**Town Board Meeting**

**November 9th, 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 30th, 2016 and Addendum as posted on October 3rd, 2016. Approved on motion from Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of October 4th, October 18th, and October 25th, 2016. Approved on motion from Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III. Motion Carried.

**Visitors Present:** Over 30 citizens attended the meeting.

**Subjects from floor:** None

**Agenda Items Requested to Speak On: *Rest Lake Park Boat Landing*** agenda item: Dan Sleight, Greg Holt, Amy Kobussen and Merry Perkins. ***Connecting with the Public on Tough Issues*** agenda item: Dan Sleight, Greg Holt , and Kevin Griffith. ***Bike Trail Inc. Relations and Proposed Trails*** agenda item: Greg Joseph, Mona Wiechmann, Gale Wolf, Pete Guzzetta, Merry Perkins, Dave Gouwens, David Bartling, Kay Krans, Kevin Griffith, Greg Holt, Amy Kobussen, and Dan Sleight. ***Bike Trail Master Plan*** agenda item: Merry Perkins. ***Letter to the DNR on Proposed River Bike Trail*** agenda item: Dave Gouwens and Dan Sleight. ***Response to Uihlein Request*** agenda item: Dave Gouwens, Dennis Wilm, David Bartling, Kevin Griffith, Amy Kobussen, and Dan Sleight .

**Old Business:**

**--Rest Lake Park Boat Landing:** Chair Hanson reported that the Environmental Study has been completed and we should be receiving a report in about a week. The initial report found no archeological artifacts. Behnke inquired as to a finalized drawing from Pitlik and pricing for the proposed new ramp. Rayala III indicated that he would like to obtain pricing for both a 20 ft. ramp and 2 – 14 ft. ramps.

**--Connecting with the Public on Tough Issues:** Chair Hanson read aloud a 5 – Step Process provided by the Wisconsin Towns Association. A written copy of the program was given to Board members at the October meeting. Hanson asked if this was a program the Board would like to implement. Behnke questioned when a program like this would come into play. Hanson listed off several issues, such as the Bike Trail, the Boat Landing or Landscaping anywhere in Manitowish Waters. Rayala III requested more time to familiarize himself with the program, prior to making a decision.

**--Status of Map for Ilg Agreement:** The map Hanson received from the DOT is not a *certified survey* map. If the Ilg Trust still wants a *certified* *survey* map, it was suggested that this be at their expense. Eric Behnke explained that according to several phone conversations he had with Judy Peterson, a *property description* map would suffice. The Board unanimously agreed to sign the agreement and include a *property description* map, and if the Ilg party would like a *certified survey* map, they will need to pay to have one done. A motion was made by Eric Behnke , and seconded by Chuck Rayala III, to approve the Land Use Agreement, subject to a property description map being attached to the agreement. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

***--* Transfer Station Rates*:*** Behnke explained that he was looking for ways to save money at the Transfer Station, and the biggest expense during the past year, was electronics brought in during Amnesty Week. Eric would like to see a County-wide comparable fee charged for electronics, even during Amnesty Week. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to approve charging fees for disposal of electronics, including during Amnesty Week. Motion carried..

**--Bike Trail Inc. Relations and Proposed Trails:** Greg Holt explained the information exchange between Bike Trail Inc. and the Parks and Trails Committee at their last meeting. Following a lengthy discussion amongst the Board and visitors, it was determined that a workshop needs to be scheduled for the Town Board and Bike Trail Inc. to sit down together and map out an agreement between them.

**--** **Bike Trail Master Plan:** Rayala III noted that the Planning Commission is currently working on that to get it over to Vilas County. It will be on the agenda for their meeting a week from today. Discussion ensued regarding connecting to the Mercer trail. Hanson stated that connecting to Mercer was part of the 2010 Vilas County plan, but it was not location specific. A contentious discussion followed, primarily pertaining to the “paused” proposed bike trail loop by Tower Road and Hwy 51. At the conclusion, it was determined that a map of the proposed trail and marking the trail are crucial before going any further on the topic.

**--** **Letter to DNR on Proposed River Bike Trail:** Rayala III stated his desire to write a letter of opposition to the DNR regarding the proposed bike trail loop. Dan Sleight suggested writing a letter requesting that the DNR keep the Town Board apprised of their plans before they move forward with them. Merry Perkins asked why a map of the proposed loop wasn’t presented by Bike Trail Inc. Again, a map and marking the trail are needed before going any further.

**--** **Response to Uihlein Request:** Hanson read aloud a communication from Mrs. Uihlein, asking that she be allowed to install an irrigation system, bring back removable pavilion furniture, and have the Pavilion Maintenance Agreement signed in exchange for completely funding the boat landing. Behnke noted that “surrounding grounds” within the Maintenance Agreement needs to be more specific prior to deciding, and the other two items are subject to the donation policy under the Planning Commission.

**Standing Committee Review:**

**Vouchers:**  Vouchers for October 11th, 2016 = $90,519.06 of which $54,385.00 was for paving, October 25th, 2016 = $127,605.73 including a $74,389.17 payment to the MW Fire Co., and November 8th, 2016 = $36,362.32. 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.

**Airport:** Tree cutting on the approaches is done, with the exception of one piece of private property. The logs were sold by the tree cutter at a considerable savings to the Town.

**Road Report:** Provided to the Board in written form.

**Bike Trail:** Already covered. Supervisor Rayala III is looking into becoming a member of the Governor’s Council on Regional Bike and Pedestrian Trails, Equestrian Trails and ATV/UTV Trails. The Council meets 4 times per year.

**Parks:** Already covered under a previous agenda item.

**Transfer Station:** Already covered.

**Correspondence:**

A letter was read aloud from Azael Meza, announcing that Anne Kretschmann is no longer working with the Water Program through the Discovery Center. Anne did a wonderful job and she will be missed.

**Adjournment:**  The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Hilbert

Clerk/Treasurer