Town of Worcester Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes August 16, 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 were clerk/treasurer Roberta Reese and 8 visitors.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call – All present.

Approve Minutes from July 19, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve minutes from July 19, 2022, regular town board meeting. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes from August 1, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve minutes from August 1, 2022, special town board meeting. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes from August 10, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to approve minutes from August 10, 2022, special town board meeting. Motion carried.

Chair report – Deer Lake, Dardis Lake and Musser Lake boat landings are blacktopped and shouldering work will be done when the weather is cooler. Jeremy and Paul attended the WTA meeting.

Clerk/treasurer report – General checking - \$71,671.67; BCMMA - \$37,871.63; 1 year business CD - \$217,416.55; Prevail Bridge CD - \$154,838.74. Completed August election with no issues.

Road crew report – Clean up after windstorm, replacing culverts, service tractor and grader, hauling gravel, grading roads, needed parts for reclaimer and mower.

Items for discussion and possible action:

Open and award bids for town hall parking lot crack sealing – No bids. Meeting with another company about potential bid. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to table looking at bids for hall parking lot crack sealing until next meeting. Motion carried.

Bridge inspection reports – Nothing major to report, replacing a few signs, need to do some minor repairs.

Elk River Bridge update – Received a letter from the USDA claiming full financial responsibility for past work on the Elk River Bridge. Town's attorney will send an e-mail to USDA verifying that we would accept that letter. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to accept letter from USDA verifying that the town has no financial obligations for past work on the Elk River Bridge. Motion carried.

Meeting with Disappearing Creek Bridge engineer report – Received letter verifying funds will come from the state. Project engineer Tara Krista wants to set date to come to talk to public to go through process required and timeline it will occur in. The meeting will be Monday, August 29, 2022, at 1 p.m. at the town hall.

Bathrooms/Porta Potties for Musser and Deer Lake boat landings – Discussion on whether to place porta potties on boat landings and who will purchase and maintain them. No action taken. Letter from Rural Mutual Insurance – Rural Mutual Insurance notified town that its insurance policy covers up to \$50,000 in defense cost coverage including attorney fees for litigation and after that there is no coverage. Up to this point, there are over \$30,000 in fees.

Report on lighting and replacement of windows for town hall - Good progress on replacement of lights. Need to get electricity to new outside sign before that can be installed. Windows are here and will be installed soon.

Books By Mail letter – Received thank you letter from Books By Mail for donation.

Furnace baffling estimates – Duct insulation not recommended as it can cause problems if it comes loose. Northern Comfort gave quote for new energy efficient motors adjusted to lower speed to keep noise down and preventive maintenance for furnaces in office and shop. Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to ask Northern Comfort to replace blower motors for all four town halls furnaces, do preventive maintenance and set them to run at the most efficient speed for total price of slightly over \$2900. Motion carried.

Concerns of new gravel pit near Substation Road – The person doing the work had already spoken with Price County Zoning and since the size was less than one acre and a short-term project, it did not require a permit.

Report on website and downloading – Work continues to get our website updated.

Set date for budget planning meeting - Set for Monday, August 29, 2022, after meeting with project engineer for bridge.

Transfer of funds or acquire a loan to pay for expenditures – No action required.

Approve vouchers – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Paul Precour to approve vouchers 16617 through 16650 in amount of \$46,233.72. Motion carried.

Adjourn – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to adjourn meeting at 7:49 p.m. Motion carried.

Roberta Reese, Clerk/Treasurer