

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS  
TOWN OF CRESCENT  
MINUTES FOR  
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021  
6:00 P.M., CRESCENT TOWN HALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joel Knutson, Chair; Kyla Waksmonski, Supervisor; Mike Pazdernik, Supervisor; Tracy Hartman, Clerk; Carla Fletcher, Treasurer.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Knutson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Crescent Town Hall. The meeting has been properly posted and distributed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting law and the facility is handicap accessible. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Pazdernik to approve the agenda. Seconded by Waksmonski. All aye. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Waksmonski to approve the minutes from the Monthly Town Board Meeting of September 15, 2021. Seconded by Pazdernik. All aye. Motion carried.

**FIFTEEN MINUTES OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION** – None

**TOWN CHAIR REPORT** – None

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A written report was given by Treasurer, Carla Fletcher.

**LIBRARY REPORT** - Update on the library board meeting and upcoming programs being offered at the library – A written and oral report was received from Harry Whidden. Whidden reported that the library is conducting a survey and is asking residents to fill out the survey. Whidden reported that arbitration has been requested by the towns regarding the library budget. Whidden reported that a sizeable donation was received to help purchase books and iPad for seniors that are homebound. Whidden gave an update on programs happening at the library. Whidden reviewed the statistics regarding library usage. Discussion regarding library taxes to towns not a part of the district.

**COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT** - Review of County Board meeting, Administration Committee meeting, Public Works Committee meeting, Conservation and UW-EX Education Committee, Technology Committee meeting and Open Meetings Complaint – Supervisor Bob Thome gave an overview of the activity at the county. Thome reported that the proposed budget is complete at the county with \$5.2 million in Capital Improvement Projects. Thome reported that there is a resolution coming to the County board to privatize the county fair. Thome reported that the manure storage ordinance has been reviewed by DATCP and will go to the County Board no later than January.

**Crescent Lake District** – Thome gave the Crescent Lake District Report. Thome reported that the checkbook balance in the report is inaccurate, and the correct balance is \$1281. Thome reported that the mill rate for Crescent Lake is expected to be 1.047 per \$1000.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PURCHASES** - Monthly Call update, purchases update, training update, fundraiser update – Ryan Frahm, Safety Officer with the Crescent Fire Department, reported that there have been 2 garage fires, a brush fire, and a mutual aid with the City of Rhinelander. Frahm reported that they are reviewing the fire department by-laws and updating them to meet the state rules. Frahm presented a copy of the updated by-laws and updated standard operating procedures. Frahm requested that the board review the updated by-laws for approval at a future meeting. Frahm reported that he completed an inspection on the town hall and the emergency exit signs failed during a power outage and this will need to be corrected. Frahm reported that there is a cover broken on an exterior wall of the town hall which will also need to be repaired. Frahm requested that the issues are fixed by the beginning of the year. Discussion regarding home inspections. Frahm reported that home inspections are not offered and suggested that residents go to the NFPA website and search for the home safety checklist.

