

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT  
DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**May 10, 2017**

**3:00pm**

**City Hall**

**1515 Strongs Avenue**

**City Conference Room**

**(A quorum of the City Council may attend this meeting.)**

Voting Members

Chair: John Okonek, 2916 Dixon St., Stevens Point, WI 54481 715-630-0230, Email: johno64@att.net.

Member Elbert J. Rackow, 1824 Gilkay St., Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-341-1393.

Member Roger Trzebiatowski, Email: rogetreb@gmail.com 3309 McCulloch, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-344-2322.

Member Dr. Scott Hygnstrom, Email: scott.hygnstrom@uwsp.edu.

Member Kevin Leahy, Email: [kevinleahy@att.net](mailto:kevinleahy@att.net).

Member Mike Bialas, 1825 Gilkay St., Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-340-8054, [wbialas@hotmail.com](mailto:wbialas@hotmail.com).

Member Barb Jacob, 1616 Depot St., Apt. A, Stevens Point, WI 54481, H: 715-342-1390, B: 715-343-1730, Email: barbjacob22@gmail.com, extended leave of absence.

Member Alder Mary McComb, 2100 Elk Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-570-8836, Email: marymccombalder@gmail.com

**Advisory Members**

Operations Chief Tom Zenner, 1515 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-346-1500, [tzenner@sevenspoint.com](mailto:tzenner@sevenspoint.com).

Mel Dow, Interfaith Food Pantry of Portage County, 821 Sixth St., Plover, WI 54467, 715-341-5379, [mpdow@charter.net](mailto:mpdow@charter.net).

DNR Rep. Lesa H. Kardash, 473 Griffith Ave., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. 715-421-7813, [lesa.kardash@wisconsin.gov](mailto:lesa.kardash@wisconsin.gov).

Bryan Lockman, [bryan.lockman@wisconsin.gov](mailto:bryan.lockman@wisconsin.gov), 715-344-3694.

Jon Scharbarth, [jonscharbarth@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jonscharbarth@wisconsin.gov). 715-344-3694.

William J. Horvath, 350 McDill Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-341-4021, [billjhorvath@gmail.com](mailto:billjhorvath@gmail.com).

Guests

Alder Mary Kneebone, 5718 Sandpiper Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482, 715-295-4689, Email: marykneebonealder@gmail.com.

Present: Chairperson John Okonek, Members Elbert Rackow, Dr. Scott Hygnstrom, Kevin Leahy, Alder Mary Kneebone, Alder Mary McComb, Mike Bialas, Roger Trzebiatowski. Excused: Barb Jacobs,.

Also present: Comptroller/Treasurer Corey Ladick, Operations Chief Tom Zenner SPPD

The meeting was called to order at 3:01pm by Chairperson Okonek. The Chair indicated a quorum was present.

1. Introduction of new members: Alder Mary McComb, District 9, has replaced Mary Kneebone.
2. Appointment of Secretary to take minutes. McComb agreed to take minutes.
3. The January 11, 2017 minutes were approved.
4. Update on Wildlife Nuisance Abatement Grant. (Kneebone)  
The request had been for \$1925 for deer culling and \$706 for dog silhouettes. Total \$2278.00. The City was awarded \$1465.00, which must be matched. At least double the \$1465.00 must be spent and can be used for culling or processing. Once the money is spent, the City submits an invoice, through Carrie. Rackow moved, Trzebiatowski seconded to give \$350 to Parks for dog silhouettes, which motion was approved. Kneebone said there would be another grant opportunity in Fall, 2017, and that she would help write the proposal.

Discussion followed on public perception about whether deer culling or geese control was needed the most. There were many goose concerns in the Park Comprehensive Plan Survey. The ideas of feeding zones, more enforcement of the no feeding ordinance, strings, actual border collies, and keeping banks wild were mentioned. Hygnstrom said his students developed a goose control plan that involved disrupting habits four days in a row. He will send the plan to Okonek.

Currently there is \$3000 in the operational budget, and \$2596 in the non-lapsing fund, for a total of \$5596.

5. Discussion of any changes in the culling program:  
Members reviewed that last year, the City paid for processing, and that there were no complaints. It costs \$110 to cull and process one deer. After discussion of asking churches to contribute for processing, that processing is the "Achilles' Heel," because eventually funding runs out, and that the Izaak Walton League is a funding source, members agreed to keep the program as it is.
6. Update on Joint urban Wildlife Damage abatement for Stevens Point, Plover, and Whiting. This will facilitate DNR grants. Okonek met with Bill Horvath and Dan Mahoney to craft a resolution, which is probably with City Attorney Beveridge right now.
7. Requesting quotes for 2017/2018 culling.  
Rackow went through the RFO and members discussed changes. Rackow will make the changes. Okonek will send a letter out to potential vendors, requiring quotes to be returned by June 9, for consideration at the June 14 meeting. Okonek said the City can cull up to 45 deer/year. The vendors must adhere to DNR regulations. Quotes can be for one or two years.

Trzebiatowski **moved**, McComb seconded approval of the RFQ with the necessary adjustments, which motion passed.

8. The next meeting will be June 14, 3 pm in the City Conference room
9. Hygnstrom moved to adjourn, motion passed at 4:16pm.

Submitted by Mary McComb, June 3, 2017