

1 **Park and Recreations Committee**
2 **City of Tomahawk, City Council Chambers**
3 **23 N 2nd St, Tomahawk, WI 54487**
4 **January 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.**

5
6 **Call to Order:** Jeff Kahle called the Park and Recreations Committee to order at 5:02 p.m.

7
8 **Roll Call:** Committee members present were Jeff Kahle, Mickey Loka, Steve “Ding” Bartz, Dan
9 Schuller, and Jusin Lund. Absent was Jim Daenicke and Melissa Nieman.

10
11 Also present was Clerk/Treasurer Amanda L. Bartz, Park Leadsperson Steve Borem, Kathy Tobin,
12 Pat Pietila, Jeff Koth, Dan Rickel, Dennis Dietz, Mike “Hob” Habeck, Michele Wingate, Roger
13 Glocke, Kurt Beutel, Laura Beutel, Cathy Gogich, Rick Gogich, Ron Fait, Sally Wever, Mitch
14 Montgomery, Bill Sparr, and Ed Steigerwaldt. In attendance virtually was Barbara ?, David
15 Soderberg, Richard Phillips, Samantha Colburn, and Jalen Maki.

16
17 **Public comments:** There were no public comments.

18
19 **Minutes:** Mickey LOKA MOVED to approve the meeting minutes from September 9, 2025 and
20 SCHULLER seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

21
22 **Other Business**

23 Tomahawk Boat Museum – Update and Site Requirements

24 Bill Sparr stated that they have reviewed multiple location options for the boat museum, and they
25 prefer the option with the new building situated closer to Washington Ave. SCHULLER asked is this
26 would be in addition to boat case that is by the Chamber and Playground. Sparr confirmed that
27 that existing boat would remain.

28
29 KAHLE stated that the trees in the proposed location have reached their life span and should be
30 taken out soon whether the building is placed there or not. BARTZ asked if the garage would still be
31 used for the printing museum. Kathy Tobin stated that it will the printing museum.

32
33 BARTZ MOVED to approve the proposed location for the boat museum and LUND seconded. The
34 VOTE was unanimous.

35
36 A proposed Ordinance Restricting Certain Artificial Wake Enhancement (Wake surfing)

37 KAHLE stated that the Committee has a copy of the summary of wake surfing ordinance status in
38 the surrounding communities.

39
40 David Soderberg stated that there was a meeting in August and September and they voted to move
41 forward with drafting and ordinance. He stated that the city’s attorney review was concerned with
42 the possible litigation with the lawsuit filed in Burnett County. He stated that there 76
43 municipalities in Wisconsin that have wake ordinance and only one lawsuit has been filed.
44 Soderberg reviewed the status of surrounding communities and their wake ordinances. He voiced
45 concern with all the surrounding communities enacting wake enhancement ordinance and Lake
46 Mohawksin not have any regulations. He stated that we need to keep moving forward with identical

1 ordinances with Town of Bradley. He stated that Friends of Lake Mohawksin has written the
2 conditional report to be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

3
4 Richard Phillips stated that State Statutes does not have any requirements for ordinance format,
5 the City of Tomahawk may have their own requirements. He reiterated that 76 communities have
6 passed wake enhancements ordinance with only one lawsuit. He encouraged the Committee to
7 use the template ordinance.

8
9 Roger Glocke and Mitch Montgomery spoke in favor of a wake enhancement ordinance.

10
11 Michele Wingate stated that she lives on Lake Mohawksin within the City and that she supports and
12 ordinance regulating wake enhancement. She wanted to make sure that the regulations would not
13 apply to water skiing and tubing. Soderberg stated that there is a carve out for those activities.

14
15 Soderberg argued that there would be a greater risk of concern if an ordinance is not passed and
16 someone is injured due to wake enhancement.

17
18 Mickey LOKA stated that the Kwahamot Water Ski Club has been using ballast tank for 20 years
19 during the show and is worried about the negative effect this would have on the Ski Show. He
20 asked how this ordinance would be enforced. BARTZ stated that the Town of Bradley will be able to
21 enforce the ordinance by the Town Constable but also wondered how the City would enforce such
22 an ordinance.

23
24 Soderberg stated that 98% of people will obey something when they are told not to do it.

25
26 SCHUELLER stated that this is quite a dilemma when it pertains to water skiing. Mickey LOKA
27 suggested exempting water ski shows/teams authorized by the City of Tomahawk.

28
29 Soderberg stated that the ordinance between the City and the Town needs to be very consistent.
30 Clerk BARTZ reviewed the Water Ski Area as defined by City Code.

31
32 BARTZ MOVED to continue to pursue an ordinance regulating wake enhancement equipment that
33 works with Town of Bradley as well. SCHULLER seconded.

34
35 SCHULLER asked that the signage should be standard between the jurisdictions. He also stated
36 that signs are not always effective. He stated that there are “No Power Loading” signs at all the
37 boat landings and they are very ineffective and not enforced.

38
39 The VOTE was unanimous.

40
41 **Park Leadsperson Report:** BOREM reported that they continue to work on building maintenance
42 throughout the winter. He stated that both rinks at Pride Park are open.

43
44 **Next meeting:** The next regular meeting of the Park and Recreations Committee is scheduled for
45 February 10, 2026 at City Hall, Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m.

46
47 **Adjourn:** SCHULLER MOVED to adjourn the meeting of Park and Recreations Committee and
48 Mickey LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.