**FIRST RESPONDER’S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PURCHASES** - None

### **TOWN ROAD CREW REPORT**

- **Road Projects update, update on vehicle repairs and shop repairs** – Lundt reported that they are currently cleaning out beaver dams in culverts. Lundt reported that they replaced the brush on the broom and that is ready for next spring. They will be putting the wings and sanders on the trucks in the next few weeks. Lundt reported that the culvert on Oak Lane was replaced. Lundt reported that there is a non-permitted driveway on Green Bass Lake Road and the silt fence is causing drainage issues. Knutson reported that he is attempting to get ahold of the owner to remedy the issues. Lundt reported that the owner has also put a mailbox up and it is too close to the road and will cause issues when attempting to plow. Knutson stated that mailboxes that are too close to the road cause potential safety issues for the crew and can damage the plow. Lundt reported that Timber Lodge has been finished and it looks very good and Boyce drive was finished last week. Knutson reported that he has looked at the salt shed and the boards are rotted. Lundt reported that the county will keep the towns salt sand in the county shed to pickup as needed. Lundt stated that the plan is to empty the salt shed this winter so that it can be repaired next year.
- **TRIP-S Road Grant Application/ LRIP eligible projects list 2022** – Knutson reported that he and Lundt attended a meeting with the County Highway Staff to review the State local road improvement funding. Knutson reported that the total baseline road improvement funding for Oneida County towns in 2022 will be \$209,000 with equal shares being distributed amongst 8 towns for approximately \$26,000 each. Discussion regarding the grant and potential road projects for 2022. Discussion regarding the rating that needs to be conducted on the roads. Knutson reported that the two roads that may be eligible are Oak Lane or a portion of Green Bass Road. Knutson reported that there is a new fund in 2022 for \$40 million available at a 90% cost share to towns to make improvements to roads that have not been able to be fixed. Knutson reported that for a town to be eligible the town needs to commit to the project in 2022 with it being completed within the next 2-4 years. Knutson reported that he and Lundt believe that S. River Road would be ideal for this fund. Knutson reported that River Road is currently rated a 7 and isn’t sure if this will be eligible. Knutson will be looking into the program and what the requirements will be for the program. Discussion regarding Davenport Street. Appling asked about Peninsula Road being tarred.

**TOWN PLAN COMMISSION REPORT** – Pazdernik reported that the Town Plan Commission held their first meeting last week. Pazdernik reported that there were no decisions made at the Commission meeting, however, they have come up with a list of goals. Pazdernik reported that the plan commission will be meeting again to review a tourist room house application that was received. Pazdernik reported that the plan commission will be meeting October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**UNIFORM DWELLING INSPECTOR'S REPORT** - None

**SQUASH LAKE DISTRICT REPORT** – Knutson reported that there was a written report received from Peggy Jensen. Knutson read the report for the town board and residents present.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Rhinelander District Library Budget Arbitration** – Knutson reported that the library arbitration has been scheduled for October 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Knutson reported that the increase for the Town of Crescent is \$3842.26 and this will give the town the opportunity to review the budget and determine if the increase is supported.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: ORV Skills Park at "old town dump" property, CR160/3113 S. River Road** – Knutson reported that CR-160 is the old town "dump" that is currently used by residents for yard waste. Knutson reported that the growth of motor sports in the area has been very noticeable and a few years ago the Town of Crescent opened most town roads for UTV routes. Knutson reported that there aren't many trails in Crescent and there are few areas for kids to safely learn how to drive and ride. Knutson stated that he believes the Crescent dump would be an ideal location for an off-road vehicle skills park. Knutson has been in contact with members of the community that are familiar with trails, dirt bikes and skills parks and they feel this would be a great use for the town property. Discussion regarding the idea of the skills park. Knutson would like direction from the board on pursuing the park. Concern was expressed with UTVs, Motor Cross Bikes, ATV's etc. using the park at the same time and the safety concerns. Nate Plouff stated that there were discussions about the safety of the park and how to maintain the safety.

Motion by Knutson that the Town of Crescent open parcel CR-160 for a future ORV (off-road vehicle) park for future ORV use to be determined through a town plan. 7:37 p.m. Seconded by Pazdernik. All aye; motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Northwoods Passage Snowmobile Club – Potential Trail to Fireside Supper Club** – Eric Blomdahl, Fireside Supper Club, reported that he has been working with the Northwoods Passage Snowmobile Club to coordinate opening a snowmobile trail to the restaurant. Blomdahl reported that the proposed trail will come from the main trail by the airport, across Langley Lake and down Nursery Road which leads to the restaurant. Blomdahl reported that they have received permission to come across the main trail and he is looking for permission from the town for Nursery Road to become a snowmobile trail. Discussion regarding the anticipated use of the trail. Motion by Knutson to open Town Road Nursery Road for snowmobile traffic. Seconded by Waksmonski. All aye; motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: 2022 DOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** – Knutson reported that there is another pool of money available to municipalities for transportation alternatives. Knutson reported that this includes funding

dedicated to improving walking, hiking, and biking access. Knutson reported that the TAP is a 50% cost share match to help make connectors between trails. Knutson has spoken with the DOT about establishing routes using town roads as connectors and may be eligible for the funds. Knutson stated that he believes that County N is an ideal road for this program. Discussion regarding the options for the grants. Knutson reported that the grant application is due in January and if approved the town would have 4 years to complete the project. Discussion regarding if County K would be an option for a trail and connecting roads to the Bearskin Trail. Knutson stated that he will continue to research this and bring it back for future discussions.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Traffic "Calming" – Signage request** – Matt Laska on Long Lake Rd. has requested a "Slow: Children at Play" sign be placed before his property. Discussion regarding the request. Knutson requested that the road crew speak with other towns regarding how these requests are handled.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Resolution approving Voting Wards – 2021-2031** – Hartman explained that with the 2020 census and the boundary lines the town needs to redraw the ward boundaries to match the county supervisory lines. Motion by Knutson that Resolution #4-2020 that reestablishes the Town of Crescent wards is approved as presented. Seconded by Pazdernik. All aye; motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Additional Town Board Meetings –** Knutson reported that it is difficult to complete workflow at the town level with only one meeting per month. Knutson would like to look at holding two meetings per month beginning in 2022. Knutson would like this to be considered at a future meeting.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Town Nomination(s) for Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award via CivicPlus** – Knutson reported that CIVIC Plus is holding a nomination for a volunteer award and the town can nominate up to two individuals and the money awarded goes back into the community projects that the volunteers are working on. Knutson reported that he would like to nominate Dan Butkus. Knutson gave an overview of Dan's work on lake districts in the Town of Crescent and statewide. Connie Anderson recommended that the Town nominate the Crescent Fire Chief, however, the Fire Chief is paid and may not be eligible for the grant. Motion by Knutson to nominate Dan Butkus for the Nomination of the Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award. Seconded by Waksmonski. All aye; motion carried. Motion by Knutson to nominate Keven Mahner for the Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award if eligible. Seconded by Pazdernik. All aye; motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Approve Applications for Operator's License** - None

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING: Approve Driveway Permits – Siverling (2751 Crescent Road)** – Lundt reported that the Siverlings need to remove trees prior to the driveway being approved. Mark Markee expressed concern with where the snow removal would occur if a driveway were installed. Knutson stated that this will be returned to the

Siverlings to complete the tree removal that needs to occur prior to a driveway permit being approved.

CLOSED SESSION: It is anticipated that a motion will be made, seconded, and approved by roll call vote to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1) (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Topics: PFAS Update, Oak Lane Road Culvert Replacement, Subpeona re: Kuczarski v. Kuczarski, 20-CV-36). A roll call vote will be taken to go into closed session and it is anticipated that the Committee will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda. 11. Announcement of action taken in closed session, or take action based on closed session (NOTE: If the announcement of action taken in closed session would compromise the need for the closed session, the action taken will not be announced. Any action taken in closed session may be announced when the need for the closed session has passed).

Motion by Knutson to go into closed session at 8:37 p.m. Seconded by Pazdernik. Roll call vote taken all aye; motion carried. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Knutson to return to open session at 9:25 p.m. Seconded by Pazdernik. Roll call vote taken all aye; motion carried. All aye; motion carried.

Knutson reported that there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

**REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE** – Copy of a letter sent from Oneida County Planning and Zoning to Denis Koshak regarding concerns with junk on the property.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS/ADJOURN**

Motion by Knutson to approve vouchers as submitted and adjourn at 9:28 p.m. Seconded by Waksmonski. All aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tracy Hartman  
Municipal Clerk