



Town of Washington

Vilas County, Wisconsin

Minutes

Town of Washington Board of Supervisors

Monday, December 4, 2023, 5:15 pm, at the Washington Town Hall

Located at 2301 Town Hall Rd

Board Members Present: Jim Egan –Chairman, Carole Linn – Supervisor, Art Granat –Supervisor, Nancy Sobraliski – Town Clerk, and Tiffany Bolte – Town Treasurer. There were 15 other people in attendance.

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.
3. **Verification of Postings:** Sobraliski stated the agenda was properly posted at the Wild Eagle Corner Store, MJ's Wayside, the Town Hall and on the Town's website. Local news media were notified more than 24 hours in advance.
4. **Approval of the agenda to be discussed in any order at the discretion of the Chairman.** Motion Linn, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
5. **Approval of the previous minutes from November 6, 2023 and Budget Hearing from November 28, 2023:** Motion Linn, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Bolte presented the November 2023 treasurer's report.
7. **Town Foreman Report:** Town Crew performed clean-up of recent wind damage, road sanding, and small equipment repair in the month of November. Smokey the Bear sign has been taken down for the winter. There has been a reported theft of a street sign at Smile-A-While Rd., and a new sign has been ordered and will be installed upon receipt from Rent-A-Flash (sign vendor). The old pier from the Deerskin Lake boat landing is available at the Town Shop to any interested party.
8. **Sign for Transfer Station:** Rich Kuethe was present at the meeting and would like to order an outdoor sign which would replace his handwritten signs. He recommends a 36 x 48 message board for an approximate cost of \$485 and he would take responsibility for pertinent messaging, i.e. hours of operation, special notices, etc. Money is available for this purchase and the Town Board recommends proceeding with the outdoor sign order. Rich also reports hydraulic fluid is leaking on the trash compactor and will be serviced this week.
9. **Lower Deerskin River – Larry Springer:** Mr. Springer explained the history on Deerskin River and the present-day problem of silt build-up on the shoreline of multiple properties along a ½ mile stretch of the river, as well as Scattering Rice Lake. It is believed the silt build-up is caused by the removal of a dam in 2001 and the situation has worsened over the last several years. Beginning early in 2024, Mr. Springer will be aggressively pursuing procurement of grant funding for a professional study of the situation including recommendations to rectify the problem. He will work with Vilas County, the WDNR, and ERCLA on next steps and will keep the town informed on progress.

10. **Room Tax Change Resolution:** Egan read the resolution as proposed. He explained the current agreement allows for the proceeds of the 4.5% room tax, which is collected by each municipality, to be distributed to the Room Tax Commission and each municipality with 90% retained by the Room Tax Commission and 10% retained by the municipality. Egan and representatives from the Town of Lincoln and City of Eagle River have met with the Chamber and Room Tax Commission to discuss changes to the agreement which would amend the agreement for municipality retention of 25% to 30% of the collection. Because the 10% retention falls under Wisconsin Statute 66.0615 (1m)(d)2, the municipalities are working with our state legislators to change the current legislation. It is anticipated a change to the statute would be a lengthy process, but signing the resolution, at the local level, would help to facilitate first steps. Motion Egan to approve the Room Tax Resolution, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
11. **Mobile Home Permit Fee Ordinance:** Motion Egan to approve Chapter 23, Ordinance establishing a manufactured/mobile home community license and monthly municipal parking permit fee for manufactured/mobiles homes, seconded Linn, all voting aye; approved. Motion Linn to approve a \$100 application fee, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
12. **Approval of Operator License:** Sobralski presented renewal operator license applications for Jodine Kellogg. Applicant has completed the application and server course, paid the fee, and passed the background check. Motion Egan to approve the operator license, seconded Linn, all voting aye; approved.
13. **Approval of Road Names – Lake Forest Area:** Vilas County has asked for the town’s approval on new roads in the Lake Forest development. Motion Linn to approve “Lake Forest Ln” and “Woods N Water Dr” as new road names, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
14. **Approval of the 2024 Town of Washington Budget:** Motion Egan to approve the 2024 Town of Washington Budget as presented at the November 28, 2023 Budget Hearing, seconded Linn, all voting aye; approved.
15. **Topics for Town E-News:** Winter Road policy, 2024 Town of Washington budget, instructions for electronic tax payments, reminder to use 2024 transfer stations permits after January 1, snowmobile routes, and availability of the old pier from Deerskin Boat Landing.
16. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Egan, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved.
17. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn Egan, seconded Granat, all voting aye; approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Nancy Sobralski – Town Clerk
Approved: 01/08/2024