

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2023
OLD GIBRALTAR TOWN HALL
4176 MAPLE STREET FISH CREEK WI 54212**

Call to Order: Chairman Steve Sohns called the annual town meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Steve Sohns welcomed the audience to the annual meeting. He asked that electors identify themselves for the record when speaking. Only qualified electors can vote, anyone can speak.

Board members present: Steve Sohns, Karl Stubenvoll, and Jayson Merkel. Also present: Tom Birmingham and Vinni Chomeau

Board members absent: Bill Johnson and Brian Merkel

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Minutes: *Motion: (Sara Sohns, Bill Wolf) to approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting held on April 19, 2022 as presented. Carried*

Motion: (Bill Wolf, Dave Bultman) to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the electors of November 16, 2022 as presented. Carried

Chair Comments: Steve Sohns stated the year has been busy. Exceptional staff and the Administrator has helped things move smoothly. Current projects include an affordable housing plan, and the TID is moving forward with building to start in May.

Annual Report: Treasurer Cain-Bieri provided a summary of the Town's financial statements.

Pauline Vennell inquired about how grants are received. Theresa explained how reimbursable grants function.

Standing Reports:

- ✚ Copies of the full reports as well as the Annual Financial Report are posted on the town website and can be obtained at the Town Office.

Building Committee: Karl Stubenvoll, chairman stated we had a successful year. Finished the foundation work at the Noble House. The lighthouse eave troughs have been installed. The Town Hall public restrooms are currently being updated. Town Center entrance concrete is being repaired for settlement issues. Currently looking into replacing carpet in some of the buildings with tile carpet. Thank you to Travis and maintenance crew.

Gibraltar Fire and Rescue: Fire Chief Andy Bertges. Thanked and introduced Fire Captain Jayson Merkel, John Slenica, Travis Witalison, EMS Crew Chief Adrian Murre. Significant events include: the drive train issue on Engine 8. Call volume was 282, a 13% increase. One structure fire on Sugar Bush Rd. A fall from Eagle Tower parking lot. Chambers Island UTV accident. Rescue in the Park. Participated in the Combine Locks fire. Steve Weitman's article in JEMS. Helped conduct County wide exercise. Jack Moore obtained his national certification for FF1. Continuing to work on Chambers Island facility. Jody Weitman and Jeff Heck incident support team. Currently working to obtain a list of at risk residents.

Harbor Commission: Dave Harris reported the Dock will be prepping for the season. Chase and Lindsey will be returning with most of the staff for the season. Repair work starting this week. 4 slips turned over this year. Thanked Travis, Kelly, and Theresa for their support.

Law Enforcement: Chief Roesch reported the new squad has worked out very well. Was displayed at the Chiefs of Police conference and photographed for GM fleet/headquarters. Speed trailer has been utilized. Drone has been beneficial on numerous calls. Spillman reporting allows for electronic ticketing and reporting. Implemented First Net phone service. Attended training. Shop with a Cop, WI law enforcement memorial service. Collaborated with Door County K9 unit, Door County drug taskforce and MERT. Responded to 732 calls. Parking enforcement. Wayne Kudick asked if training was coordinated with the school. Yes, participated in active shooter training. The gravel parking lot will have a section open for public parking.

Parks & Lands: Laurie Buske thanked the numerous donors for benches, trees, and the playground equipment. Thank you to Theresa for the donation portal with a QR code and her work on grant applications. Invasive species education and weed warriors. Lost MayAnn Blahnik this year as lighthouse keeper. Leon and Sharon Zellner are taking over. A lot of work is being done.

Plan Commission: Linda Merline reported the Plan Commission had informational hearings and is working on the comprehensive plan updates. Fish ladder in the culvert was completed. Grants for the Creek. Appointed members to Green Tier Legacy Committee. Commission member Don Friex passed away this year. His term was filled by Sara Lancaster. Dave Bultman asked if the bridge will be replaced. Yes

Watershed: Linda Merline described how the Plan Commission implements the Watershed plan. Monitoring suckers, and fish with the Shedd Aquarium. Big Thanks to the watershed volunteers. Wayne Kudick asked if anything will be done at the dam. It is currently private property.

Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport Commission: Jeff Drajesk provided a written report. Thyssen reported the Commission is working on property acquisition for additional hangars. Bill Wolf asked how much more growth will be seen at the Airport. Myrv Somerhalder stated the airport is popular amongst second homeowners.

Door County Tourism Commission: DCTZ implemented the 8% room tax. They have created a grant program with the Door County Community Foundation to promote tourism with the surplus revenues. Judith Kalb suggests the commission look at meaningful change instead of increased tourism.

Visit Fish Creek: Denise Stillman read their mission statement. Sara Lancaster was hired as Marketing Director. 96 business members. Wayne Kudick asked if there will be fireworks for the 4th. Asked if the shoulder seasons are expanding? Fireworks in previous years were done by a private group. Looking to grow May & June.

Gibraltar Historical Association: Laurie Buske reported the Noble House foundation and landscaping work was completed. The Holiday Wreath sales and All Things Chocolate fundraisers continue to grow. She thanked the volunteers for their countless hours. Gibraltar Talks Returned. The 2023 exhibit will be “Unveiling Victorian Wedding Customs and Courtship”.

Fish Creek Sanitary District #1: Thyssen reported they are currently doing a rate study. Working on TID #1. Smoke tests, leak tests. Judith Kalb inquired about the Workforce Housing proposal. Pauline Vennell why does the Town not have control over the FCSD. Enterprise Fund. How was the Sanitary District organized.

Broadband Ad-Hoc Committee: Bill Wessels provided an update on the work the Broadband Committee has done this far. Working to bring fiber to every home. An RFP has been sent out that the committee is reviewing.

Old Business: Steve Sohns opened the floor for old business. Village Transportation System – Admin has applied for a grant. Purchase the Redmann Property – Working on an offer to purchase agreement to acquire 180 acres with grant funding. Connectivity Trail – Bike/Ped Plan. Tom Michelson inquired about the TID/Hidden Blossom and if the acquired property will have trails open to the public. Yes

New Business: Steve Sohns opened the floor for new business. Wayne Kudick complimented the staff. Carole VandeWalle suggested the posting locations be updated.

Motion: (Carla Marr, Buske) to add Sunday to the to the code of ordinance for noise control. Carried

Roger Ostrenga asked if the downtown campus would have a master plan for the public to view. Yes.

Motion: (John Selenica, Adrian Murre) to create a plan for numbered supervisor seats. Ayes - 26 Nays - 31 Motion Fails

Motion: (Carla Marr, Kudick) suggests the board consider a plan to address light pollution. Carried

Motion: (Jayson Merkel, Bill Wessels) suggested the Town Board consider a Vice Chair. Carried

Motion: (Barb McKesson, Lynn Mercurio) to increase town board wages 3.5% every year. Carried.

Motion: (Steve Sohns, Holly Somerhalder) to set next annual meeting date for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Old Town Hall. Carried

Adjourn: *Motion: (Denise Stillmann, Kathy Diltz) to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Murre, Clerk

Posted: 04/22/2022

Fish Creek BP

Fish Creek Post Office

Gibraltar Town Center

Town Website

DRAFT