

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 10, 2016  
7:00pm

Present: Lowell Hagen, Robert Strand, Norman Prusener, Carrie Hintz

The minutes of the February 2, 2015 special town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – There will be a primary election on February 16 for State-wide Supreme Court Justice and County-wide Circuit Court Judge, Branch II.

Treasurer report – Carrie read the account balances. Norm made a motion to accept the Treasurer's and Clerk's reports as read, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

1<sup>st</sup> Side Supervisor – None

2<sup>nd</sup> Side Supervisor – None

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Tim Otterbacher read report (see attached). Bob asked if it's legal to park on the boat ramps, but there are no parking signs. It's okay to park on one side of the road on Krahn Drive though.

2016 Minneiska Ski Team – John Schleicher, Ski Team President, requested permission to hold the practices at the State Park beach same as last year. Saturdays and Sundays from 9am-noon. Shows Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Also requesting a jump practice from 3:30-7pm on Wednesday and another one just before shows. Norm asked about jump ramp location being inside the no wake zone. John said it's about 100-150' off of the shore, but they pull it in and out each time they use it. There are special large orange buoys as well when it's pulled out. Norm asked them to put out signs on Townline Road as drivers are going west. Norm made a motion to grant the request for requested dates, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Walworth County Farm Family Business - Event Barns - draft conditions review – Lowell said that this is something that the board earlier gave their opinion to the county. Now Walworth County drafted conditions and is asking: "Do you feel that a Farm Family Business in the A-1 and A-2 zoning districts, as a conditional use with the conditions listed, for occasional use as a family event barn would be something your Town could support." Lowell said it boils down to that if owners want to rent out a barn to have a party, there are a multitude of conditions. Norm said it can't be commercial, but rather family gatherings and that there are a lot of restrictions listed for parking, etc. Bob said that they need approval and ADA accessible and he doesn't see a problem with it. Lowell asked whether there will be any policing of the events, but Tim Otterbacher said that they won't police special unless hired specifically for the event. They will police any calls that would come in for problems during the event. Bob said there might be a charge for our inspector to go out and inspect the property for compliance prior to the event. He's wondering if the town should be liable for those inspections and whether our inspector needs to do a walk-through before each event. Bob said it says "Farm Family Business" but where it says family events, it should be clearer whether it's the property owner family or other families. Bob's also asking about why it's only June – October. He thinks people might want sleigh rides or Christmas weddings. Bob made a motion to have our town support this, as long as they go by the conditions that are written up, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Whitewater & Rice Lakes buoy update – Norm said we need to do a better job with the damaged buoys and placement. We spend over \$2000 putting in and taking out the buoys each year. We were supposed to have a permit on file with the DNR and we haven't done that. Norm is working on the application and they want

the GPS locations of each buoy. This would help us in the future liability wise. There's a potential law to number each buoy and register each buoy for each location. That will not be in effect this year. Norm's wondering if we want to look into hiring someone else to put in and take out the buoys. Lowell asked if we can stay the appropriate distance when in the channel area. Norm said that is up to the safety patrol to figure out the best navigational area around the lake. Norm spoke with Sean and he'd like Sean to do the locations once to record the coordinates and have that on record so that we have consistency in the future. In the past we only had 60-70 buoys and now we're up to 120 buoys. The board thinks this is a good upper limit, or even 100 would be sufficient. Bob is wondering if the Lake Association could create a board that would decide where they all should go so that we don't have to move them after they're installed. Bob also said that Bob Harris's arthritic shoulders are limiting his ability to remove them from the muck at the end of the year. Bob is also wondering if there are any Lake Association young men who would be able to do this paid job as an independent contractor. Norm will look into that. Lowell suggested an electric pull. Lowell also suggested storing buoys on the shore in front of the people's house who want them.

Norm said it would be nice to have the boat out of storage a couple of weeks ahead to get it ready. Sean said we need a docking station for the county computer that goes on the boat. Sean said still having issues with the ignition panel on the dash and should fix that. Would like it up and running before Memorial Day.

Boat launch fees – Norm said that in April they'll install the boxes to collect the boat launch fees. It'll cost the town about \$1500 up front. Any money that comes in from the fee collections has to pay off the boxes and the installation first. After that the money must be spent on the boat launch sites. Norm negotiated that the town will install the boxes and the signs. Lake Management must police it, collect the money, and take care of the book work. Details are being worked out by Lake Management. Norm said that the collection box posts will be about \$450 each because they require a lot of concrete. They require ½ yard of concrete each, which is 3 bags of concrete per hole and could possibly be mixed by hand. Could auger a 3' hole. We will hire someone to put up these collection boxes and three signs. Whoever does it should call Digger's Hotline first. Three signs with rules and fees are on order.

Other town business – Ed McManaway said that in 1989 they put in a new road and some of Ed's stakes were moved. He needs a surveyor to come and put stakes back in the ground and adjust a lot line on the survey. Lot line adjustment would go through Walworth County.

Public Input – Claudia Holst asked when the trees are going to be cut down around town. Bob will check with the tree guy to see when he'll start our work.

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 7:57pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer*