**Town of Lake Mills -Town Board**
**March 11, 2025**
**7pm at Town Hall**
**Minutes**

1. Call Meeting to order.- Called to order by Chair Buechel at 7:00pm.
    a. Notice posted at the Town Hall and on the town's website: www.townoflakemills.org.
    b. Roll Call: all members present.
2) Adoption of Agenda-Motion made by Sup. Heinz to adopt agenda and move item 11d Old business to item 11a. seconded by Sup. Schroeder . Motion carried.
3) Approval of Minutes – Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2025 Special Meeting, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Carried. Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the Public Hearing minutes of March 11, 2025, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried. Motion made by Sup. Schroeder to approve the Monthly meeting minutes of March 11, 2025, seconded by Sup. Heinz. Motion carried.
4) Approval of the Treasurer's Report- Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the April Treasurer's Report, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried.
5) Approval of Town Board Expense Sheets -Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve Clerk, Chief and Treasurer's expense sheets, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried.
6) Approval of the General Fund Vouching- Motion made by Sup. Schroeder to approve the General Fund Vouching of $69,939.73, seconded by Sup. Heinz. Motion carried.
7) Reports
    a. Police Report- Provided by Chief Kaminski. Old boat to auction, picked up new boat and it's getting equipped. Officer Randy Burns has been promoted to Sergeant. DNR Boat training coming up.
    b. Plan Commission Report-Sup. Heinz reported that the zoning applications have all passed with recommendations to the Town Board.
    c. Fire and EMS Reports of proceedings from last meeting-Sup. Schroeder reported for the Cambridge Fire and EMS that there is a grant of $50,000 to help replace the roof on the Fire Station, there were three letters of support for a consultant. New medical director through Mercy Health at no charge they also work with Jefferson and Fort Atkinson. Zip recruiter is being used for finding more EMT's one new hire so far.
    Chief Jason Russ of the Lake Mills Fire Department reported that there were 55 calls for Ryan Brothers EMS Services, 63 calls for Fire & EMS (for all of the district) so far. The Capital Improvement Plan is a rolling 5 year plant up to 2029 has been worked on and currently there are 42 members on the roster. There have been major brush fires recently and Chief recommends limiting burns as needed and keep small during low winds and to tend to them.
    d. Joint Rock Lake Committee- Report provided by Pat Stevens: currently has 4 members and one vacancy of a Town representative. Have been working on Wake Enhancement Technology, discussing the Miljala Channel, working on education and articles, reviewing the damn that controls the water level and is assisting the City in seeking a modification through the DNR
    e. Town Chairman Report- Thomas Buechel report on City, County and State Communications.- North End Boat Launch will be started soon and will take 2-3 weeks to complete and the installation of piers will follow. Rock Lake Road work will begin by June, Cedar Lane is being reviewed by the Town Engineer to get a DNR permit to do dredging work and to replace the turbidity curtain. Hoping that the State steps in to help with issues for Emergency Service as well as establishing regulations for Wake Enhancement Technology. Potholes are being completed, and the Weight limits are off.
8) Period of Public Comment (to be made at podium)-please keep comments to 3 minutes-

