



AGENDA FOR LAKE COMMITTEE

A Lake Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 5:00 PM**
in the **Council Chambers at City Hall, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI.**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2708608080?pwd=ZTZ0cmllVEFEb1dzVDNwdi91UHFYQT09>

Meeting ID: 270 860 8080 Dial by your location 1 312 626 6799 Passcode: 206751

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order / Roll Call**
2. **Approve Minutes**
[May 2024 Minutes](#)
3. **Donation From Warrens YAK Club/Kayak Launch**
[Public Kayak Launch](#)
4. **Discussion & Action on Use of YAK Club Donated Funds**
5. **Adaptive Management**
Receipt of Conservationist of the Year 2024 from Monroe County Land Conservation
6. **Climate Change Task Force Update**
7. **Warden Update**
8. **Lake Tomah Management Plan/Weed Survey**
Golden Sands Weed Survey Council Approval
[Lake Tomah Collaborative Effort the Key](#)
9. **Water Testing**
10. **Warm Water Impoundment Research-Academia**
11. **Boat Dock Approvals**
[Ordinance 30-84 Removal requirements; construction and anchoring specifications Amendment](#)
12. **Discussion on 50th Anniversary of Lake District**
[Background of Lake Tomah](#)
13. **Chairman Updates**
14. **Future Meeting Date: September 19, 2024**
15. **Adjourn**

NOTICE: It is possible that a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Becki Weyer, City Clerk, at 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660.

Minutes FOR LAKE COMMITTEE

A Lake Committee was held on **Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 5:00 PM** in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI.

The meeting was called to order by Lamont Kiefer at 5:00 PM

Call to Order / Roll Call

Roll call was taken with Commissioners, Lamont Kiefer, Kim Mello, JoAnne Klinker, Duane Chapman, Lee Lang, Richard Yarrington, and Kevin Arkeketa present. Also present, Director Kirk Arity.

Introduction of New Members

Richard Yarrington is currently a city representative. John Rusch asked to step down. Lamont Kiefer took his place. JoAnne Klinker reinstated.

Elect Chair & Vice Chair

Yarrington nominated Lamont Kiefer for chair. Motion by Yarrington second by Lang for Kiefer to be chairperson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chapman nominated Kim Mello for vice chair. Motion by Chapman second by Arkeketa for Mello to be vice chair. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Klinker, second by Yarrington to approve amended March 2024 Minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adaptive Management

Chapman has talked with Bob Micheel on funding. Being a CAFO somewhat eliminates their operation from support.

Climate Change Task Force Update

Nothing to report.

Warden Update

Nothing at this time.

Lakes & Rivers Water Testing Training Seminar

Lang and Kiefer to refresher course in Stevens Point. Water is clean as can be at 7.5 ft. Surface water temperature is 64.1 degrees and water temperature at the bottom is 64.7 degrees.

Lake Tomah Management Plan

Town & Country to survey lake bottom. Try to find someone to provide a mockup of the perfect lake. Committee will communicate on weed issues via informational boards.

Golden Sands Weed Survey

2022 was the last survey done. Motion by Chapman second by Yarrington to forward recommendation to Council for 2025 expenditure.

Boat Dock Approvals

None.

Discussion and Recommendation on Boat Dock Ordinance

Klinker recommends 2 weeks prior to April 1st. Yarrington recommends docks can be placed after ice is completely out. Motion by Klinker second by Yarrington to amend ordinance 30-84 to have docks in water after ice out and removed by November 1st. All ayes. Motion carried.

Kayak Launch Update

Joe Protz and Public Works will work jointly to install launch & concrete approach.

Chairman Updates

Discussed geese population. Observation of dead fish. NASA placed bouys.

Future Meeting Date: July 18, 2024

Adjourn Motion by Lang, second by Chapman to adjourn at 6:26 PM.

