harrington Sr., Dean Acheson, Laura Hayes, Eric Behnke, Kim Kost, Paul Sterns, Greg Holt, John Butler, and Elizabeth Mayer.

Subjects from floor: Kim Kost inquired on the 10:00am time of the meeting. Chair Hanson explained that he had to leave for Madison, immediately after the meeting for a DNR Meeting in Madison regarding the Dead Pike Lake project.

Agenda Items Requested to Speak On: Kim Kost and Greg Holt expressed interest in speaking on the *Rest Lake Boat Landing Docks* agenda item and the *Message Center for Rest Lake Park* agenda item. Kim Kost also requested to comment on the *Baer Bike Trail Proposal* agenda item.

Old Business:

--**Rest Lake Park Shoreline Restoration Project:** Chair Hanson explained that the Rip Rap work is already done and we received \$4,000 from Vilas County for their portion of the project expenses. The next phase is erosion control work above the Rip Rap. A quote from Hansen's Garden Village came in at \$28,235 and we are eligible for an additional \$7,500 from Vilas County. This was not budgeted for, so the Town would have to borrow funds to complete the work, or do part of it this year and complete the erosion control work next year. Supervisor Becker pointed out that with relocating the Skiing Skeeter dock, it would make more sense to complete the project now, and borrow funds if necessary. Hanson noted that additional funds would also be needed to extend the sprinkler system. Despite having to borrow funds, Hanson recommended that the project be completed this year. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to complete the project this year and borrow up to \$25,000 if necessary. Motion carried.

--**Update on Dead Pike Lake Project:** There are 4 parts to the Dead Pike Lake project:

1. Put a wetland filtration system in the marsh below the main dyke.
2. Pipe clean water from Stepping Stone Lake into Dead Pike Lake to augment flow.
3. Liming Dead Pike Lake to bind free floating iron floc.
4. Install a water control structure on the outlet of Dead Pike Lake, (Lost Creek).

The big question is where the funding will come from for the final phase. The DNR, who has already approved the project, informed the Town that any DNR funding will be in the form of a competitive grant. This means that the Dead Pike Lake project will directly compete with other projects seeking DNR grant funding. The Town's position is that since the State created the problem, they should be the one to fix it. Chair Hanson will continue to keep us apprised of the situation.

--**Rest Lake Boat Landing Docks:** The current boat landing dock does not accommodate the water draw down in the fall. Supervisor Becker discussed replacing the parking dock located at the former landing site with a new 16' permanent dock that includes a 12' floating section at the end. This can be moved over to the new landing dock during water draw down periods to increase usability. Becker also suggested taking the old parking dock over to Little Star Beach. He went on to state that he would bring these ideas to a Park's and Trails Committee meeting for consideration and a recommendation to the Town Board. Supervisor Kramer added that the cement slab at the new Rest Lake Park landing also needs to be extended during water draw down. Chair Hanson had already discussed installing additional slabs with Pitlik & Wick, and this could easily be done. Hanson went on to note that a meeting between the DNR, Xcel Energy and local representation is scheduled for April 25th, and the fall draw down is on the agenda. Due to a substantial number of complaints, local representation will be looking to modify the draw down schedule, which starts too early and goes too fast. The Board agreed to gather more information and revisit the subject at the May meeting.

New Business:

--**DNR Firewise Community Program Presentation:** Laura Hayes and Paul Stearns, representatives from the DNR Firewise USA program gave a lengthy presentation on the prevention of wildfires. Firewise USA is a national program dedicated to helping fire-prone neighborhoods improve wildfire readiness. They encourage taking action **before** a wildfire occurs and focusing on the development of local solutions. Manitowish Waters falls within a high-risk area for wildfires, but also has the advantage of being

surrounded by lakes which serve as a natural barrier against the "travel" factor of wildfires. Participation in this program requires a cooperative effort between the DNR, the Local Firefighting Unit and the Township.

--**Message Center for Rest Lake Park:** Chair Hanson explained that a Message Center, (similar to the roofed bulletin board outside the Town Hall entrance), could accommodate all the various postings at the Rest Lake Park boat landing, and eliminate all the random scattered postings. Unlike the Town Hall Message Center, this would be a one-sided bulletin board, approximately 4' by 8. Exact placement by the boat landing is yet to be determined. The cost of the Message Center is \$599, plus approximately \$100 for freight and handling. A motion was made by Mike Kramer and seconded by Bob Becker to purchase the Message Center for approximately \$700. Motion carried.

--**Baer Bike Trail Proposal:** Tom Baer has generously offered to put in a bike trail between Deer Park Road and Twin Pine Road. He would fund the trail and maintenance of this section and it fits within the Master Plan for the trails. This would technically be the first link of the future Cranberry Loop. This is all still in the works, and nothing is concrete at this time.

Standing Committee Review:

--**Vouchers:** Vouchers for March 27th, 2018 = \$18,134.95. Due to the earlier time of the April meeting, vouchers for April 10th are not fully completed and totals are unavailable at this time. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

--**P & L/Bank Balances:** P&L's are currently incomplete and will be emailed to the Board later in the day.

--**Airport Report:** Provided to the Board in written form Two well-qualified candidates for the Airport Manager position have been interviewed, and a recommendation will be made to the Town Board before the end of April.

--**Road Report:** Provided to the Board in written form. We should be getting a new dump truck by mid April. Supervisor Kramer will looking into using a "shaker" to sift out the remaining brush pile that was too dirty to run through the chipper. Greg Holt noted that Jacobsen Road, with an "en" is spelled wrong and should be spelled with an "on". Chair Hanson said a replacement sign would need to be ordered.

--**Transfer Station:** Already covered under Road Report.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana Hilbert
Clerk/Treasurer