**#1**. **Call to Order**

Special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Shiocton was called to order by Village President at 5:00 p.m on September 11, 2023.

**#2 Pledge of Allegiance**

**#3 Roll Call**

Present were Trustees D. Van Straten, Schmoock, Bunnell, Gomm and Dawes. Also present, Village President Terri James, Clerk Sweeney, Chief Sara Knapp and Marcus Medina-DNR. Trustee Tyler was excused.

**#4. Board to go over Buoy Regulations with Marcus Medina-DNR**

DNR Warden Marcus Medina was asked to speak on the rules and procedures for no-wake zones on a river. Warden Medina started by stating the Village of Shiocton has say over where the no wake zones are on the river. When the Village decides to add or remove a no wake zone they must revise or create an ordinance that shows the changes and no wake zones from point A to point B. The Village is also responsible for providing, placing and maintaining any buoys in the no wake zones. If the Village does not have a boat or officer to enforce the no wake zone, they should still have buoys to mark the no wake zones. It is the boater’s responsibility to know where the no wake zones are but also the Village’s responsibility to post the ordinance and show the reasonable person where they are. The DNR does not have authority to establish a no wake zone but they do have the authority on the placement of buoys. The process would be after the ordinance is approved by the Village Board the Village would have to complete an application for water marker to the DNR. That application would require a map and coordinates of exactly where the buoys would be placed. There are more requirements listed on the application.

The Village is responsible for enforcement and writing ordinance violations; however, the DNR and Sheriff’s Department can also monitor and enforce if they chose to do so

The Board asked Warden Medina about the buoys being moved by people or moving from the current in the river. Warden Medina stated that if a person moved a buoy, they could be liable if an accident happened. It is illegal to move a waterway marker. He suggested using steel rather than cylinder blocks to tie the buoys down so they do not move with the current.

Trustee Bunnell would like to revisit the original approval of the recent buoys and vote again. He does not feel they are needed. He stated that corner is not a hazard or a danger, there have been no recorded accidents at that location.

Village President James asked if there were any recorded accident when the current buoys were placed along the river near the boat landing? Trustee Bunnell state there were not any recorded accidents but the buoys were placed there because people swam there often.

Trustee Gomm stated there are a lot more kayakers on the river. If there were not so many it may be a different story.

Trustee Schmoock stated everyone using the river should be considered when making the decision.

President James stated the decision was made by vote to approve the no wake zone they just need to determine placement of the buoys. The resident that requested the buoys had given the coordinates on his map now they just need to verify the coordinates and if the DNR would approve.

Chief Knapp stated that Warden Zach agreed to help with that. Trustee Bunnell offered to go with Zach to look. Trustees Schmoock and D. Van Straten asked to go as well. Trustee Gomm stated they can use his pontoon boat. Chief Knapp will coordinate a date so the Clerk can get an agenda out ant the Trustees will go with Zach on the river to determine where the buoys should be placed and how many will be needed.

**#5. Adjourn**

**With no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.**

Posted and dated September 13, 2023

Laurie Sweeney, Village Clerk/Treasurer

The Shiocton Village Hall is accessible to the physically disadvantaged. If special accommodations for visually or hearing-impaired individuals are needed, please contact the Shiocton Clerk/Treasurer at 920-986-3415.