

**Town of Worcester**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 19, 2022**

**Call to order** - Chairman Paul Precour called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. at the Worcester Town Hall. Present were Supervisors Jeremy Pesko and Jim Michler. Also present was clerk/treasurer Roberta Reese and 9 visitors.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

**Approve minutes from June 21, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting** - Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve minutes from June 21, 2022, regular town board meeting. Motion carried.

**Approve minutes from June 27, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

**Approve minutes from June 30, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve minutes from June 30, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

**Clerk/Treasurer Report** – General checking \$188,008.29, one year business CD \$217,252.27, CMMA \$37,868.41, Prevail Bridge CD \$154,838.74. Attended first Clerk Institute through UW-Green Bay.

**Road Crew Report** – Most of the blacktopping projects are done. Working on reclaiming gravel roads including Old 13 Road and Holy Cross Road. Looking at replacing culverts where needed. Mower and reclaimer have both required repairs and have had difficulty obtaining parts.

**Items for discussion and possible action:**

**Elk River Bridge: Attorney Schoenborn will report his findings on the bridge and discuss options. In addition to the bridge issue is the issue of preparing a new cooperative agreement with the USDA and the Town of Worcester.** In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the USDA obtained an easement for the Elk River Bridge, which gave them the right to use the bridge and the obligation to maintain it. In 1977, the USDA disclaimed any interest or use of the bridge and the Town obtained an easement for highway purposes. The Town had a cooperative agreement with the US Forest Service, which allows for federal funding for roads, which has expired. Before they are willing to enter into a new cooperative agreement, the USDA wants the Town to take over maintenance of the bridge. Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to authorize Attorney Bryce Schoenborn to negotiate with the USDA to layout an agreement for the Elk River Bridge that the town will not pay for the bridge, which was built several years ago, and maintenance agreement as layed out. Motion carried.

**Gravel hauling for Holy Cross and Old 13 Roads** – Reclaiming and compacting these roads has saved the town a substantial amount in purchasing and hauling of gravel. A few spots may need gravel and new culverts.

**Transfer of funds or acquire a loan to pay for blacktopping of Raskie Road** – Blacktopping work was finished earlier in the season this year ahead of the town's receipt of second half of property taxes and last installment of state funds. American Asphalt is working with us so we

can pay as funds become available. Boat landings blacktopping was paid in full with ARPA funds.

**Temporary liquor license for Price County Fair** – All requirements for the license have been met and fee paid. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve temporary liquor license for Price County Fair. Motion carried.

**Price County Zoning notification of conditional use permit application for fairgrounds by Price County**- Public hearing to be held on July 21, 2022, for the purpose of hearing evidence relating to creating a campground and holding various public events on property located at the Price County Fairgrounds. Jim Michler will attend the meeting to gather information to determine what action the Town of Worcester may need to take, if any.

**Vote proxy card from Prevail Bank regarding their plan of reorganization** – Discussion on advantages and disadvantages of proposed reorganization. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to vote to approve the plan of reorganization by Prevail Bank. Precour-yes, Pesko-yes, Michler-no. Motion carried.

**Discontinuation of hall rental** – Discussion on rental usage of hall and set up for nonbusiness events. Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to discontinue renting the hall. Motion carried.

**Report on lighting and replacement of windows for town hall** – New garage door openers and ceiling fan have been wired. Windows are still on order and will be installed when they become available.

**Books by Mail update** – The County discontinued Books By Mail from their budget completely this year. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to donate \$500 of our ARPA funds to Price County Books by Mail as a one-time donation. Motion carried.

**Replacement of tractor clutch** – Tractor used for road mowing needs clutch replacement. Cherokee Garage will replace the clutch but town will have to remove the mower from the tractor. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to have Cherokee Garage do repairs on clutch on mowing tractor for \$5435.49. Motion carried.

**Furnace baffling** – Noise from furnace blower could potentially be quieted down with duct insulation. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to get estimates and table until next meeting. Motion carried.

**Fire protection charges to town residents** – Town residents will incur a fire department surcharge if they use fire protection services. Residents should check with their insurance carrier to see what their coverage is in this regard.

**Price County Unit of WTA meeting on July 20, 2022, at 7 p.m. at Northern Pines Resort in Butternut** – Paul and Jeremy plan on attending.

**Approve vouchers** – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Paul Precour to approve vouchers 16592 through 16616 in the amount of \$109,229.66. Motion carried.

**Adjourn** – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried.

Roberta Reese, Clerk/Treasurer