

**REGULAR MEETING
MINOCQUA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 21st, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Minocqua Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Mark Hartzheim at 5:00 p.m. on October 21st, 2025 in the Board Room of the Minocqua Center.

Present were: Chairman Mark Hartzheim, Supervisors Brian Fricke, Billy Fried, Erika Petersen, and Lance Krolczyk; Lynn Wildes, Town Secretary; Mark Pertile, Director of Public Works; Rich Carani, Fire Chief; Glenn Janzer, Minocqua Police Chief; and Karl Jennrich, Oneida County Planning and Zoning.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to approve the agenda. Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Fried to approve the minutes from the Regular Town Board meeting held on October 7th, 2025 and Budget Meeting held on October 2nd, 2025. Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ROW EXCAVATION PERMIT – VONACHEN/9454 COUNTRY CLUB RD.

Mark Hartzheim stated Director of Public Works, Mark Pertile, issued a right-of-way (ROW) permit for the work that was done here, but at the last board meeting Hartzheim also suggested having a maintenance agreement in place that defines the owner is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the area and the Town is not responsible for any damages while performing normal Town operations. Billy Fried asked if we also need to have them include a certificate of liability and Hartzheim replied we have not required this of others in this position, so Fried agreed if the practice is to not require this he is ok with that. Hartzheim said he can confer with Town Attorney Greg Harrold about the agreement before it is signed if that is what the Town Board wants and if there are any concerns by Harrold he will bring it back to the Town Board for review.

Motion by Fried, seconded by Fricke to approve the maintenance agreement for the right-of-way pending opinion by the Town's legal counsel. Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Hartzheim noted that Kelly Knobeck from the Bottled Bean held this event at their location last winter but they are out of room and are looking to grow the event. He said they want to use the area next to the police department where the farmer's market is located in the summer and since this is Town property it should have Board approval. Brian Fricke asked Pertile if the Town stores snow there and Pertile replied no. Hartzheim stated they will need to plug in the trees there but Knobeck is willing to pay for the electric. Knobeck said there will be 25 trees in this area which will be sponsored by local businesses. She noted there will also be trees located at the Bottled Bean and the empty lot across from Redman Realty.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to approve the use of the empty lot to the west of the police department for the Festival of Trees. Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

BANGSTAD ART DISPLAY

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMIT#39-25: Application by Kirk Bangstad, owner, to operate a craft brewery retail outlet on property described as: Lots 1 & 2, Block 3 Village of Minocqua Plat and Lot 1, CSM 5589, Section 14, T39N, R6E, PIN #MI-3240, 329 E. Front Street, Town of Minocqua.

Karl Jennrich noted that owner Kirk Bangstad and his attorney were invited to the meeting, but neither is present. He stated Bangstad submitted an Administrative Review Permit (ARP) application in July 2025 but was informed that additional information was needed and advised it should be possibly a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) instead. Bangstad submitted a new ARP application in September which was submitted to the Town on October 8th per the Oneida County ordinance that requires ARP applications to come before the Town Board for consideration. Jennrich stated there were discussions regarding the off-street parking requirements and it was decided to accept the ARP application as Bangstad noted in question #14 that "all sales, service, and business activities remain indoors...".

Hartzheim asked Jennrich to clarify why he decided to accept this as an ARP as outdoor displays such as the "art garden" are a part of a business plan and wouldn't be included in an ARP. Hartzheim noted Bangstad has limited indoor space for seating and the patrons can't help but flow outside so the Town would be naïve to believe there will not be any outside alcohol consumption or activity, and that it is an unrealistic expectation to think everything will be contained within the building. Hartzheim noted Bangstad repeatedly claimed he needed the outdoor parking area to create the beer garden to make his business work financially but now he is asking to get rid of the beer garden to have an outdoor art display, so this appears to be another way to circumvent the process.

Billy Fried stated he didn't understand how someone who has been out of compliance with their current permit and has not made good on their fines is allowed by Oneida County to submit another application. Jennrich replied that type of language (not allowing another application) exists for CUP's but not other permit applications and is something the new Oneida County corporation counsel will be looking at. Jennrich noted the Town Board does have the right to provide Oneida County Planning and Zoning any objections it may have within 30 days. Hartzheim noted the point of this ARP application is for an outdoor display but the existing murals are on a wall and not occupying outdoor space. He reiterated that Bangstad's previous claim was that he needed to use the parking space area for a beer garden to economically support his business, but now he is saying he wants to put an art display there which does not generate any revenue. He said if that is the case then the Town would suggest that Bangstad put the parking spaces back as they were waived for the beer garden. He stated that with the indoor space limitations, alcohol service and possession can't help but find its way outside and therefore this should be a CUP application instead.

Motion by Fricke to reject Administrative Review Permit #39-25 based on the fact that the application contains outdoor displays and seating which requires a Conditional Use Permit.

Krystal Westphal, President and CEO of the Minocqua Area Visitor's Bureau, stated the general public is confused about why this business is allowed to remain open if they are not following the County rules and regulations when other businesses are required to. Hartzheim stated Bangstad is seeking a parking waiver for an art exhibit and noted it now comes down to compliance with his current Oneida County permit, and this ARP application would just a process of more violations and citations.

Fricke rescinded his original motion.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen, to reject Administrative Review Permit #39-25 based on the fact that the application contains outdoor displays and seating.

Fried stated he supports the motion to reject the ARP application, but does not want it lost how someone can receive multiple violations and not pay any of the fines and still remain open for business, as well as noting that the parking spaces originally waived for the beer garden are not waived for the art display. Jennrich noted that Oneida County typically notifies Towns when a CUP application is submitted, but they do not have to send it back to the Town for review.

Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

WISDOT MODIFICATION OF US HIGHWAY 51/COUNTY HIGHWAY K INTERSECTION

Hartzheim noted although this is in a neighboring town he put this on the agenda because it could affect Minocqua and he wanted the Town Board's input. He said he talked with the DOT's project manager, Stacy Hagenbucher, and she stated this project only takes into account safety and not traffic movement. He noted that now on a busy weekend traffic can back up into Arbor Vitae, and with the tremendous amount of traffic going into a single lane roundabout that will cause traffic to back up significantly worse than it does now. He said Hagenbucher stated traffic modeling showed it will not make traffic disruption worse, but Hartzheim disagreed and stated it will impact multiple towns for many miles in all directions. He stated Hwy 51 is 4 lanes from Illinois to Highway 8 and nothing will fix this problem except for 4 lanes through this area to Hazelhurst, and it also does not address the issues at the intersections of County Highways L or D. He said he put this on the agenda to see what the Board member's opinions were and if they want to direct him to issue a letter of opposition to the DOT.

Motion by Fried, seconded by Krolczyk, to direct Town Chairman Mark Hartzheim to send a letter to the Wisconsin DOT expressing the Town's concerns and state that the Town does not support the roundabout project.

Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

Motion by Fricke, seconded by Petersen to adjourn meeting. Voice Vote: Motion Carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Lynn Wildes
Town Secretary