

1                                   **MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
2                                   **City of Tomahawk, City Council Chambers**  
3                                   **23 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Tomahawk, WI 54487**  
4                                   **September 30, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**  
5

6   **Call to Order:** Will Garske called the meeting of the Health and Safety Committee to order at  
7   5:00 p.m.  
8

9   **Roll Call:** Committee members present were Will Garske, Pat Haskin, Dale Ernst, and Mike Loka.  
10

11 Also present was Clerk/Treasurer Amanda L. Bartz, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Miranda Swenty, Street  
12 Leadsperson Nick Rosenmeier, Water Leadsperson Glenn Hanna, Wastewater Leadsperson Rich  
13 Thiemer, Police Chief Al Elvins, Police Sargent Matt Gorrell, Mayor Taskay, Council Members  
14 Robert Soward and Jeff Kahle. Also in attendance were Steve and Barb Kubicheck, Roxanne  
15 Consolver, Mary Smerz, Donna Smerz, Dawn Taskay, Elizabeth McBride and Zach Garner from  
16 WJJQ Radio.  
17

18   **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.  
19

20   **Minutes of Previous Meetings:** Mike LOKA MOVED to approve August 26, 2025 minutes and  
21 HASKIN seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
22

23   **Licenses**

24   Operator Licenses: ERNST MOVED to approve the operator license as presented and Mike LOKA  
25 seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
26

27   **Special Events:**

28   2024 Celebrations Budget vs. Actual: The Committee reviewed the report.  
29

30   Wisconsin Rock Lizards Youth Baseball 9U Tournament: The Committee reviewed the application.  
31 Mike LOKA MOVED to approve the application and HASKIN seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
32

33   **Other Business:**

34   Rats within the City of Tomahawk: Mary Smerz stated that she lives a block away from the area that  
35 is reporting rats, but she has never seen any at her property. She stated that she is in attendance to  
36 see how this problem is addressed.  
37

38   GARSKE stated that until now, he was unaware of a rat problem within the City and he is unaware  
39 of what steps we can take to help, HASKIN agreed.  
40

41   Mike LOKA stated that he traveled from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to Harley Davidson via the alley and noted that  
42 there were a number of unkept properties. He stated that we should be looking at the cause of the  
43 problem. Clerk BARTZ stated that there are property maintenance ordinances on the books.

1  
2 Chief ELVINS stated that we have cited one home on E Wisconsin Avenue and issued a 30-day  
3 notice. He stated that he has talked to the Building Inspector to help in enforcement. He stated  
4 that abatement does not come until after the 30 days has expired and the problem still exists.  
5

6 GARSKE asked if officers patrol alleys or if notices are only issued if a complain is received. Chief  
7 ELVINS clarified that that is complaint based.  
8

9 Clerk BARTZ noted that other communities focus on resident education public health enforcement  
10 (property maintenance) and community wide prevention. She stated that local governments rarely  
11 provide extermination services, instead they encourage property owners to take action to remove  
12 the food, water, and shelter for the rodents. She stated that the resident education that she found  
13 that had the most information was from the City of Green Bay and suggested sending something  
14 similar to the residents in the area. She also stated that she has walked in the area three separate  
15 times at different times of the day including at night and has not seen any rats visible but noted that  
16 there were a number of homes that holes and areas where rodents could enter the property.  
17

18 Chief ELVINS asked how long after the 30-day notice he should contact the Mayor regarding the  
19 property and abatement. It was agreed that one week after the court date would be sufficient.  
20

21 Mike LOKA MOVED to have the Clerk send out education materials similar to the City of Green  
22 Bay's to all the homes in the area of the rat sightings. ERNST seconded.  
23

24 ERNST asked how long this has been going on. Clerk stated that it was the week prior to receiving  
25 the email from the resident. Chief ELVINS agreed and stated that the complaint came in on  
26 September 15 or 16, 2025.  
27

28 The VOTE was unanimous.  
29

30 **Reports**

31 Police Department Report – September 2025: The Committee reviewed the Police Report. Chief  
32 ELVINS stated that Fall Ride mutual aid came in under budget is year, the new officer is completing  
33 his field training and Sergeant Gorrell is starting Front Line Supervision training.  
34

35 HASKIN asked if there were any accidents in the City during the Fall Ride. Chief stated that there  
36 was a few minor accidents but none resulting in injury.  
37

38 Fire Department Report – September 2025: The Committee reviewed the Fire Department report  
39

40 **Set Time and Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Health & Safety Committee will be the  
41 last Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers or at the call of the  
42 chairperson.  
43

- 1 **Meeting Adjournment:** HASKIN MOVED to adjourn the meeting of the Health and Safety
- 2 Committee and Mike LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at
- 3 5:20 p.m.

DRAFT