Written and submitted by Casey Kinnear

COULEE REGION DOCKS & DECKS

Jeff Howe
608-792-9578

1541 Miller Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

crdock66@gmail.com
www.crdock.com

Name: <u>Tomah Parks and Recreation</u>	Dock Location: <u>Joe Protz</u>	Date: <u>7/11/2024</u>
Address: _____	County: _____	
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: <u>608-374-7445</u>	Email: <u>jprotz@TOMAHWI.GOV</u>	

Qty	Part #	Description	Unit Price	Total
1	200900	EZ kayak Launch	\$2,099.00	\$2,099.00
2	206010	EZ Dock: 60" x 10' x 15"	\$1,999.00	\$3,998.00
9	301100	Coupler pairs (one pair)	\$52.00	\$468.00
2	215350	Heavy-Duty Pipe Bracket for 3.5" O.D. Pipe	\$379.00	\$758.00
2	118035	Anchoring Pipe: 18' 3.5" O.D., 8 gauge	\$358.00	\$716.00
2	100355	Pipe Augers for 3.5" O.D. pipe	\$111.00	\$222.00
1	rp-4x12	4'x12' ramp titen decking add \$250 for each railing if wanted	\$1,294.00	\$1,294.00
1	100480ws	3 Pocket ramp hinge kit	\$325.00	\$325.00
		add 650 delivery and instalation		

*Public Kayak Launch
JP 02-57331-8380
7/11/24
M4*

Total: \$9,880.00

Qty.	Trade-In	Unit Value

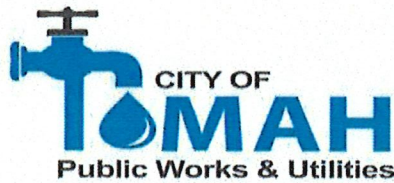
Total Trade-in: \$0.00
Subtotal: \$9,880.00

Notes:

Price quote good until April 30, 2024 based on in-stock and receipt of cash or check Deposit of 50% until delivery, installation, or pickup. Customer responsible for permits and work done by others. Prices subject to change based on in-stock availability. Tax is based on the delivery or pick up location.

Discount % 10 (\$988.00)
Installation: \$650.00
Subtotal: \$9,542.00
WI \$0.00
Total: \$9,542.00
Down Payment:
Balance Due: \$9,542.00





819 Superior Ave.
Tomah, WI 54660
Public Works (608) 374-7430 | Utilities (608) 374-7431

Lake Tomah Collaborative Effort the Key

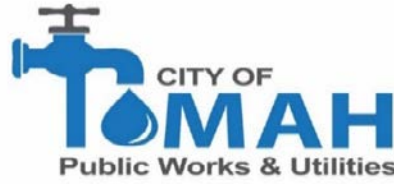
Local, County and State agencies are working together for an improved Lake Tomah. Water quality is improving. Fishing is excellent with Largemouth Bass, size limit of 18” and bag limit of 1 per day and trophy Northern Pike, size limit of 40” and bag limit of 1 per day.

A developing problem is expanding weed growth. This ever-increasing problem is making shore fishing, recreational boating and property owner dock access difficult.

The Lake Tomah Committee, WI DNR, Monroe County Land Conservation Agency and agricultural partners are coordinating to combat this ongoing problem.

Lamont Kiefer
Tomah Lake Committee Chair

Kirk Arity
Director of Public Works and Utilities



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Lake Tomah Protection and Rehabilitation District Collaborative Effort the Key

Lake Tomah is a shallow man-made warm water impoundment that is ever evolving. It was constructed in the mid 1930's. It slowly filled with sediment and weeds until the dam went out in a storm in the early 1990's. It produced a nice fishery during those years. However, it was of little value to recreational users during many of those years, as it was shallow and weedy.

After much debate, the lake was dredged and restored after the early 1990's storm to an average depth of about 9'. It was restocked with a variety of fish, with Carp present. The Carp proliferated for the next 12 years. They kept the lake free of weeds with murky water. With the lack of habitat, the fishery was not allowed to flourish.

A decision was made to eradicate the Carp in 2008. The process was successful, fish were restocked, and a new evolutionary period began. Vegetation began to spread, starting with cattails on the southwest shoreline. Clumps of these cattails broke off and relocated to the shorelines all around the lake. A variety of aquatic plants began to show up in the shallows. They were observed to spread to deeper water in about 2015. The extremely fertile waters of the lake contributed to this growth.

Efforts of several agencies, including the Lake Tomah Committee, WI DNR, Monroe County Land Conservation Agency, Tomah Sewer Utility and agricultural partners have improved water quality and clarity. Projects funded by these agencies, including Lake District funds, have proven effective. Unfortunately, water clarity is a double-edged sword. Clearer water allows deeper sunlight penetration, promoting aquatic plant growth. Excellent fishing and recreational boating have successfully shared the lake for the past 15 years.

So, here we are in 2024. Excellent fishing, with some annoyance from weeds, abundant fish habitat, with improving water quality. But recreational users and property owner boat dock access are suffering. Thick weed patches are continuously expanding to occupy more of the surface of the lake.

What are we doing?

Projects in the near future are:

Summer of 2024

Bottom core sampling to see how much sediment and organic matter has built up since the mid 1990's dredging. This will help us develop a plan and cost estimate for a possible hydraulic dredging removal project. Town and Country Engineering will be conducting that project.

2025

Also, on the horizon is two phase weed survey by Golden Sands Resources Conservation and Development Council. This survey will determine the species and abundance of aquatic plant life spreading in the lake. It will help determine the possibility and extent of permitting for a weed harvesting program on Lake Tomah. Also, a regularly scheduled fish survey will be conducted in Spring 2025 by our regional DNR Fish Biologist.

The Lake Tomah Committee, along with its above-mentioned partners, are continuously working to find fiscally responsible policies and projects to strike a balance for all users of our great local resource, Lake Tomah.

For questions or comments, email:

Lake Tomah Committee Chair: Lamont Kiefer
dilynnkiefer@yahoo.com

Director of Public Works and Utilities: Kirk Arity
karity@tomahwi.gov

Please visit our website: <https://www.tomahwi.gov/bc-lc>

Sec. 30-84. Removal requirements; construction and anchoring specifications.

- (a) Date for removal. No dock may be placed in Lake Tomah before **April 1 of the calendar year, or at such time as all ice is melted, whichever is earlier, of the calendar year** and all docks must be removed by **October 15 November 1st** of the same calendar year.
- (b) Removal by city. Any dock or boat lift not removed by **October 15 November 1st** as required herein shall be removed by the city public works department at the expense of the property owner. The cost for removing the dock shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the property owner. If the property owner does not reimburse the city for the removal costs within 30 days after receiving an itemized statement of the removal costs from the city, the removal costs shall be attached as a special assessment to the property owner's real estate tax bill.
- (c) All docks shall be temporary structures and shall be capable of being removed by the property owner within a reasonable period of time after such a request by the city.
- (d) No dock shall exceed a maximum length of 24 lineal feet from the shore and a maximum length of 12' parallel to the shore as defined in section 30-80.
- (e) No dock shall be less than a minimum of 30 inches wide nor more than a maximum of 72 inches wide.
- (f) No dock shall include more than one boat lift per dock.
- (g) All docks must be framed with metal or treated wood in accordance with the normal and customary practices in the industry.
- (h) All docks must be securely anchored to the shoreline.
- (i) Any dock constructed or maintained by the city, or any agency thereof, on public areas shall be subject to the specifications approved by the public works and utilities commission and the lake district commissioners of the city.

(Code 1993, § 19.06(3) ; Ord. No. 2016-10-08-D, § 2, 10-11-2016; Ord. No. 2019-11-11-D, § 1, 11-12-2019)

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**Ordinance Amending Section 30-84 of the City of Tomah
Municipal Code**

The Common Council of the City of Tomah, Monroe County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

SECTION ONE: Section 30-84 of the City of Tomah Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 30-84. Removal requirements; construction and anchoring specifications.

