

1 **Park and Recreations Committee**  
2 **City of Tomahawk, City Council Chambers**  
3 **23 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Tomahawk, WI 54487**  
4 **March 10, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.**

5  
6 **Call to Order:** Jeff Kahle called the Park and Recreations Committee to order at 5:01 p.m.

7  
8 **Roll Call:** Committee members present: Jeff Kahle, Mickey Loka, Steve “Ding” Bartz, Dan Schuller,  
9 and Jusin Lund.

10 Committee members absent: Jim Daenicke and Melissa Nieman.

11  
12 Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Amanda L. Bartz, Richard Philips, Ken Sornsen, Bruce Peetz, Ed  
13 Steigerwaldt, Sally Weaver and David Soderberg (virtual).

14  
15 **Public comments:** There were no public comments.

16  
17 **Minutes:** Mickey LOKA MOVED to approve the meeting minutes from February 10, 2026 and BARTZ  
18 seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

19  
20 **Other Business**

21 An ordinance to regulate wake enhancement on Lake Mohawksin in the City of Tomahawk  
22 (Wakesurfing)

23  
24 David Soderberg stated that there is no need for a carve out of the waterski area because all of the  
25 Kwahamot boats do not have wake enhancement or fins. He stated that if there was a carve out, it  
26 would apply to anyone in the waterski area.

27  
28 Soderberg explained that Manitowish Waters has a bigger ski show than Tomahawk and they did  
29 not include a carve out for their show. He stated that additionally, at a State level, they have to be a  
30 distance of 300’ from the shoreline and it would potentially ban wake enhancement.

31  
32 Mickey LOKA stated that he has been with the Kwahamot’s since 1997 and they are a much larger  
33 ski show than Manitowish Waters. He stated that sometimes they have boats with wake  
34 enhancement and sometimes they do not. He stated that he does not want to see the Kwahamot’s  
35 limited to what they can do in the future. He stated that pulling a 9-year-old skier at 12 MPH will  
36 create a large wake.

37  
38 Mickey LOKA also noted that the Police Department has stated that they cannot enforce this  
39 ordinance.

40  
41 Soderberg stated that you are proposing that the Kwahamot’s can do anything that they want. He  
42 stated that there are 76 other communities and have a carve out.

43  
44 Richard Phillips stated that he is President of the Last Wilderness Alliance. He stated that there  
45 has not been an enforcement issue Statewide. He stated that there is already a large carve out for

1 water skiers. He stated that it is impossible to write perfect ordinance. He explained that if there is  
2 an issue the ordinance could always be amended.

3  
4 Mickey LOKA stated that you also have to keep in mind the benefit that the Kwahamot's bring to the  
5 community. Discussion followed regarding the Kwahamot's and the Ski Show.

6  
7 Soderberg stated that the Ski Show is great, but it is not everything. Mickey LOKA stated that the Ski  
8 Show has been here for over 65 years without damage to the bottom of the lake.

9  
10 Clerk BARTZ stated that the Town of Bradley could also have the same carve out but it would not  
11 affect any lake area in their municipality, the wording of both ordinances need to be the same.

12  
13 Ed Steigerwaldt stated that as a property owner on the River, he sees a lot of damage just from ski  
14 boats. He stated that he does not support a carve out for the Kwahamot's.

15  
16 BARTZ asked what the Department of Natural Resources considers "Lake Mohawksin". Discussion  
17 followed.

18  
19 BARTZ stated that he supports the wake ordinance. He stated there is an area designated as a  
20 "water ski area" in our municipal code. He stated that we are trying to accommodate all sports, he  
21 said he respects everyone but does not think we need an exemption.

22  
23 Bruce Peetz stated that he lives on the River where the boats turn around and it the waves created  
24 is damaged his property.

25  
26 Mickey LOKA asked about hydro-foiling.

27  
28 BARTZ moved to postpone the ordinance and get a clear definition of "Lake Mohawksin" and  
29 Mickey LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

30  
31 **Bradley Park Boat Landing and Building Maintenance**

32 This item was postponed until the next meeting.

33  
34 **Park Leadsperson Report:** There was no report from the Parks Leadsperson.

35  
36 **Next meeting:** The next regular meeting of the Park and Recreations Committee is scheduled for  
37 April 14, 2026 at City Hall, Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m.

38  
39 **Adjourn:** Mickey LOKA MOVED to adjourn the meeting of Park and Recreations Committee and  
40 BARTZ seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.