

**Town Board Meeting**  
**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Manitowish Waters Town Hall**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. and recessed at 7:01pm to complete the Planning Commission Meeting. The Town Board Meeting was reconvened at 8:15pm.

**Present:** Town Chair John Hanson and Board Supervisor Bob Becker.

**Visitors Present:** Karen Dixon, Gale Wolf, Mike McKeon, Sarah McKeon, Lynn Schroeder, Mona Wiechmann, Vince Justinak, Alice Justinak, Jeff Justinak, Dennis Gramm, Rob Friedley, Brennan Henry, Dan Meier, David Bartling, Bob Fuller, Kim Kost, Jim Higgins, Carol Schott, Terry Schott, Brian Jopek, Ellen Schlichting, Phil St. Clair, Meg Murphy Lincoln, Greg Holt, Kevin Griffith and Bob Kovar.

**Approval of Agenda** as posted on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Approved on motion from Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson. Approve Addendum as posted on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Approved on a motion from Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson. Motions carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of May 11<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson to approve the minutes of May 11<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Motion carried.

**Agenda Items Requested to Speak On:** Kim Kost requested to speak on the **Approve Slate of Liquor/Tobacco Licenses** agenda item. Phil St. Clair, Kevin Griffith, and Meg Lincoln asked to comment on the **No Wake Area in Koller Park Bay on Rest Lake** agenda item. Kim Kost expressed interest in discussing the **Water Patrol Report** Standing Committee Review item. Lynn Schroeder requested to speak on all agenda and Standing Committee Review items.

**Subjects from floor:** None.

**Old Business:**

--**Dog Park Proposal:** Chair Hanson explained that two locations were looked at with regard to a possible Dog Park location, including a section of the Rest Lake Park area, and the area behind the old Fire Station. It was Hanson's recommendation to consider behind the old Fire Station, as there is already a lot of traffic at Rest Lake Park. Supervisor Becker shared that he had conducted his own informal information gathering, and the overall response from both residential dog owners and veterinarians was pretty negative. Becker added that he intentionally avoided residents that he already knew were opposed to the idea. Becker had also observed the existing Dog Park in the Minocqua area, noting that on four separate occasions, he only saw one person using the Dog Park. It was Becker's suggestion to table the agenda item for the time being. Hanson suggested doing an on-line survey to determine interest. The item was tabled with no action taken.

**New Business:**

--**Selling Old Buoys for Decorative Purposes:** An individual contacted Clerk Hilbert, expressing interest in purchasing an old buoy for decorative purposes. Hilbert informed the caller that under no circumstances can a resident place a buoy in the Manitowish Waters chain of lakes. The caller said that he wanted is for on-land decorative purposes. A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to authorize selling old buoys for ON-LAND decorative purposes for \$20.00. Motion carried. Any unauthorized buoys placed in the water will be confiscated and could result in a \$232.00 citation. (It was later discovered that the fine is actually \$295.00)

--**Approve Slate of Liquor License/Tobacco Licenses:** Clerk Hilbert read aloud the following list of published liquor/tobacco licenses for Board approval:

**Class A Liquor**

Maria & Bob Winter/Cranberry Square

**Class B Beer/Class C Wine**

The Coffee Shop at Manitowish Waters

The Lodge at Manitowish Waters

**Class A Combination**

Dietz's Service, Inc./Dietz's Service Station

T.A. Solberg Co., Inc./Trig's Village Market

Brenda Behnke/The Wine & Beer Barn

**Tobacco License**

Dietz's Service, Inc./Dietz's Service Station

Greer's Pier, Inc./Greer's Pier Marina

Howling Dog Saloon, Inc./Howling Dog Saloon

Little Bohemia Lodge, Inc./Little Bohemia Lodge

Pea Patch Motel & Saloon, Ltd./Pea Patch Motel & Saloon

T.A. Solberg Co., Inc./Trig's Village Market

Brenda Behnke/The Wine & Beer Barn

Ye Olde Shillelagh, LLC/Ye Olde Shillelagh

**Class B Combination**

Springer Creek Partners, LLC/Aberdeen Lodge

Paul Habram LLC/Angler's

Theisen's Aurora Borealis/Aurora Borealis

The Blue Bayou Inn Restaurant/Blue Bayou Inn Restaurant

Caretakers LLC/Chippewa Retreat

Florian's World Loppet Lodge, Inc./Cozy Cove

Greer's Pier, Inc./Greer's Pier Marina

Howling Dog Saloon, Inc./Howling Dog Saloon

Little Bohemia Lodge, Inc./Little Bohemia Lodge

Parkside Tavern LLC/Parkside Tavern

Pea Patch Motel & Saloon, Ltd./Pea Patch Motel & Saloon

Tammy's Tiki Tavern, LLC/Tammy's Tiki Tavern

Audrey Voss Dickerson Trust/Voss' Birchwood Lodge

Ye Olde Shillelagh, LLC/Ye Olde Shillelagh

A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson to approve the entire slate of liquor/tobacco licenses. Motion carried. Kim Kost questioned why a business was allowed to operate in a Town Park. Clerk Hilbert explained that the Town has granted several business permits, allowing various businesses to operate in Koller Park. Additionally, a meeting in 2020 with a representative from the Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement Unit and a Tax Specialist from the Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue resulted in assigning a dock in Koller Park as the only location where the Tiki Tavern could legally serve alcohol. Kost's opposition to this arrangement was duly noted.

**--Blanket Approval for Clerk Issuing Operator/Picnic Licenses:** A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker, granting the Clerk blanket approval to issue Picnic and Operator licenses. Motion carried. These licenses will be periodically presented to the Board for approval at monthly meetings.

**--Bids for 2021 Road Work:** John Hanson stated that only one bid was received from Pitlik & Wick. The bid was opened and shared aloud, as follows:

Cherry Blossom Lane	\$ 82,655.00
Marathon Road	\$113,997.80
Manitou Drive	\$ 35,172.00
Rainbow Lane	\$ 14,985.00

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson to approve the first 3 projects. Motion carried.

**--Community Garden Expansion:** Chair Hanson stated that the Community Garden was looking for approval to expand the existing garden. Supervisor Becker pointed out that this had already been approved at a previous meeting. Clerk Hilbert added that a diagram was presented at a meeting last June and the Board had unanimously approved the proposed expansion. No action necessary.

**--Planning Commission Appointment:** A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to appoint Lynn Schroeder to the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

**--No-Wake Area in Koller Park Bay on Rest Lake:** Chair Hanson explained that he has received requests to consider making the Koller Park bay area on Rest Lake a Slow-No-Wake zone. If this is something residents are encouraging, the process will include a local hearing and then a lengthy application process with the DNR. Phil St Clair mentioned that there is seriously increased traffic on Sunday's during Music in the Park and many boaters are not following the rules or behaving responsibly. St Clair lives in this bay area, and is concerned for the safety of his grandchildren while swimming, as well as the health of his shoreline. Meg Lincoln commented on overall growth in the area, resulting in increased traffic in this particular bay. Like St. Clair, she is extremely worried about the safety of swimmers, whom are often out in the middle of the bay. She would like to see the community be *proactive*, rather than *reactive* to a possible injury or death, adding that there is a lot of bad boating going on. Kevin Griffith questioned what portion of the bay would be slow-no-wake. Hanson explained that from the point known as Zephyr Point, straight across to the other shoreline would be sufficient. He went on to explain that maps detailing the proposed slow-no-wake zone would be introduced at the public hearing. A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to schedule a Public Hearing on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm. Motion carried.

**--Employee Compensation:** In lieu of the fact that the Union Contract extends until the end of June, this item will be tabled until the July Town Board Meeting.

#### **Addendum:**

**--Approve the Sale of Star Lake Property:** A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to approve the sale of the access parcel on Little Star Lake to Dan Johns Sr. Motion carried.

