

Town of Summit Town Board Meeting minutes December 8, 2025, Summit Town Hall – 7pm

6:30pm – Review of payment authorizations

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: The December Monthly board meeting for Monday December 8, 2025, having been duly posted at the transfer site, town hall, town garage, and 3 businesses – Drifters Trail, Amnicon Bar & The Backyard on Amnicon Lake, & Tri Lakes Community Center, meeting was called to order by Chairman Nicholas Hudacek at 7:00pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. Roll call was taken. Present were Nicholas Hudacek - Chair, Dan Zuchowski, Supervisor, Rae Ann Edwards Supervisor, Daniel Corbin, Clerk and Terri LaFlamme, Treasurer.

3. Chairman Nicholas Hudacek opened the hearing for the Wake enhancement Ordinance. Turned the meeting over to Judy Peterson – Chairperson of the Amnicon/Dowling Lake management District to present the proposed ordinance for the Town of Summit.

- Tom & Sue Reidel had a presentation that they gave to explain the reason that the Amnicon/Dowling Lake district has asked for the town to pass an ordinance. They explained what the wake boats due to the bottom of the lake, by churning up the sediments that can have devastating effects on the ecology of the lake. They also explained what the boats can do for the recreation on the lake - which included how that type of boat can affect other people that are recreating on the lake. The power of the boat and the way that they produce the force that produces the waves that people like to either water ski or water board on the lake. The waves can effect the bottom as deep as 20-30 ft or more by stirring up the sediments on the bottom of the lake, especially troublesome is the phosphorus that will be stirred up from the lake bottom, which can effect the algae growth in the lake, including blue green algae which can have a devastating effect on the wildlife, peoples pets that use the lake and the people that use the lake for swimming. It was also noted that there are a lot of studies from the universities and their science programs that have shown the devastation that has happened in lakes that allow these wake enhancing boats and shown what the consequences have been on lakes around Minesota & Wisconsin, where our lakes just are not large enough and are not deep enough to escape the consequences of these types of boats.
- It was also noted that there is no way to drain the water tanks on the boat, which is part of the wave enhancing mechanism. The concern is that if they can't empty their tanks hen moving the boat from lake to lake, they could transport aquatic species to our lake, which has enjoyed a limited problem with aquatic invasive species. Our community would like to leave that influence alone, so that the situation does not get any worse.
- After the Lake Districts presentation, chairman Nicholas Hudacel opened the meeting for comments from residents with their concerns. He gave them about 3 minutes to state their opinions and concerns about the ordinance, and why we do not need the ordinance. The biggest concern is who is going to enforce the regulation. The town of Summit does not have the regulatory set up to work with the Douglas County Sheriff and the Douglas County District Attorney. At this point there is no statewide regulation of this activity.
- Some supporters of the ordinance stated that Amnicon Lake is already on the critically impaired lakes list with the DNR, and that this would or could push Amnicon Lake further down that road. The Lake distrct would also like the opportunity to explain to residents and users, to educate them about the effects of these type of boats.
- Some opponents of the ordinance stressed again that there is no way to enforce the ordinance, so why pass an ordinance that cannot be enforced. They have also mentioned that they have been well-responsible stewards of the lake, and should have the right to use the lake as they see fit. Jay Hunger encouraged the board to pass the ordinance for the betterment of the lakes in our area. Mike Christianson asked if there was larger lakes nearby that could be utilized for this type of recreation – except for Lake Superior, you would have to travel a long distance to find a lake that large and deep to withstand the pressure caused by these boats. He also expressed concern for an ordinanc that can not be enforce by the board, why would you do that.
- After the residents gave their opinions, chairman Nick Hudacek asked the board for their opinions. Nick stated his concern: if we pass the ordinance we open up the Town of Summit to a lawsuit for denying the use of the lake, we don't have the resources to fight that kind of lawsuit. Judy Peterson also stated that no one has been sued yet and if we get sued, we would have the opportunity to rescind the ordinance which would stop the law suit. After the town is sued, there is a 120 day

cooling off period that would give the town time to decide what to do before the lawsuit can go forward. Dan Zuchowski was concerned also about the effects that they boats would have on the ecology of the lake and what it would do to some of the recreation on the lake - other boaters, and to the shoreline of lake residents property, what kind of damage can be done there. Most of the lakes around here are fragile and need to be treated so that they stay viable for years to come. The lake district has worked for years with state funding to keep these lakes stocked with fish and to study what the issues are that need to be addressed for these lakes.

- Since there were no other comments from the audience, Nick closed the hearing, stating that the board will discuss it further later in the meeting and could make a decision on what direction to take.

Authorization of approval of bills:

The motion to authorize and pay bills and online bills for December 8, 2025, was made by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards. After no further discussion, the motion to pay bills was approved.

4. Approval Of Minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes for November 10, 2025, was made by Rae Ann Edwards, 2nd by Dan Zuchowski. After no further discussion the motion was approved.

5. Approval of Treasures report: The motion to approve November Treasurers report was made by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards to approve the November 2025 Treasurer report. After no further discussion the motion was approved.

6. Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

- Cemetery Plots
 - Family Plot for Mike & Rae Ann Edwards. Fees are paid - \$400.00. Motion by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Nick Hudacek. Motion was approved.
 - Single lot for Thomas Nimitz. Fees are paid - \$125.00. Motion by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards to approve. Motion was approved.
- Approval for election officials:
 - Election judges – Rosemary Washkuhn & Della Pleski.
 - Poll workers:
 - Chuck Pleski Judy Peterson Kathy Lisdahl
 - John Sweeney Sandi Fogo, Terri LaFlame
 - Marie Zuchowski
 - Motion to approve the election workers by Rae Ann Edwards, 2nd by Dan Zuchowski. Motion was approved.
- Talked to Emmer Shiels about reducing the length of the LRIP project on the Milchesky road to 3,837.75 ‘ from 13,000’. Motion to approve the reduction in the length of the project, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards. Motion was approved.
- Contract for Associated appraisals needs to be signed. Have checked with other towns and the cost is comparable to what other towns are paying. Cost is \$13,000 or 1083.33/month. Motion by Rae Ann Edwards, 2nd by Dan Zuchowski. Motion was approved to sign contract with Associated Appraisals,

7. Treasurer's Reporting & Correspondence:

- Nothing more to add.

8. Supervisors Review of the Month:

- **Rae Ann Edwards:**
 - Drive way at Van Erts needs to be lowered for the fire department access.
 - Flowers at cemetery, we need to get the sign up soon and posted.
 - Couple of calls about trees down across the road, but by the time I contacted the guys, they were taken care.
 - Lots of positive feedback on the roads and their condition.
- **Dan Zuchowski:**
 - Still trying to get in touch with Anna Davey about the RR crossing on the Nindorf road. Will keep trying.
 - Call about assessment that was not correct for Todd Ferrington, but I see check is in for approval tonight.

9. Chair's Review of the Month:

- Talked to Patrick from Monarch Paving about our projects for next year. So far we are good to go.
- Helped Eric put sander in the truck.
- No other complaints, guys are doing a great job, lots of compliments.

10. Fire Department Report on Month's activity

- We had 1 fire this month, 3 medicals, 3 call offs.
- 4 SCBA's did show up

11. Road Crew Monthly Report

- Ditching on Milchesky Road until freeze up.
- Patzau/Foxboro bridge – netting is up.
 - Also all of the trees are cut on our newly purchased project for the bridge approaches.
- Still Brushing roads, will be a continuing project until we are completed with all of the roads.
- Working on tree damage on the southern part of the town. Will keep working on this project.

12. Cemetery Report

- Flags were taken down after Veterans Day.

13. County Board Supervisor monthly report – Joe Moen

- Joe was not at meeting.

14. BUSINESS:

- **A. 2026 Budget**

- Motion to approve the 2026 Budget by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards. Motion was approved.

- **B. Wake enhancement Boat Ordinance, consideration..**

- Dan Zuchowski stated that it was not worth risking the damage to the lake. Will need o put up signs to let people know.
- Rae Ann feels the same way as Dan Z. do not want to see any damage to Amnicon lake. Enforcement is an issue, but hopefully people will self-regulate. Maybe this will help to educate people about the effect on the lake. Oakland has already approved an ordinance.
- After no further discussion, Dan Zuchowski made a motion to approve the Wake Enhancement Boat Ordinance, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards. Motion was approved.

- **C. 2025 Budget updates, discussion/2025 budget may be amended.**

- Budget was reconciled through November, Dan C will get completed and then get to board.

- **D. Appointment of election Poll workers and Chief election Judges..**

- Motion by Rae Ann Edwards, 2nd by Dan Zuchowski to approve the poll workers and eletion judges for the next biennium – 2026-2027. Motion was approved.

E. LRIP – Milchesky Road Project.

- Project is looking great. Project from Rancon Road to Mud Lake Road will sunset in June 2027
- Nick would like to reduce length of project from 13,000’ to 3,837.75’ because the expense is prohibitive for next year. Dan C will talk to Emmer shields and get this done.
- Motion by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards to reduce the length of the project to 3,837.75’. Motion was approved.

F. Patzau/Foxboro Bridge over balsam Creek – Update.

- Bidding is in February
- It is in the states hand now.
- Leonard has not cashed his check yet, he thought he might not. Dan Zuchowski will talk to him.

G. Town equipment – Excavator Repair/replacement.

- Cost to repair I approximately \$60,000
- Looking at cost of another excavator:
 - Titan used 2022 – same size machine.
 - \$139,500.
 - Case model. New is \$177,000
 - John Deere 2026 - \$224,500
 - Volvo - 2026 - \$170,000
 - Komatsu\$183,995.42
 - Cat - \$217,000
 - There is a lot of used equipment out there.
 - The excavator is used the most. It is used everywhere in the town. This year we ditched 3 mile on the Milchesky Road, and replace 20 culverts this last season.
 - We definitely need an excavator.
- Dan Zuchowski has a big concern. We do not need to borrow and put anything more on the levy. Citizens are taxed enough.
 - We should use our money for the excavator.
 - Earmark CD’s for the truck.
 - We should make sure that we have three months of operating expenses in the bank for reserve, as a rule.
 - We need to get more information about what we really need and look at what is out there used. Check out all of our options.
 - Have Matt & Eric spend another month on this, look around.
 - There will be no waiting period like there is for the truck.
 - What can we afford?

15. Public Comment in accordance with WI Statute 19.84(2).

- Mike Christianson concerned about ordinance. No enforcement. What are the penalties. Why have an ordinance, if we can not enforce, or are unwilling to enforce.

16. Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Dan Zuchowski, 2nd by Rae Ann Edwards. Meeting was adjourned.

Draft

Respectfully submitted

Daniel D Corbin, Town Clerk