

VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

Village Hall, 105 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes, WI

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:30 PM BY PRESIDENT SKINNER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ ROLL CALL:

Present: Trustees Kevin Fitzgerald, Bill Kaskin, Aaron Karow, Barb Andres, Ken Perl, President Howard Skinner.
Also Present: Administrator Laura Jager, Police Chief Katie Hall, Clerk Sabrina Waswo

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT: *Skinner/Andres Corporate Checking (including General Fund, Sanitation, Capital Projects-E/M, Sewer Utility, Lake Rehab, Sewer Hook-Up, Sewer Replacement, and Tax Account): 36610-36688, 539-568, 1568-1615 Expenses – \$3,228,229.50. Motion carried 6-0.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Skinner/Andres motion to approve minutes from November 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting, November 21, 2024 Special Board Meeting, December 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting, and December 30 Special Board Meeting. Motion carried 6-0.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS & QUESTIONS: None.

PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEE REPORT - ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, JUDICIARY, LICENSING

Skinner/Fitzgerald motion to approve a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters 200 (Public Works and Sewer). Motion carried 6-0.

Skinner/Fitzgerald motion to approve a Temporary Alcohol Class “B” Beer License to the Twin Lakes Chamber for the “SOUP”ER Bowl Sweethearts event on February 8, 2025 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at 989 Legion Drive. Motion carried 6-0.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT HOWARD SKINNER

Discussion of recent vacancy on the Village Board and possible appointment to fill such vacancy. President Skinner announced that, as of January 15, 2025, Trustee Sharon Bower has submitted her resignation. She will be greatly missed on the board. Trustee Bower dedicated 20 years of service and NEVER missed any time until her health began to decline. She was always there when needed and consistently made thoughtful decisions. President Skinner expressed his desire for the Village Board to approve a plaque in her honor.

Skinner/Andres motion to appointment Tim Infusino to fill the vacancy from now until the election. Trustee Fitzgerald stated he is going to abstain since we are so close to the election. *Motion carried 5-0 with Trustee Fitzgerald abstaining.*

TRUSTEE AARON KAROW - BUILDING AND ZONING, PLAN COMMISSION, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

December 2024 Building Permits: 25; Valuation: \$1,224,228.20, Fees Collected: \$21,924.50

TRUSTEE KEN PERL - POLICE, FIRE, LAKE CONTROL, PARKS AND BEACHES

December 2024 Code Enforcement: Active Cases: 8, Closed Cases: 3

Discussion and possible action regarding a proposal from the Aquanuts for improvements at Lance Park and signs at Lance Park.

Bob Koehler, President of Aquanut Water Shows, announced that the Clinton Family has generously donated \$100,000 to the project. Additionally, \$60,000 has been secured from the Daniel Zulinski Family Foundation, which contributed toward the sign at Lance Park. The Aquanuts plan to invest another \$100,000 from their own funds, along with sweat equity. The total estimated cost of the project is approximately \$400,000. The Clinton

Family has two requests: the Village match their \$100,000 donation; and the Village provide a long-term guarantee for the Aquanuts to continue using the site, recognizing their substantial investment and 55 years of history at the location. They hope to secure another 55 years at Lance Park.

Koehler presented the proposal, including a revised site drawing. The updates feature extended and straightened seating, shade trees, shoreline erosion control, and a new pier. He confirmed that no DNR permit is required but agreed to verify this after Skinner suggested confirming to avoid any potential issues. Skinner stated that the Village has sufficient funds in the park fund to support this proposal without borrowing or reallocating money from other sources. It was explained that park fund revenues are generated through building permits and are required by law to be used for park-related improvements. Koehler emphasized the Aquanuts' commitment to the community, mentioning benefit shows they organize for local causes. They expressed interest in hosting a benefit event to support Twin Lakes Fire and Rescue.

Fitzgerald suggested selling engraved bricks as a fundraising effort and recommended adding more shade trees to the site. Koehler responded that they are looking at adding sail cloth coverings for shade over the back rows. He noted that the Clinton Family would like the project to move forward as soon as possible, with the goal of completion before the first spring show.

Koehler shared additional project details, including plans to install sound towers. These towers could enhance the experience for movie nights in the park and would be available for other events at the park. Fitzgerald suggested adding "Lance Park" signage to the new sign already installed at the site.

The Board discussed the need for a legal agreement, reaching a consensus to draft a memorandum of understanding. Administrator Jager pointed out the 2023 audit shows the park fund contains \$105,129. Skinner concluded the discussion by reaffirming the Board's approval to proceed and directing that the MOU be finalized for the next meeting.

Bryan Neal, 142 E Lake Shore Dr., expressed concern that the call for public comments occurred before two significant pieces of information were disclosed. He noted the recently resigned trustee attended 9 of the first 10 meetings from January 1 to May 10, missed the next 20, then attended the January 2, 2025 meeting before resigning shortly after candidate announcements, which he found unusual.

He acknowledged his support for Aquanuts, where his wife served on the board, but criticized the board for considering allocating \$100,000 to the park, calling it financially irresponsible given a \$200,000 cut to the police budget. He argued the park is adequate, and funds should prioritize police and fire services. He reminded the board that taxpayers rejected tax increases in the last two referendums. While he supports funding EMTs, he warned that the board would likely need to request more taxes next year and urged them to be transparent about tax increases for such projects.

President Skinner clarified that park funds could only be used for park-related purposes. He explained that Tim was appointed to Sharon's trustee position because he already serves on two village boards. Bryan clarified his issue was the timing of public comments, which occurred before disclosing the appointment or the \$100,000 expense, despite the village's significant debt.

ADJOURN – Skinner/Fitzgerald motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

/s/Sabrina Waswo, Village Clerk