#### **Standing Committee Review:**

**-- Vouchers:** Vouchers for May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 were \$17,812.98 and June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 vouchers equaled \$51,749.14. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by John Hanson 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:** Bob Becker reported that Scott Clendening will be returning to his duties at the Airport and Transfer Station. We are very happy and fortunate to have him back. The Airport recently suffered a lightning strike. Repairs are ongoing, while we wait for some parts. Other than that, all is good at the Airport.

**--Road Report:** Reports were provided to Board Members in hard copy. Chair Hanson read aloud from the Roads Report prepared by Foreman, Tom Lentz. Work is almost complete on the Koller Park Dock System. Garbage receptacles are out at Koller and Little Star Lake parks. The playground and Koller Park restrooms are open. Buoys have been installed on the chain. The Police Boat/Shore Station Canopy are in. Grass cutting at the Airport and Cemetery has been completed. The brush pile at the Transfer Station has been pushed up and the demo dumpsters have been packed down. Supervisor Becker added that the Road Crew will be working on a "Doghouse" to cover the new well pump at the Cemetery.

**--Transfer Station Report:** Chair Hanson commented that Amnesty Week was a huge success.

**--Water Patrol Report:** Clerk Hilbert reported that the Water Patrol made contact with 137 boats, issued 19 verbal warnings, 1 written warning and zero citations in the month of May. Kim Kost questioned the results of the Special Town Board Meeting pertaining to Water Patrol wages. Clerk Hilbert explained that Dan Perry was in line for an increase, due to all of the Administrative functions he performs. Officer Perry contacted Supervisor Becker, requesting that any increase be divided evenly amongst all 3 of the Officers. All received a \$1.00/hour increase. Additionally, Lynn Schroeder noted that they will also be receiving time-and-a-half for holiday hours.

Supervisor Becker stated that a jib crane and winch had been approved for buoy installation and removal. These items will not be available for delivery until August, which will be in plenty of time for autumn buoy removal. Becker also mentioned that he had donated an underwater camera for the Water Patrol. Becker went on to mention that a recently printed water safety brochure contained a misprint and will have to be redone.

--**Parks Report:** Chair Hanson reported that a request has been made to line the tennis courts for pickle ball. Supervisor Becker recommended using a different color than what is currently used for the tennis lines. Hanson shared that EAU took care of all maintenance at Rest Lake Park last year, and this year will be taking care of all of Koller Park as well. Additionally, the EAU crew recently performed a one-time thorough clean up at Little Star Beach park. We are appreciative and grateful for their services.

--**Broadband Committee Report:** Chair Hanson stated that the Broadband Committee had a meeting this afternoon. The whole situation with broadband has gotten very complicated because the last round of grant funding went to a company out of Las Vegas called LTD. LTD has never been in the fiber business because they are strictly wireless. They will have to gear up to do fiber in the census blocks in Manitowish Waters that have already been approved for them. Once that happens, then CenturyLink cannot qualify for grant funding for those areas. Hanson suspects that LTD will not be ready to go in Manitowish Waters until 2023 or 2024. For the time being, we will continue to work with CenturyLink because they have already installed quite a bit of fiber. Additionally, we will continue to investigate the mix-up with the grant funding. In looking at Boulder Junction, their project is just over 7 million dollars to cover everybody in Town, and Boulder Junction is about 2-and-a-half times the size of Manitowish Waters. We can take approximately half of Manitowish Waters out of the formula, because it's the Powell Marsh, so with that, we will be looking at a couple million to complete the work in Manitowish Waters. Once the entire program is figured out, we will need to determine if individual residents pay for the project or if we use tax dollars like Boulder Junction did. These are all questions that will be presented to the Public down the road.

**Correspondence:** Clerk Hilbert shared that the drinking water at the Town Hall, Koller Park Bath House and Rest Lake Park all tested negative for Coliform Bacteria and E.Coli Bacteria. .

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dana Hilbert  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer