

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2023 AT THE MINONG TOWN HALL AT 6:00 PM**

NOTICE: THE TOWN MEETING MAY ACT ON ONLY THOSE SUBJECTS THAT WISCONSIN STATUTES SPECIFICALLY GRANT IT THE POWER TO DO SO. ACTIONS ON OTHER MATTERS HAVE NO LEGAL EFFECT AT ALL, AND THUS ARE ADVISORY ONLY

CALL TO

ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Warner at 6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: All residents present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

TOWN

PRAYER: Was read by Jerry Smith

APPROVE

MINUTES: Motion by Jim Smith, 2nd by Jerry Smith to approve the minutes of the last Annual Meeting held on April 19, 2022 as presented. All in favor. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S

REPORT: Motion by Jerry Smith, 2nd by Jim Smith to approve the Treasurer's report dated April 18, 2023. All in favor. Motion Carried.

CLERK'S

REPORTS: Motion by Jim Smith, 2nd by Linda Featherly to approve the Clerk's reports. All in favor. Motion Carried.

OLD

BUSINESS: Nothing at this time

NEW

BUSINESS: 2023-2024 Road Plan –
2023 Road plan was reviewed by residents and Deeper Lake Road was changed to ½ mile and from double chip seal to single chip seal for 2023. Motion by Reid Wronski, 2nd by Jerry Smith to approve 2023 Road Plan. No Road Plan presented for 2024, as there is going to be a Road Committee to look at all the roads before starting next years plan.

VOTING: Voting was then addressed pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.14 states that only persons qualified under state law to vote for state legislators, the president, etc., may vote at the town meeting. Options were given of how would the tax payers like to cast their votes this evening: show of hands, paper ballot, standing or vocally. Motion by Reid Wronski, 2nd by Mike Kellen to use a show of hands to cast votes tonight. All in favor. Motion Carried.

RULES: Chuck Warner explained Annual meeting rules pursuant to Wis State Stat. § 60.10. The town meeting may grant the town board authority to act on some things (which the board may decide not to do) under Wis. Stat. § 60.10(2).

Other Items from the Floor for discussion

Motion by Reid Wronski regarding the importance of local government transparency, 2nd by Patsy Quick. Discussion followed including how the agenda items are posted, how motions and minutes need to be more accurate with more information, and posted timely. Clerk explained that this was discussed at the last meeting, however most of the crowd got up and left in the middle of the meeting so they did not hear. No further action requested.

Motion by Patsy Quick to plow private roads with a robust waiver and increase the prices, 2nd by Patrick Tanner. Long discussion followed with people speaking both for and against the plowing of the private roads by the Township. The fact that tax payer dollars can not be used to pay for the private roads was addressed. Was stated that Private Roads are larger than the driveways and need the Townships big equipment, and should also be done when they are going by doing the Township roads not waiting until after the Town roads are completed. Also stated were not enough contractors in the area to do the private roads, and to form a committee to discuss Plowing of Private roads further. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to plow private roads with a robust waiver and increase the prices. 25 Ayes – 19 Nays, Motion Passed

Motion by Reid Wronski to establish extreme snowbank clearing service options for private roads by the Town of Minong, 2nd by Peggy Wachtler. If private roadway plowing goes away, specialized equipment may be needed to remove and/or push back the excessive snow. Would like to see a waiver and a committee created to look into this. Was stated that there are 3 private contractors available to complete this task. Also was stated that would like to see the fees increased if needed. Was brought up that no municipalities around us plow driveways or private roads, they have all gotten out of the service. BWCS, a private contractor at the meeting stated that he has bought new equipment and is able to service a lot of the people that will no longer have a contract with the Town. He is also looking at expanding with more personnel. The private roads take longer, but he is able to do them. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to establish extreme snowbank clearing service options for private roads by the Town of Minong. 22 Ayes – 18 Nays, Motion Passed

Motion by Reid Wronski to revise the standards of Private Roads to become Town Roads, 2nd by TJ Parro. Discussion followed with that all town roads should be at same standard, not how they were originally plated. Was requested that we go by the standards that were in place when the road was actually established. Was also mentioned that these roads have County specifications as well as legal specifications that also apply. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to revise the standards of Private Roads to become Town Roads. 23 Ayes – 19 Nays, Motion Passed

Motion by Bart Riberich to explain the liability of plowing and the Towns position, 2nd by Bob Barneson. Discussion followed with a statement that towns can plow and that not all the lawsuits are being lost by the municipalities, so liability is not an issue. Chuck Warner stated that he reviewed the information that was sent to him following the last board meeting on this. Was stated that yes Towns can plow, but are not required to. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to explain the liability of plowing and the Towns position. 29 Ayes – 2 Nays, Motion Passed

Motion by TJ Parro to publish road standards on the Town Website, Private Road to become a Town Road, 2nd by Antoinette Olson. Was explained that we have that information, and was requested to be on the website. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to publish road standards on the Town Website. 29 Ayes – 0 Nays, Motion Passed

Motion by Al Schoenborn to establish virtual or audio attendance for all meetings, 2nd by Susan Schrader. Discussion followed with people speaking both in favor and against. Was stated to costly, not supporting with only 1 or 2 staff. Laptop, Zoom or cell phone were brought up as possible options. Vote of the residents by show of hands for board to act on this motion to establish virtual or audio attendance for all meetings. 26 Ayes – 7 Nays, Motion Passed

Todd Conaway stated that the Cemetery Clean-up will be Sunday April 30th at 9 am, and all are encouraged to attend. We could use the help.

NEXT ANNUAL

MTG DATE: REQUIRED BY LAW IS THE THIRD TUESDAY OF APRIL OR 10 DAYS AFTER AS ALLOWED BY LAW.

Motion by Jerry Smith, 2nd by Jim Smith to have the next Annual Meeting on Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM. All in favor. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN: Motion by Jim Smith 2nd by Jerry Smith to adjourn. All in favor. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Susan Conaway – Clerk/Treasurer