- (a) Date for removal. No dock may be placed in Lake Tomah before April 1 of the calendar year, or at such time as all ice is melted, whichever is earlier, and all docks must be removed by November 1st of the same calendar year.
- (b) Removal by city. Any dock or boat lift not removed by November 1st as required herein shall be removed by the city public works department at the expense of the property owner. The cost for removing the dock shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the property owner. If the property owner does not reimburse the city for the removal costs within 30 days after receiving an itemized statement of the removal costs from the city, the removal costs shall be attached as a special assessment to the property owner's real estate tax bill.
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- (h) All docks must be securely anchored to the shoreline.
- (i) Any dock constructed or maintained by the city, or any agency thereof, on public areas shall be subject to the specifications approved by the public works and utilities commission and the lake district commissioners of the city.

SECTION TWO: All ordinances in conflict with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Paul Dwyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Weyer, City Clerk

READ:

PASSED:

PUBLISHED:

BACKGROUND:

Lake Tomah is a 225 acre, man-made lake located within the city limits of Tomah, Wisconsin. This small, shallow lake was formed in 1937 through the donation of land by Mr. A.L. Butts, and the construction of the existing dam as a WPA project. The lake has been used extensively throughout the years as a prime fishing location, for sailing and boating during the summer months, as a haven for waterfowl on their spring and fall migration, and numerous wintertime activities.

The watershed feeding the lake is comprised of 17,000 acres of hilly farmland. During the past half century, large amounts of nutrients and silt have flowed into the lake causing the mean depth of the lake to be reduced to 4.4 feet. Due to the shallow depth, sediment deposits and nutrient load, weed infestation became a serious problem. Chemical spraying was attempted during the 1960's to control the weed growth, but was discontinued in 1969 as ineffective, cost prohibitive, and environmentally unacceptable.

In the mid 1970's, the community recognized the need to organize its efforts to save this valuable community asset. To facilitate proper planning/design/restoration of this project, a long and tedious process initiated with the formation of an official Lake Tomah Rehabilitation District per state statute. Recommendations of numerous consultants and engineering studies have been utilized to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. A brief chronological synopsis is:

- 1975: Formation of Lake Tomah Protection & Rehabilitation District.
 - 1977: Lake District Study--(Environmental Resources Assessment).
 - 1979: Lake Tomah Feasibility Study--(Wisconsin DNR).
 - 1983: Lake Tomah Management Report--(Massey/Gibson).
 - 1984: Purchase of Weed Harvesting Equipment.
 - 1985: Monroe County Natural Area Inventory--(Wisconsin DNR).
 - 1985/86: Preliminary Engineering Design--(Foth/Van Dyke).
 - 1989: Lake Tomah Protection and Management Plan--(Wisconsin DNR).
 - 1990: Dredging Permit Granted (April).
- Voter Approval to Proceed with Project (April).
"Major Flood"--Dam Condemned by DNR (August).
Approval of Grant for Watershed Project.
- 1991: Approval of \$200,000 State Grant for Dam Plans/Design Submitted to DNR.
 - Receipt of Bids for Lake Basin Project.
 - Special Meeting to Approve/Disapprove of Proposed Dredging and Dam Repair (October 15, 1991).

AGENDA

- Call to Order John Graf, Mayor
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Presentation of Lake/Dam Rehabilitation Project Dan Frantz, Lake Committee Chairman
- Project Overview Buzz Sorge, Wisconsin DNR
- Watershed Project Bryce Richardson, Project Coordinator
- Lake Project Larry Feddersen, Project Engineer
- Dam Project Mark Riebau, Scheduling Engineer
- Financial Dan Hartman, Financial Consultant
- Related Information

- Authorization to proceed with dam reconstruction, borrowing to finance the project, and levy of tax.

- Authorization to proceed with lake rehabilitation, borrowing to finance the project, levy of tax.

- Amend 1992 annual budget

- Adjourn.

Immediately following the adjournment of the Special Tomah Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District meeting, the Tomah Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners will reconvene.

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Award contract for Lake Rehabilitation Project
- 3) Land/Lease Agreement for Disposal Site
- 4) Adjourn

NOTE: All electors within the district and owners of property within the district are eligible to vote at this meeting. Please bring proof of residence, such as your driver's license if you live in the city or your tax statement to show that you own property in the city. Try to come early so you may be checked in prior to the time the meeting starts.