

**REGULAR MEETING
MINOCQUA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
July 24th, 2025**

A special meeting of the Minocqua Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Hartzheim 5:00 p.m. on July 24th, 2025 in the Board Room of the Minocqua Center.

Present were: Chairman Mark Hartzheim, Supervisors Brian Fricke, Billy Fried, Erika Petersen and Lance Krolczyk; Roben Haggart, Town Clerk; Jason Benbenek, Lieutenant Minocqua Police Department and Mark Pertile, Director of Public Works.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Fried to approve the agenda. Voice vote: Motion carried.

DOWNTOWN STREET LIGHT PROJECT & SIDEWALKS

Mark Pertile, Director of Public Works is seeking direction on the street light project and sidewalk impact/repairs. The engineer is asking if the sidewalks could be re-done instead of boring by each street light pole. Mark P. stated that the pavers used on the existing sidewalks are in rough shape and need repair. He felt that this was a great time to tie in with the street light project and get them replaced for approximately \$30,000 additional cost to the town. The new sidewalks would be ADA compliant along with the gray concrete crossing walks with the yellow domes currently being replaced by the DOT. The project would cover the main (Oneida) street sidewalks only. It was suggested that Mark P. get an additional quote to do the pavers on the side streets as long as the contractor is in town working on the main street sidewalks. The board will have several options as far as color and stamped terrace. These decisions can be made at a future board meeting; Mark is looking for direction to give the engineer so they can start the bid process. Schedule wise, this will take place in June of 2026 when the DOT does the crosswalks. Mark Pertile is recommending that the board go with the new sidewalks for an additional \$30,000.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen directing Mark Pertile to pursue the bid process to include the sidewalk replacement and include a bid to do the remaining side streets. Voice vote: Motion carried.

TORPY PARK GEESE MANAGEMENT

Every year the town contracts with the USDA/Fish & Wildlife for goose removal at Torpy Park. They come in June when the feathers are molting, when they can't fly, and round up the geese. This year they were able to capture 40 birds. Mark P. noticed there were 39 adult geese at Torpy Park today. This is a health hazard, and the Oneida County Health Department has been testing the water at the beach. His staff has been spending 3 to 5 hours a day cleaning up after the geese. We have tried coyote decoys, fireworks, strobe lights and the string method, with no success. Mark P. would like to pursue other advanced options with the DNR and USDA allowing the town to use other forces for geese removal.

Motion by Fried, seconded by Krolczyk authorizing the Director of Public Works to work with the USDA and DNR to help mitigate the goose challenges at Torpy Park. Voice vote: Motion carried.

PREMIER RESORT AREA TAX

Chairman Hartzheim reviewed the statute language now allowing the town to implement a Premier Area Resort Tax (PRAT) contained in Wisconsin Act 15. The town has already held a referendum pertaining to PRAT and will not need to have another one. A condition of PRAT implementation is that 50% of the total funds collected be used to reduce the town's levy limit, which is a benefit for the taxpayers in Minocqua. PRAT can be implemented at any quarter of the year. There was discussion on when to implement PRAT with the timing of the recent town referendum, which was less than the board was initially requesting. Supervisor Fried stated that we should exercise our option now and use the tools available to us. Mark P. said PRAT will allow us to do a lot more with the road projects without taking out a high interest loan. Chairman Hartzheim will get clarification as to what percentage we are allowed. The board would need to take affirmative action to establish PRAT and develop an ordinance before collecting the tax. This will be on a future agenda along with the first reading of the draft ordinance.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Fried to get the process going to implement PRAT tax and forward the draft ordinance to the next meeting agenda with a goal to start on January 1st, 2026. Voice vote: Motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Chairman Hartzheim stated that our Comprehensive Plan needs updating. The current plan was adopted in 2010 and there are some changes and updates that need to be added. Updating the plan will help with future grant opportunities and not making the changes may result in the town not qualifying for certain grant programs. The town would hire North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to do the updates, which may take up to a year. The cost is \$15,000, with \$7500 paid for by the county, along with the town's obligation of \$7500.

Motion by Fried, seconded by Fricke to move forward with North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to update our comprehensive plan. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c)-Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. For the purpose of discussing the vacant chief of police position. Roll call vote: Petersen, aye; Fricke, aye; Hartzheim, aye; Fried, aye; Krolczyk, aye.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote: Krolczyk, aye; Fried, aye; Hartzheim aye; Petersen, aye; Fricke, aye.

NO ACTION TAKEN

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to adjourn meeting. Voice vote: Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Roben Haggart
Town Clerk