

Town Board Informational Meeting
Monday January 23, 2023

Present: Chair Iverson, Supervisors Ahlvin and Gilbertson, Clerk Gunderson, DNR Warden Robin Miller and 10 others.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Iverson at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Iverson introduced Robin Miller – DNR Recreation Warden and then turned the meeting over to Paul Gilbertson

Paul requested that the Diamond Lake Association present their general issues. Present were Scott Johnson, President, Pat Arndt, Vice-President and Dave James via cellphone.

Scott Review – 3 yrs. ago the 1st wake boat arrived. Damage was noticed right away. In July the Association Board was challenged to come up with ordinance and present it to the town board. They present this at the September meeting. Paul met with Robin prior to the October meeting and it was discussed again then. Dave James put together the ordinance.

Pat Arndt – why are we asking for this – Diamond Lake is a high quality lake and an amazing resource. What is at risk?

1. AIS – ballast on these boats hold 2,000 pounds and it is nearly impossible to empty so there is a risk of moving these from Lake to Lake.
2. Shoreline – wake boats create twice as much wake which erodes the shoreline.
3. Water quality is affected as well.

Robin – before an ordinance can be passed it must be submitted to the DNR from the Town Board. This must be submitted 60 days prior to any action on it. The DNR has 20 days to respond. One of the things they look for is enforceability. In the sample ordinance presented she sees an enforcement issue related to the elevated wake definition. She provide some sample wording that could be used. Discussed viable alternatives such as slow, no-wake distances from shoreline being extended. Darren for the DNR stated some possible issues with Section 10 – prohibiting ballast tanks all together could open up the town to litigation. This could be considered targeting. Live wells on fishing boats, etc. – in realty any boat can take water from one lake to another. DNR would need reasonable reason to check a fishing boat or any other boat. Ballast tanks as well as live wells would not be bone dry.

The DNR was asked if there were any known lawsuits. There have been some threatened but not filed that they know of. The legislators are looking at it but there would most likely not be any action in the foreseeable future. The industry is very active in WI right now.

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Carried. Next regular board meeting will be Wednesday February 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Grand View Town Hall.

Teresa A Gunderson, Clerk