

Town of Worcester  
Regular Town Board Meeting  
January 17, 2023

**Call to Order** – Chairman Paul Precour called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. at the Worcester Town Hall. Present was Supervisor Jim Michler, Clerk/Treasurer Roberta Reese and 11 visitors. Supervisor Jeremy Pesko was absent.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Recited

**Roll call** – Paul – present; Jeremy – not present; Jim – present.

**Approve minutes from December 20, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Paul Precour to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

**Approve minutes from the January 4, 2023, Special Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Paul Precour to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2023, Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Supervisor Jeremy Pesko joined the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**Approve minutes from January 10, 2023, at 4 p.m. Special Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2023, at 4 p.m. Special Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.

**Approve minutes from January 10, 2023, at 5 p.m. Special Town Board Meeting** – Motion by Jim Michler, second by Jeremy Pesko to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2023, at 5 p.m. Special Town Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Chair report** – Roadcrew has been working around the clock to clear roads. Paul attended the fire ad hoc committee regarding the number of fire department calls billed to the town that the town has to try to collect money from property owners/auto owners on. Trying to speed up the process so town has better opportunity to collect from insurance companies. Looking at options on how to run the transfer station with staffing shortage.

**Clerk/Treasurer report** – General checking \$170,075.04; BCMMA \$37,911.23; Bridge CD \$192,291.30. Starting to get ready for February 21 primary election.

**Roadcrew report** – Paul gave in Chair Report.

**Transfer station report** – Paul gave in Chair Report.

**Items for discussion and possible action: Mink Ranch Road maintenance agreement with the Town of Elk** – The Town of Worcester maintains and snowplows Mink Ranch Road. Reviewed previous road maintenance agreements between the two townships the last of which was in 1997 for \$225/year. Paul discussed this with board members from the Town of Elk. New agreement is for \$450/year to be negotiated annually. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to accept the Mink Ranch Road Maintenance agreement with the Town of Elk. Motion carried.

**2023 agreement for firefighting services for the Town of Worcester provided with the City of Phillips** – Reviewed the proposed agreement for firefighting services with the City of Phillips for a basic charge of \$33,263.54 per year and equipment depreciation charge of \$7,422.42 per

year. Additional fire call service charges start with minimum charge of \$750 and depend on staffing and time spent on the call. Discussion on town having to bill the additional service charges to residents/users. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to approve the 2023 agreement for firefighting services with the City of Phillips. Motion carried.

**Set dates for board of review** – Board of review date set for May 5, 2023, at 10 a.m. to noon.

**Ordinance to repeal any and all Town of Worcester zoning** – Town of Worcester previously turned zoning over to Price County, but town still needs to have an ordinance to formally repeal the town's zoning ordinances. Reviewed ordinance drafted by town attorney. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler, to approve Ordinance 2023-01. Roll call vote: Paul – yes; Jeremy – yes; Jim – yes. Motion carried.

**Hiring of Peterson Metz Ltd to do Form CT** – The CPA firm of Peterson Metz Ltd completed Form CT for the town last year at the recommendation of the town's auditor. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to hire Peterson Metz Ltd to complete Form CT again this year. Motion carried.

**Potential for referendum for Solberg Lake Property** – Town owns 25 acres by Solberg Lake. In prior years, the town had the property appraised. Discussion on land's potential value for housing and whether to subdivide the parcel, timber harvest value, and value as a recreation area. Several town residents gave opinions on the matter. No action taken.

**Purchase of tire chains, straps and other safety equipment** – Report given on safety equipment purchased for town vehicles.

**Report on antenna booster and order of additional units** – Cell phone signal boosters for town trucks, which frequently work out of cell phone signal range. Paul had purchased two signal booster units which worked satisfactorily to get cell phone service where needed. Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to purchase the booster units. Motion carried.

**Squaw Creek Bridge update/meeting time** – Meeting with Tara Krista February 7, 2023. Time to be determined.

**Host WTA meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023** – Meeting will be at the Worcester Town Hall on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 7 p.m.

**Approve vouchers** - Motion by Jim Michler, second by Paul Precour to approve vouchers #16787 through #16812 in the amount of \$58,568.12. Motion carried.

**Adjourn** – Motion by Jeremy Pesko, second by Jim Michler to adjourn at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried.

Roberta Reese  
Clerk/Treasurer