

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
7:00pm

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

Bob made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the May 30, 2019 special town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the May 30, 2019 closed session of the 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 – Carrie noted that the town hall will be closed June 14-June 24.

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

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm talked to the gentleman on E. Lakeshore who has dead trees and explained he has to stake his lot to determine whether the trees are the town’s or his responsibility. Norm said we moved the culvert laying on Cruse Lane. Had a problem with the house to the south with water issues and we didn’t ditch in the past so we should get that going. Bob Strand said Jaeckel will look at it.

1st Side Supervisor – Bob said he’ll have Jaeckel look at ditching on Clover Valley.

Chairman – Lowell had calls for and against the slow / no wake situation.

Sheriff’s Department Incident Report – Ira Martin read the call report. Lots of deer versus car accidents. Captain Gerber gave an update on the Safety Patrol. Staffing has been difficult throughout the state. Sean is part-time and there are 14 deputies who are being trained for boat patrol at over-time rates. Will likely be below budget with cancelled rain shifts. There are some weekday patrol hours as well. Norm asked that the schedule be kept confidential. Sean is trying to coordinate another boater’s safety class at Scenic Ridge.

“Class B” Intoxicating Liquor and Retail Class “B” Fermented Malt Beverages License renewal applications received from Fuzzy Pig, Willowbrook Golf Course, and JNT Parkside Marina for 2019-20 – Paperwork for all three was in order. Carrie said the Fuzzy Pig has one fire department code issue which is for lighting. Bob asked if we know when JNT is going to build but no one had details. Lowell said he inspected all properties and they were ok. Norm made a motion to approve all three licenses, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Operator/bartender license applications for 2019-2020 – Carrie said there were eight applicants: Leif Knudsen, Pam Kraus, Dick Kraus, Darren Wagner, Brian Craft, Brad Calaway, Thomas Gragnani, and Michael Kuhl. Carrie performed background checks on all and no one had any issues. Norm made a motion to okay all of the bartender licenses, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Special no wake buoys for slow / no wake situations – Lillian Roy said the team that reviewed the ordinances said they’d recommend installing additional buoys during slow/no wake situations. Gail Shelbourn said there are 14” diameter by 44” bigger buoys that would stand out. They’re over \$300 each. Suggested putting them in 4 strategic spots off of the boat launches. Carrie spoke with Sean who said he didn’t think this was the ideal solution. Sean thought we’d need about 20 special buoys to cover the entire lake. The buoys would need a permit. Lowell said buoys may help, but we have a shortage of labor even with 2 part-time summer helpers

and we don't have the manpower, money, or space to buy, store, and install /remove these additional buoys. He said if the lake association could be responsible for these, that would be helpful. Lillian Roy said the GWLPOA could work with Lake Management to make a proposal for storage and installation / removing. GWLPOA would pay for part of the additional buoys. Norm suggested portable floating buoys with an innertube that the locals could put in if the state permitted it. Gail Shelbourn said he thinks there are liability issues with a homemade buoy. Bob Strand said he thinks 4 will work. Bob Harris said he thinks no matter what we do people won't obey it. Bob Harris said he put up 9 signs at each road going into the lake launches. He doesn't know if Richmond posted their roads going to the launches. Some residents said some people just ignore the signs. Same as people speeding on roads. Suggestion of adding safety flags to the signs. Also suggested a flag system at the launches. Residents said that people aren't getting tickets so they won't stop. Carrie said Sean reported not pulling people over more than once. Captain Gerber said Sean has good judgment and there is a story for each person who is pulled over and the decision as to whether or not to write a citation. Norm said we had this issue last year and this year, but most years we don't have any high water issues. Resident said that people know when the police boat is patrolling. Residents said to put additional signs by the boat launch by Lakeview. Sean suggested to Carrie that we add more signs at the launch and have the GWLPOA and Lake Management put information in their newsletters, websites, and maybe send a postcard to all property owners saying when the lake level is high to check social media and websites prior to going boating. Norm said the decision to go slow/no wake is based upon lake level plus other lake's restrictions, the weather forecast, winds, etc. Residents said that having the 1.6 being a starting point and making it a judgment call is ideal. There has been a lot of damage done to the shoreline already this year. Property owner said that wake boats are causing much larger waves and causing damage, even when the levels are below the 1.6 level and that the loading on the lake should be taken into consideration. Someone mentioned maybe the rules should be changed so that wake boats have to be further away from shore. Lowell said we could probably come up with \$1,000 for buoys if the lake owners can come up with a way to install them. Captain Gerber said he's not sure if there is liability. Lake resident said this is a temporary situation and questioned the usefulness of buying special buoys. He suggested having a contingency plan to put in place if this situation arises in the future. Norm suggested to GWLPOA to check with other lakes and see what they do in these situations. Lillian said that Koshkonong Lake uses the bigger buoys for slow/no wake and they still have issues. There was a thank you to the town board for considering the issue and seeing what we could do. They thanked the town for putting up the signs as well. Both Scenic Ridge and JNT are now involved in the ice cream for kids wearing PFDs.

