

**Town Board Meeting  
November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 ~ 6:00pm  
Manitowish Waters Town Hall**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Town Chairman, John Hanson and Board Supervisors Bob Becker and Mike Kramer.

**Approval of Agenda** as posted on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Approved on motion from Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of October 12<sup>th</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup>, and October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve the minutes of October 12<sup>th</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup>, and October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Motion Carried.

**Visitors Present:** Kim Yencich, Chuck Rayala III, Louis Bauers, Bob Skrobot, Karen Dixon, Chris Sindberg, Barry Hopkins, Dan Stella, Dawn Holt, Greg Holt, Kelley DiLeonardi, Frank DiLeonardi, Lynn Schroeder, Trevor Green, JoAnn Miller, Bob Hanson, John McFarland, and one illegible signature.

**Subjects from floor:** None.

**Agenda Items Requested to Speak On:** Dan Stella requested to speak on the **Appoint Rec Center Committee** agenda item, Barry Hopkins, Chuck Rayala III, Lynn Schroeder, Karen Dixon, Greg Holt, and Bob Skrobot asked to discuss the **Resolution on ATV's on All County Roads** agenda item. Dawn and Greg Holt wished to comment on the **Broadband Committee Report** Standing Committee Review item.

**Old Business:**

-- None

**New Business:**

-- **Appoint Rec Center Committee:** A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Mike Kramer to appoint Dan Stella, Tara Stella and Stephanie McClellan to the Rec center Committee. Motion carried. Dan Stella requested permission to register as a non-profit through the Town for donations and fund-raising for which permission was granted.

--**Resolution on ATV's on All County Roads:** Chair Hanson read aloud Resolution 3-21, which in summary opposes the designation of allowing ATV/UTV use on the segments of County Highway W and County Highway K in Manitowish Waters. A motion was made by John Hanson and seconded by Bob Becker to approve the resolution as read. Motion carried unanimously. Barry Hopkins spoke at length disagreeing with the Town's stance on this subject, adding that it was unfair not to tap the market that allowing ATV/UTV's would bring into many local businesses. Chuck Rayala III noted that these vehicles are a lot quieter and also that they obey traffic laws. He went on to say that the townships and cities that are allowing them are not experiencing any problems and commerce has increased because of them. Lynn Schroeder stated that he agreed with what Barry had to say, and that the people whom oppose them are not considering the benefits. Dan Stella questioned enforcement and how our community would police violators, but went on to say that the connection to neighboring communities would be a benefit. Karen Dixon, on behalf of the MW Lakes Association and Discovery Center, expressed concern over the environmental impact, destruction of habitat, erosion, and transference of invasive species. Hopkins responded to Dixon, pointing out that these vehicles would be driven on roads, not trails, and therefore will not impact the areas of Dixon's concerns. Greg Holt interjected that people are already violating our local ATV/UTV laws and what's to stop riders from going off road and violating the areas of Dixon's concerns. Chair Hanson recommended to Hopkins that he present at the Vilas County level, but do so as a bonified club to carry more weight. Hopkins responded that his group will be joining a club or creating their own by week's end. The question was raised as to how riders would be deterred from extending their travels onto Town roads. Hopkins answered that the ATV/UTV Club would be willing to pick up the expense of signage on Town roads and would not be looking to the Town for funds. In conclusion, Dan Stella stated that it was the fiscal responsible of the Town to not thwart the economic impact this could have for Manitowish Waters.

--**Adopt 2022 Budget.:** This item was temporarily tabled until the Budget Hearing and Special Town Meeting of Electors are concluded. After reconvening, a motion was made by Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve the 2022 Budget. Motion carried.

**Standing Committee Review:**

--**Broadband Committee Report:** The Governor of Wisconsin announced that he will be releasing 100 million dollars in grant funding. The grants are competitive and applications will likely be available December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Hanson is working with Lumen, (formerly CenturyLink) to obtain a proposal for installing "the final mile" of buried fiber. Grants will probably be distributed in late spring or early summer but there is no guarantee that we will receive a grant. There is also grant funding available from the Federal Government, but it is inevitable that the Town will have to put some funding in. Additionally, we will need to put together some form of a proposal before we can apply for grants. With regards to the Town funded portion of the project, the electors will need to decide if they would like to **bond** for the funds or pay for it individually. Dawn Holt suggested sending out a survey to answer some of these questions. Hanson agreed that a survey could be mailed out with tax bills to collect public input. There is a chance that fiber will not get run to some of the more remote households, but satellite could be an option for these locations.

--**Vouchers:** Vouchers for October 23rd, 2021 were \$125,262.11, which included a \$19,431.97 payment to the Chamber for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter room tax, a \$67,250.00 Annual Appropriation to the MW Fire Co., and a \$12,100.00 payment to Pitlik & Wick for the Library Parking Lot. November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 vouchers equaled \$64,762.98 of which \$25,800.00 will be offset by donations. A motion was made Bob Becker and seconded by Mike Kramer to approve the vouchers as stated. Motion carried.

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

--**Airport Report:** Chair Hanson shared that we are working on developing new sites for new hangars, with a goal of having the sites ready by next April. Hanson went on to say that it's been quiet at the Airport. Becker mentioned that the Roemer and Slaney land purchases are moving along and Hanson added that the strip along Powell Road that the Town will be purchasing was valued at \$57,000.00. The Town purchase was already approved by the electors at the Spring Annual Meeting.

--**Road Report:** Supervisor Kramer read aloud from the Road Report prepared by Roads Foreman, Tom Lentz. The crew pulled all the buoys and stored them on shore with the aid of the new winch, which worked great. Picnic tables, bike racks and garbage cans have been pulled from the parks and placed in cold storage. The parks and cemetery have been cleaned up and are looking good till spring. Sand and salt have not been ordered this year because about 300 yards is leftover from the previous year. They would like to use it up completely so the walls can be sealed. They have not been sealed since the building went up in 2006.

--**Transfer Station:** Supervisor Kramer said that there was not much to report and that everything is going good. Brush pile chipping is almost done.

--**Parks Report:** Bathrooms are closed, parks are put to bed, and the Koller Park floating fingers have been moved into the inlet by the dam.

--**Cemetery Report:** Supervisor Becker stated that a dog house over the new pump is still not done.

**Correspondence:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was temporarily recessed at 7:00pm and reconvened at 7:28pm. Final adjournment at 7:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dana Hilbert  
Clerk/Treasurer