

OTTAWA TOWN BOARD
Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024

The meeting of the Ottawa Town Board was called to order by Chairman Rupp.

Roll call attendance was taken and Town Supervisors Graham, Smukowski and Wiedenman were present.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to accept the Treasurer's monthly financial activity report as presented. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to accept the Building Inspector's monthly activity report as presented. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

Supervisor Wiedenman made a motion to accept the Engineer's monthly report as presented. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

During public comment, the following residents and non-residents spoke:

Josh Mueller, resident, Meadow Trail, asked that the board consider adding Crossbows as a firearm to the Town Ordinances.

Bill Bosenbecker, resident, Parry Road, opposes ATV's on the roads. He spoke about many articles he found from the Safe UTV Group Against ATV's on roads.

Tom Klein, resident, Hwy. D, opposes. He stated concerns of safety, noise, traffic, speeding as other groups do down Waterville – corvette, motorcycle clubs.

Dick Riederer, resident, Manor House, opposes. Problems with cycles, problems on Waterville, traffic, blind spots, hikers, Ice Age trail.

Gene Larson, resident, Robinhood Dr., opposes. Cares about a quiet neighborhood.

Donna Murray, resident, Robinhood Dr, opposes. She concurs with the noise issue. ATV's are allowed up to 90 decibels, motorcycles are 80 decibels.

Jean Bosenbecker, resident, Parry Rd., opposes. She cares about the community and trails, hikers, bicycles. Concerned about noise. Many signatures gathered against this idea.

John Murray, Robinhood Dr., in favor. Good for agricultural use. Would like to allow trailer parking in the Town Park. Agrees with dusk-dawn limits and to limit routes to West of 67. East is too rolling, curvy.

Frank Murphy, resident, Hwy Z, in favor. Enjoyable hobby, good for visiting neighbors, agrees with eliminating Waterville Rd.

Steve Spak, resident, Pretty Lake, in favor. Comparisons with motorcycles are not the same. ATV owners are very reasonable. Can withdraw Ordinance at any time.

Jim Stewart, resident, Hwy C, in favor. West of 67. May help slow traffic, also would allow route to Jefferson County.

Eric Matthison, resident, Waterville, opposes. Up North is great, but traffic here is higher. Waterville road is packed and dangerous.

Paul Mainz, resident, Dolmar Park, in favor. We have the Drumlin Trail and snowmobiles. ATV's would be great.

Steve Brasch, resident, Moraine Hills, opposes. There are huge enforcement issues. He's concerned with safety, peace and quiet.

Mr. Mancha?, resident, Shangri-La Dr, opposes. ATV's are great on trails, not on roads.

Bill Bosenbecker, resident, Parry Rd., opposes. There is no enforcement. We have 1 Sherriff for 100 Sq. miles. No coverage.

Bruce Bain, resident, Kingdom Dr. opposes. Concerns on Waterville. It tends to be a raceway. Many bicycle clubs already, ATV's would make it much worse.

Steve Dawson, resident, Parry Rd., in favor. ATV owners are responsible. Opposed to policing, restrictions. People own the roads.

Sherry Grainger, resident, the Preserve opposes. Concerns about going too fast, curvy roads, noise, not safe. Quality of life.

Tom Maule, resident, Pretty Lake, in favor. This is a good idea, easier to get in and out.

No more public comment.

The next item on the agenda was for the request for ATV/UTV routes on Town roads. Steve Spak read a letter, provided to the board, requesting ATV/UTV routes on all Town roads. Supervisor Smukowski made a motion to table this item to next month.

More discussion was had. The Clerk shared emails and petitions from residents both in favor and opposed. Supervisor Wiedenman stated that it seems Waterville and Parry roads are the concerns. Ottawa has no private police; speed limit would be a challenge. Being responsible is a presumption, not a reality. There are always bad actors. There would be a lot to discuss for a resolution.

There is an open house being put on by the ATV Club in the Village of Summit. Board members will try to attend for information.

Supervisor Graham stated that without County Roads allowing ATV's, there really is no point. Town roads all connect using County roads.

Supervisor Wiedenman added that the Club and Mr. Spak would like all Town roads and then try to get County roads. Mr. Spak added that County Paul Decker does not anticipate opening County roads unless the town presents it.

Supervisor Wiedenman stated that a well-informed decision is needed. Supervisor Smukowski would like to hear from Supervisor Jones when he returns. Supervisor Smukowski made a motion to table this item to the March 11, 2024 meeting. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

The next item on the agenda was a request to add crossbow to statute 9.01. Supervisor Graham made a motion to add crossbow and bow and arrow to section 9.01 of the town ordinances. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

The next item on the agenda was 2024 road program considerations. Chairman Rupp shared that she is meeting with Engineer Nies to discuss.

Under lakes updates, Supervisor Wiedenman shared that both Hunters Lake and Pretty lake launches need upkeep.

There was no park update

Supervisor Graham made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

Under correspondence, a quote from Schlueter for painting the recycle center, Ron Bennett has interest in brushing, WTA Board of Review opportunity, OASC, JMG services, and paperwork from the Preserve against ATV/s.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to pay bills as listed, in addition to payroll and associated withholding payments for L Geyman, M Barnhart, cardmember services and WE energies, John's Disposal, as well as tax payments to KM, Mukwonago, Palmyra, Oconomowoc and WCTC schools, as well as School Section Lake and Pretty Lake. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Graham and seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori J. Geyman, WCMC
Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Ottawa