Road budget discussion – Bob said Payne & Dolan informed us that they had inaccurately bid the Walworth Ave. asphalt project because they had bid on part of the road that is actually the state's responsibility. The revised bid is \$43,764.87, which is about \$27,000 less than the originally accepted bid. This leaves us with about \$40,000 in excess for ditching, another project we had bid, or to add to next year's budget. Norm said all of the sand and salt we put on the road ends up on the shoulders and now the shoulders are higher than the road. Norm said we should experiment with getting our shouldering so the water runs off of the road to see if that would be a viable way to get a bid on an excavator to do this work. Bob agreed the shouldering is an issue. Norm said we should have an idea of what we want a contractor to do to fix the shoulders. Bob said Jaeckel is going to look at Cruse Lane. Bob Harris suggested striping Walworth Avenue after the paving because there is a bike lane and double center stripes. Resident asked about State Park Road condition. The town fills the holes but Bob Harris talked to one of the state workers who said it isn't in their budget to redo that road. Bob Harris said our parking lot could use some work. Bob Strand made a motion to do the Lorwood slag seal by Scott at \$4,771.50, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously. Bob made a motion to spend an additional \$9,999 to not exceed \$24,999 total for crack filling, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously. Board will have Bob Harris determine which additional roads will be crack filled.

Other town business – Julie Abramson said there is a stop sign on State Park Road that people don't stop at with a tree blocking it. She requested the county put up the speed trailer and Ira Martin said he'd put it on the list. There is also a stop ahead sign there. Bob Harris said he is mowing and will get to that area. Julie also said on the west side where there aren't houses, people dump their yard waste there and the ditch is now even with the road. Bob Harris said the pine tree on the corner should be trimmed back and Norm asked if speed

bumps could be put in. Bob Strand suggested a solar flashing stop sign would work if that tree weren't there. Bob also suggested putting up a second stop sign. Carrie will contact the state with these suggestions.

Norm said he's checking the lake level every other day and Bob Harris checks it on the other days. Bob Harris said the lake level has been going down about 1/2" per day. Norm said the lake is down 1/10' lower than what we shut it off at and seems to be going down. Ok to remove slow/no wake effective tomorrow. Bob Harris said 6-8 years ago the cut-off level was 1.7 and it was then lowered to 1.6 per town ordinance. Norm made a motion to remove the slow / no wake, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input – Resident said there are major cracks on Ridge Road. Also said there used to be no parking signs and people are parking on the street. Ira Martin said state law says they can park on the road. They have to be visible from a distance of 300' and there has to be at least 15' of paved road in order for traffic to go around that parked vehicle. There's a law where people rendering services (construction, lawn care, etc.) can park as long as traffic can get through but they have to be able to contact the service provider to move the vehicle if needed. It is illegal to park in front of the mailbox and Ira said that's a federal law. Ira said if there are issues, and you try to reason with the people without success, then call the sheriff's department.

Board paid bills.

Bob made a motion to adjourn at 8:24pm, seconded by Lowell. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer