

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
UTV/ATV Public Hearing & Madigan CSM Public Hearing,
with Planning Commission Meeting following
December 9, 2021, at 6:30pm

Chair Marvin Manke called the UTV/ATV Public Hearing to order at 6:30p.m., with all commission members present, except Luke Walz & Brett Severson. Guests present were Paul Johnson, Mike Biddick, Pam Chizek, Joe Proshot, Steve Hefel, Ellen Pulver, Thomas Klahn, Tom Manke, Jason & April Stroemer, Heidi Wall, and Mark Front. Clerk Struck read the minutes of the November 10, 2021, meeting.

Joe Proshot attended hoping that the Town will pass, since other towns and villages around the town have passed UTV/ATV ordinances. Passing such an ordinance has worked out well in Sauk county has worked out well for the bars, and super clubs. UTV/ATV owners like to have dinner and ride around the back roads. He stated there probably won't be many on the roads, just a few residents that own UTVs/ATVs out on the roads. Most UTV/ATV owners have a lot of money tied up in them. There was discussion of what towns/villages own Goose Pond Road, the Town of Arlington, Leeds and Lowville split Goose Pond Road. Goose Pond Road would not be accessible to UTVs/ATVs until the Town of Leeds passes their ordinance.

Pamela Chizek spoke of riding UTV/ATV around with friends from Baraboo. The clubs will support the community with money for local businesses and road clean-up projects.

Ellen Pulver stated that the Columbia County UTV/ATV Enthusiasts is just one of the new non-profit clubs, with over 50 members. Their club is working with the traffic safety commission to direct traffic on the towns/villages preferred routes. The Lake Delton & WI Dells roads have been open all this summer, and only had 2 small issues. Columbia County would like the towns/villages to use the sample ordinance that was handed out, and not to use self-built versions. Pardeeville's ordinance contains strict regulations, and that may be hard for them to enforce. The more uniform the town/village ordinances are, the easier the regulations will be to enforce.

Dan Mulcahy asked if there have been any noise complaints, in the towns/villages that have passed the ordinance. Ellen stated that there have not been noise complaints, but if there were the club would work with the town/villages with those issues. There are some towns/villages that have hours of operation regulations in their ordinances, such as dawn to dusk.

Marv Manke asked how the routes would address the interstate. