

Town Board Meeting
May 11th, 2021
Manitowish Waters Town Hall

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

Present: Town Chair John Hanson and Board Supervisors Bob Becker and Mike Kramer, (Kramer via speaker phone).

Visitors Present: Lynn Schroeder, Greg Holt, Dawn Holt, Bob Fuller and Kim Kost.

Approval of Agenda as posted on May 7th. Approved on motion from Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of April 13th, 2021. Approved on motion from Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson. Motion carried.

Agenda Items Requested to Speak On: Dawn Holt requested to speak on the **Broadband Committee Report** Standing Committee Review item. Bob Fuller asked to discuss the Dog Park, which was not on the agenda, but Hanson offered could be brought up during Subjects from the Floor.

Subjects from floor: Chair Hanson shared that he, along with Bob Fuller and Kelly Johnson, checked out two different sites last Friday for potential locations for a dog park. The first possible property they looked at was behind the old Fire Hall and Library. This property is just under three acres. The second possible property was located on the north side of Rest Lake Park (section to the left of park). This property is about three and a half acres. The Rest Lake Park property could possibly incorporate the pond located there. It was discussed that either of the two locations would be fenced in. Bob Fuller stated that he feels that a dog park would be very well received throughout the community and a great place for dogs, as well as dog owners to co-mingle. Lynn Schroeder stated that he felt this could be a burden on the community to maintain. Schroeder went on to add that he has heard comments from community members stating that their back yards are sufficient enough for their dogs and can get their dogs together with neighbors and friends. Bob Fuller stated that once the fencing is in, the maintenance would be minimal and the dog park could be maintained by volunteers. Lynn Schroeder also questioned liability issues if someone were bitten and also possible spread of illnesses such as Kennel Cough (Bordetella Bronchiseptica). Hanson stated that there is a recreational exclusion provision for municipalities and liability would likely fall under this provision. Bob Fuller stated that signage around the park addressing these issues would be helpful. Kim Kost commented that he is not against having a dog park but is unsure if using Town property is a good idea. Mike Kramer gave his input as Animal Control Officer, stating a lot of his calls come from visitors because their dogs aren't used to running free and end up lost or found and needing to be returned to their owners. He felt it would be a good idea to have for visitors to bring their dogs to an area to run free vs. escaping from where they are staying. Kim Kost suggested that it be put on a future agenda so community members could weigh in and voice their opinions about it. John Hanson agreed that it would go on a future agenda.

Old Business:

--None

New Business:

--Water Patrol Compensation: Bob Becker stated that he felt that with the 4th of July falling on a weekend this year, wages should be increased as they are taking time away from their families to patrol. Lynn Schroeder asked if Memorial weekend patrol would fall under this as well. Bob Becker stated he wouldn't mind seeing a wage increase for all three Holiday weekends- Memorial, July 4th and Labor Day weekends. Bob Becker suggested adding \$10/hour to their compensation, or time and a half, as it would be well-worth it to keep our Water Patrol employees happy. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to pay time and a half wages for the 3 holidays, (including Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day). Motion carried.

--Water Patrol Buoy Installation: Supervisor Becker stated that the new buoys were larger than what they thought they had ordered. They have a 24" base, 13" tube and a 100 lb. weight to hold them upright. Becker continued that installing the buoys is not a problem, but pulling them out is almost impossible. Becker would like to see the Town purchase a jib crane and electric winch. The power winches he looked into were \$450-\$500 and the jib crane would cost \$900. Bob Becker would like to get these items purchased this summer so they are able to test out this machinery before the time comes to take out the buoys for winter storage. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to purchase a jib crane and 12 volt winch for the Town's pontoon boat. Motion carried.

--Cemetery Committee Report/Action: Bob Becker stated the cemetery met last Thursday. Richardson Well installed a new well with 3 separate spigots for public use. The Committee would like to purchase 150 feet of hose so people can water their plants and grass. The 3 spigots were not positioned where the Committee wanted them and Becker was waiting for a call back from Richardson's to see if they can move or add additional spigots where needed. He also added that Chuck Rayala III will be working with Betty Koller's Estate to get three names added to the monument. Rayala thought the Koller Estate may be interested in upgrading or replacing the existing monument. Rayala will report back on this at the September Committee meeting. Becker stated a "doghouse" still needs to be built to cover the well pressure tank which Chair Hanson said could be accomplished by the Road

Crew. Bob Becker read aloud a proposal from Decker's Property Maintenance for refurbishing the cemetery front entrance. The total amount came to \$4,611.93 to redo the front entrances. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve \$4611.93 to upgrade the Cemetery. Motion carried.

--**Cherry Blossom Lane Relocation:** John Hanson stated that this project is included in the bids for upcoming roads projects. Cherry Blossom Lane has to be moved into the right away and not located on private property where it is now. Road bids are due on June 4th, 2021 and will be decided at the next Town Board meeting.