a. Lee Leverton: Hwy S- concerned about the CUP request for Helt and hopes that the permit will be reviewed periodically to be sure the petitioner continues to follow the requirements, otherwise he is not opposed.
b. Morgan Geib: Allowed young daughter to comment on her enjoyment of being able to Wake Board on Rock Lake and he encourages regulation that create a 200 ft slow no wake barrier
c. Scott Polster: Member of the Rock Lake Water Sports group which formed 2 months ago, would like to see the two groups work together and with the Joint Rock Lake Committee to find a solution using studies, to come up with a compromise and do the work for the Town Board and City.
d. Brad Recker: Elm Point Road- Concerns about the data being shared on the Wake Enhancement Technology by members of the Rock Lake Improvement Association and the supposed detrimental effects of Wake Boarding activities. He is concerned about other using the lake for safety and the overall health of the lake that all activities affect.
e. Dan Barnish: Rock Lake Rd/Town resident- no safety issue as of yet on Rock Lake relating to Wake Boarding, no noticeable damage in his opinion. He is a new member to the Joint Rock Lake Committee and he feels the what RLIA presented does not give a fair non-biased approach.
f. Mike Theissen: City resident- there will be a need for many buoys if a wake zone is established which may be confusing to boaters and visitors to the lake will not have the knowledge of the zones or may simply disregard the regulations. He suggested a 2 year moratorium on the Wake Enhancement Technology use on Rock Lake to study the possible impacts such as invasive weed spread, disturbing of settlement and phosphate levels.
g. Susan Trier: Cedar Ln- Wake Enhancement Tech. is a contentious topic all over the state. northern communities are prohibiting the activity which is being questioned by manufacturers but was enacted by Towns to protect the lakes. The Lake Coalition is discussing this topic as well to consider protection and regulations. Jefferson Co. recommended to regulate the activity and currently there are approximately 20 Wake Boats that operate on Rock Lake.
h. Barb Dawson: Cedar Ln- Commented on the CUP request from Jon Helt, she is concerned that the activity he is proposing works with the area and adjacent residential area. She suggested dropping the CUP portion of the request.
i. Holly Barnish- Rock Lake Rd- Active with the Watersports group encourages collaboration of the groups and that the asks of a complete ban or moratorium are extreme. She felt that 200 ft slow no wake zones are better than 700ft which condenses boaters too much for safety.
j. Paul Vitucci- Manager of Redline Watersports- stated that wake enhancement technology has been used since 1991. Radical groups are asking for bans of the use of this technology. He felt the issue is not just watersports it's rough water, fishing boats and larger engines and anchors.
k. Margaret Krueger: Elm Point Rd- Asks for a compromise on the wake enhancement technology but sees that enforcement is challenging for a part time police force. She felt a barrier of 200 ft is not enough but 700 ft is too much. More studies are needed to be done to understand what is happening even at 30 ft water depth.
l. John Crump: Shorewood Hills Road- He has served on the Rock Lake Improvement Association and Joint Rock Lake Committee and would like to preserve the health of Rock Lake. Turbulence that goes deep into the lake and invasive water fleas are an issue we don't want; we need to preserve the health of the lake for fishing.
m. Julie Clark: Sunset Court- Asked how people that are coming to the lake will know any new rules? How are we going to measure that we are adequately informing boaters of the regulations and encourages enforcement and education.

9) Applications:
a. Discussion and/or decision of request from John Helt to rezone 3 acres from A-1 to A-2 with a conditional use to allow for engineering/fabrication business located at N6484 County Road S, Parcel 018-0713-1611-002. Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the rezone of .68 acres from A-1 to A-2, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried. Motion made by Sup Heinz to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Jon and Tiffany Helt specifically, not for the property. If the

owners leave the property, the CUP ends, and this CUP should be reviewed every 2 years, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried.

b. Discussion and/or decision of request for Special Event Permit for the Rock Lake Regatta. Moation made by Sup. Schroeder to approve, second by Sup. Heinz. Motion carried.
c. Discussion and/or decision of request for Special Event Permit for the Lake Mills Triathlon. Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the special events permit with the condition that an updated map be provided to the Town and Police Dept no later than the 2nd Monday in May an to include Emergency information, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried.

10) Old Business
    a. TABLED-Discussion and/or decision of Resolution creating the Town of Lake Mills' Regulations for Sale of Alcohol Beverages in Municipal Parks. Motion made by Sup. Schroeder to take the discussion off table, seconded by Sup. Heinz, motion carried. Resolution 2025-0408 read by Chair Buechel. Motion made by Sup. Heinz, seconded by Sup. Schroeder to approve resolution. Motion carried.
11) New Business
    a. Discussion/Decision on a Wake Enhancement Technology Ordinance for Rock Lake. Motion made by Sup Schroeder, seconded by Sup. Heinz to create a Wake Enhancement Technology Regulation Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Chair Buechel-nay, Sup. Schroeder-nay, Sup. Heinz-nay. Motion failed to create an ordinance. Discussion: Chair Buechel stressed the importance of regulation to come from the County or State on this matter for consistency to include education, provide overall guidance to municipalities and law enforcement. Sup. Heinz noted that the studies provided so far have been all over the place on information and feels the DNR needs to set the rules.
    b. Discussion/Decision of ditching work to be done on Cedar Lane by Jefferson County. Motion made by Sup. Schroeder to have the County do the ditching work on Cedar Lane not to exceed $4,000.00, seconded by Sup. Heinz. Motion carried.
    c. Discussion/Decision of contract renewal with Joe Cooper Coconut Pearl for Pier and Buoys and swim ropes on Rock Lake. Chair Buechel will contact Joe about the piers. Noted that the North end piers are to be repaired with parts from each to create one pier for Ferry Park then the pier at Ferry Park is to be moved to the Elm Point Launch. Motion made by Sup. Heinz to approve the contract renewal with Coconut Pearl, seconded by Sup. Schroeder. Motion carried.
    d. Discussion/Decision of workshop with new Board members and/or Special meeting for transitioning. A special meeting to be held on April 10 at 10:30 am. A road tour will begin at 8:30am with Chair Buechel for the new board members on that day as well.
12) Adjourn. Motion made by Sup. Schroeder, seconded by Sup. Heinz. Motion carried.

Robin Untz, Town Clerk

Any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings of the next meeting in which they are approved.
Robin Untz, Town Clerk