

**MINUTES FROM SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF LEON, N4819 CTH E, PINE RIVER  
AUGUST 29, 2022 AT 7:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Sorenson

**2. ROLL CALL, LIST OF AUDIENCE PRESENT**

Present: Supervisors R. Heise and G. Engel, Clerk C. Gotthart and new Clerk L. Jewell.

Audience present: Mark Piechowski, Jeff Swenson, Lindy Swenson, Donna Volden, Roger Volden, Bob Williams, Roger Perenick, John Gosenheimer, Tammy Chier, Michael Getchius, Jean Nelson, Alaine Williams, Susan Beese, Judith Fjellman, Dick Fjellman, John Tobiasz, Ed Kissinger, Greg Barezak, and Tom Sundquist.

**3. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ORDINANCE 2022-06, TOWN OF LEON, RESTRICTING ARTIFICIAL WAKE ENHANCEMENT ON PEARL LAKE, TO PROHIBIT EQUIPMENT AND OPERATIONS TO INCREASE OR ENHANCE A BOAT'S WAKE**

Sorenson opened the public hearing at 7:04 pm and asked for comments or questions from the audience.

Jeff Swenson spoke on behalf of the group, Pearl Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (PRD). They have been working with the DNR rep, Molly Detjens, to create the requested ordinance to restrict artificial wake enhancement on Pearl Lake. The DNR does not commit to either side of the position.

The DNR asked the PRD to provide the records of examples of unsafe practices on the Lake, but because the lake has been at a No or Slow Wake for the past few years, there were no incidents recorded.

Roger Volden indicated the shape of Pearl Lake (a figure 8) is not good for high waves as it causes shore erosion and unsafe water for other users of the lake.

Greg Barezak and Ed Kissinger, representing the Silver Lake District, asked how the Town and the Pearl Lake PRD expected to enforce this ordinance if it is passed. Volden said it would enforce this like any other ordinance, and if need be, those on the lake that witness violations can take pictures and make phone calls to the sheriff's dept. to help with the enforcement.

Heise asked if the problem with the boaters that create the high waves are property owners or people who come in and use the lake? Swenson said that it is both. He also said that of the 65 people who came to their May PRD meeting, only 4 were opposed to creating the ordinance, not because they were against prohibiting the artificial wake, but because they felt this could create a precedent for creating other prohibitive ordinances.

Jean Nelson said that the high waves created by the boats can be a safety concern and there is no place for the waves to dissipate.

Procedurally, the ordinance will go to the DNR for final review, and upon their approval, will be posted in the newspaper, and considered to be finally approved once it is published.

**4. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

Sorenson closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

**5. BOARD DISCUSS/ APPROVE ORDINANCE 2022-06, TOWN OF LEON, RESTRICTING ARTIFICIAL WAKE ENHANCEMENT ON PEARL LAKE, TO PROHIBIT EQUIPMENT AND OPERATIONS TO INCREASE OR ENHANCE A BOAT'S WAKE**

3. Motion by Heise, second by Engel to approve Ordinance 2022-06, Restricting Artificial Wake Enhancement On Pearl Lake, To Prohibit Equipment And Operations To Increase Or Enhance A Boat's Wake. All ayes, motion carried.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Chris Sorenson, second by Russell Heise to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by Clerk Cindi Gotthart