--**CWPP Recommendations:** John Hanson shared that *Community Wildfire Prevention Program, (CWPP)*, has a grant-funded project scheduled for August or September this year. The project involves allowing residents on a segment of Clear Lake Road and Point O' Pines road to clear out brush around their property, creating a fire-safe zone. Brush can be piled at the road side and a chipper will then come and grind it up. Residents within those segment sections will be receiving notifications. The DNR chose these sections because of the density of residents residing there.

--**Nuisance Complaint:** John Hanson received complaints about a resident having their "junk" near other's property line. Hanson has made contact with this resident about cleaning it up and to date nothing has been done. Hanson made contact with the Town's attorney to find out what the next step would be. The attorney's recommendation is to appoint a Health Officer that would then have the authority to go out and assess the situation to determine whether or not there is a health hazard. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to appoint the John Hanson as the Health Officer for the Town. Motion carried.

--**Red Maple Road:** Chair Hanson explained that Red Maple is a private road which begins in Boulder Junction but is mainly located in Manitowish Waters. Hanson has received requests from residents asking to upgrade this road. Hanson stated that the only recourse is to let the residents know that the Town can't do anything on a private road. If they would like to get it on the Town's road system, they would need to bring it up to Town Specs, as indicated in the Town's Code of Ordinances. Hanson will inform the 4-5 Manitowish Water's residents on this road about this process.

Standing Committee Review:

-- **Vouchers:** Vouchers for April 27th, 2021 were \$54,061.75 and May 11th, 2021 were \$43,826.62. A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to approve the vouchers as stated. Motion carried.

--**P & L/Bank Balances:** P&L's and /Bank Balances were provided to the Board in hard copy.

--**Airport Report:** Airport Reports were provided to Board Members in hard copy. Bob Becker reported that Scott Clendening put in his notice that he will be leaving his duties at the Airport and Transfer Station. Becker and Hanson stated that he has done an excellent job for the Town and he will be missed. Becker noted his position will need to be filled. John Hanson stated that during the interim, between the Road Crew and Justin Polich, there will be enough coverage until a replacement can be found. Becker mentioned that everything seems to be set for spring. Becker also reported that in 2020, through April, 355 gallons of gas were sold, whereas 1,167 gallons have been sold for the same time-frame in 2021. Hanson added that gas sales are way up from 2019, as well. Becker stated that the land purchases are still a work in progress. Hanson said that they will be prepping for Hanger expansion.

--**Road Report:** Reports were provided to Board Members in hard copy. Supervisor, Bob Becker read aloud the Roads Report, noting that weight limit signs were taken down on April 16th and all winter equipment has been removed and cleaned up for storage. All town roads have been swept of winter sand and debris and all gravel roads have been graded. Swim buoys were put in at Little Star Beach and the dock at Rest Lake Park was put in. A speed bump was put in at the Transfer Station. Koller Park picnic tables have been put out along with bike racks throughout Town. The restrooms have been cleaned up and are ready to open. Patching roads has been done along with chipping brush along roads. The decking boards for Koller Park docks have been cut up and are ready to install. Chair Hanson added that dock installation will commence as soon as the buoys are put in.

--**Transfer Station Report:** Supervisor Becker noted that replacement signs at the Transfer Station have been installed. Town Supervisor, Mike Kramer stated there was nothing more to report.

--**Water Patrol Report:** Town Supervisor, Bob Becker that the new maps have gone to print. Just over \$8,000 in ads were sold for the lakes map, leaving the Town short couple thousand in the overall cost. Map sales should make up for the shortage.

--**Parks Report:** Chair Hanson reported that the floating docks sections are ready to install at Koller Park. They will be transported to the park and decked this coming week. Pipes will be installed at the end of the docks to stabilize them. Bathrooms have been opened at the parks/playground and everything looks good for summer.

--**Broadband Committee Report:** Chair Hanson stated that he has been in contact with CenturyLink to get an idea of what it would cost to complete the "final mile", as they call it. All of the residential addresses have been submitted to them. He chose Spider Lake East and West because it is more compact with residents. The last he heard from CenturyLink (now called Lumen Technologies) was that their engineers would have to come up with a proposal. Hanson said he plans on scheduling a Broadband Committee meeting sometime next week to discuss on how they can move forward with this and look at funding and available grants. Lumen will be making proposals in segments.

Correspondence: Chair Hanson shared that the Roads Crew voted 2-0 to decertify from the Union.

A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to convene to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public property, investment of public funds, or conducting other specific public business when competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

Roll Call: Bob Becker, "Aye", Mike Kramer, "Aye", John Hanson, "Aye".

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned from closed session at 7:56pm. No action was taken.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessie Knipp
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer