**Town Board Meeting**

**September 13th, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.**

**Manitowish Waters Community Center**

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 September 9th, 2016 and Addendum as posted on September 12th, 2016. Approved on motion from Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of June 14th, 2016 and August 11th, 2016. Approved on motion from Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III. Motion Carried.

**Visitors Present:** Henry Bauers, Eric Johnson, Paul Puccinelli, Jan Richter, Randy Richter, Ron Troller, Chris Troller, David Bartling, Karen Dixon, Jerry Yencich, Kim Yencich, Sheila Casey, Tim Casey, Kevin Griffith, Evan Verploegh, Kim Kost, Dan Sleight, Lynn Schroeder, Debbie Johns, Amy Kobussen, Jody Miller, Dennis Hill, Joan Hill, and Thomas Petrusky

**Subjects from floor:** None

**Agenda Items Requested to Speak On: *Parks and Trails Committee Recommendations to Board for Selection of Rest Lake Park Master Plan Firm*** agenda item: David Bartling, Paul Puccinelli, Chris Troller, Kevin Griffith, Amy Kobussen and Dan Sleight. ***Rest Lake Park Boat Landing*** agenda item: Amy Kobussen, Kevin Griffith, David Bartling, Dan Sleight, Chris Troller, Paul Puccinelli, and Kim Kost. ***Water Patrol Wage/Resignation/2017 Staffing:*** Kevin Griffith. ***Approval Process for Motorized/Non-Motorized Trails*** agenda item: Kim Kost, Dan Sleight, Paul Puccinelli and Kevin Griffith. ***Bike Trail Report*** and ***Parks Report Standing*** Committee Review items: Kim Kost. ***Resolution to Vilas County Board Regarding Shoreland Zoning*** Addendum agenda item:

**Old Business:**

**Poll Vote Results:**

**-Approve Employment of Jan Richter to Clean Rest Lake Park Pavilion—**08/12/2016 John Hanson “Aye”; Eric Behnke “Aye”; Chuck Rayala III “Aye”.

**--Transfer Site Chainsaw Use Waiver:** Chair Hanson postponed this item to a later date.

**--Ilg Land Use Agreement:** Details are still being worked out between the two lawyers.

**New Business:**

***--* Parks and Trails Committee Recommendations to Board for Selection of Rest Lake Park Master Plan Firm*:*** Hanson read aloud a list of considerations from the Parks and Trails Committee. Chris Troller noted that very little input was received from the public. At the request of Chuck Rayala III, information will be run through the Planning Commission first, and they will in-turn, make a recommendation to the Town Board. The final decision will be made by the Town Board. A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by John Hanson to solicit bids from suitable firms in the area based off the list of ideas provided by the Parks and Trails Committee. Motion carried. A limit of $5000.00 was established for the plan and bids will hopefully be available by the next meeting.

**--Rest Lake Park Boat Landing:** Chris Troller commented how nice it was to meet Liz Uihlein and how generous her offer to pay for the boat landing was. Eric Behnke expressed that this should get done sooner rather than later and the boat landing should be separate from the Rest Lake Park Master Plan. He went on to say that he was not sure whether spring or fall was the ideal time to work on it. Chuck stated that he would like to see the boat landing left where it was and get going on it right away. Hanson pointed out that at the meeting with Ms. Uihlein, there was a consensus that both locations be presented to all tax payers in the form of a survey, and he was not in favor of seeing that process short-circuited. Hanson further expressed that the boat landing is an essential part of the park and should not be left out of the Master Plan. Eric responded that the Master Plan could take months or even a year and the boat landing has already been on the agenda for close to a year and is a very controversial issue. Behnke felt it was time to take a position and start moving forward. Hanson reiterated the consensus to submit both plans for public comment. Behnke stated that there had been ample time for public comment. Amy Kobussen clarified that Mrs. Uihlein wanted to conduct a public survey including all the tax payers in Manitowish Waters, so that a larger voice could be heard from, prior to coming up with a plan as to whether the boat landing should be repaired where it currently sits, or be relocated and redone. She went on to explain that although the final decision rests with the Town Board, the tax payers should be given a chance to weigh in. Behnke responded that the public has already had the opportunity to weigh in. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III, and seconded by Behnke to leave the Rest Lake boat landing where it is and get going on it right away. Chuck Rayala III and Eric Behnke – “Aye”; John Hanson – “Nay”. Motion carried.

**--2015 Audit Reports:** Audit Reports were provided to the Board in hard copy. Hanson instructed the Board to review the documents and contact the Clerk with any questions.

**--Poll Worker Wages:** Clerk Hilbert requested that in lieu of ample room in the Election Expense budget, she would like to increase Poll Worker wages by $1.00/ hour for both Election Officials and Chief Inspectors, bringing their wages up to $10.00 and $11.00 respectively. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to approve the increases. Motion carried.

**--** **Water Patrol Wage/Resignation/2017 Staffing**: Eric Behnke shared that Dan Cardinal has turned in his resignation at the end of this Water Patrol season. He has agreed to remain on in an administrative capacity and to assist with establishing new officers however, no longer wishes to perform patrol hours on the water. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to accept Dan Cardinal’s resignation. Motion carried. With regard to wage, Behnke requested that Ben Grenzer be brought up to the same wage as Minocqua Water Patrol Officers, ($19.50) per hour, effectively retroactively to his start date. In the hopes of keeping Ben Grenzer on our staff next year, a motion was made by Behnke for a $1.50/hour retroactive raise, and seconded by Rayala III. Hanson suggested that the increase be considered a performance bonus, rather than a wage increase, in order to avoid raising the base pay too high. Rayala III and Behnke were both in agreement with this. Motion carried. With regard to 2017 staffing, Eric Behnke would like to have a conversation with Grenzer and let him know that the Town would like him back next year if he’s available. All were in agreement.

**--** **Room Tax Committee Appropriations:** At an August 31st Room Tax Committee meeting, recommendations were made for an additional $200.00 appropriation for Music in the Park and $300.00 for the Northwoods Wildlife Club. Additionally, they approved setting aside $10,000 for an appropriation to Walleyes For Tomorrow, but that contribution will be held, pending additional information. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to approve the $200.00 and $300.00 appropriations. Motion carried.

**--** **Budget Workshop Dates:** The first Budget Workshop is scheduled for September 27th, 2016 at 10:00am.

**--** **Schedule October Board Meeting:** The October Town Board Meeting will be held October 4th, 2016 at 6:00pm.

**--** **Approval Process for Motorized/Non-Motorized Trails**: Vilas County is updating their Non-Motorized Trail Plan, however, at the request of Chuck Rayala III, the Town of Manitowish Waters will abstain from submitting their information, motorized or non-motorized, until the Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been completed. John Hanson will contact Vilas County and determine if they can wait until after our October meeting.

**Standing Committee Review:**

**Vouchers:**  Vouchers for August 23rd, 2016 = $59,572.72 and vouchers for September 13th, 2016 = $72,379.42. 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 August 31th, 2016) (To date)**

General Account: $ 252,322.94 General Account $ 153,125.95

Tax Account: $ 100,975.66 Tax Account: $ 44,006.35

Investment Account: $ 14,050.57 Investment Account: $ 14,050.57

**Economic Development:** Nothing to report.

**Airport:** We are still working on getting the necessary tree clearing done and having a problem with getting permission from one land owner across the road. Everything else with the runway project should be completed by the end of this month.

 **Road Report:** The bridge has been closed on Hwy 47 between Powell Road and Manitowish. This has created a heavy flow of excessive-weight vehicles on Powell Road, and weight limit postings needs to go up at Hwy 182, Powell Road, Hwy H and Hwy 47 to reroute these vehicles. Chair Hanson will check with Vilas County on borrowing signage. Jerry Blach also noted in his Road Report that the original tubing on the Jungle Gym is due for replacement.

**Bike Trail:** Already covered. Kim Kost inquired about the bike trail link between Manitowish Waters and Mercer. Chair Hanson responded that he and Supervisor Behnke submitted and application and it is being processed, but nothing will be happening until next year.

**Parks:** Already covered. Kim Kost questioned if anything will be done before Winter to correct the roof water run-off problem at the Rest Lake Park Pavilion. Hanson explained that there is nothing in the budget to pay for improvements this year. Rayala noted that Mrs. Uihlein is aware of the situation and may take care of it yet this year.

**Transfer:** Eric Behnke reported that the new strip of blacktop will be prepped this week and paved soon. An exact date is not available at this time.

**Water Patrol:** Already covered. Will be coming off the Standing Committee Review until next Spring.

**Addendum:**

**--** **Resolution to Vilas County Board Regarding Shoreland Zoning**: Chair Hanson read aloud a petition that would restore control over shorelines, back to Local Governments that was lost with the passing of Act 55. The petition was created by the Wisconsin Shoreline Initiative. Rather than circulating a petition, Hanson suggested passing a Resolution and submitting it to the County Board. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to submit a resolution to Vilas County regarding shoreline zoning. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

Hanson shared a letter received from Vilas County Highway Department that we will be receiving a $22,637.90 reimbursement for a road construction project. A request for a project on Marathon Road was submitted to Pitlik & Wick, and will likely not be realized until Spring of 2017. The funding will still be available in the Spring.

Hanson announced that the Wisconsin Towns Association will be leading a Special Town Board Meeting to be held at one location within Vilas County on September 29th, 2016 at 7:00pm. This meeting will be held at the Eagle River City Hall and all Municipal Town Boards are encouraged to attemd to help support the transportation funding problem that exists in Wisconsin.

**Adjournment:**  The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Hilbert

Clerk/Treasurer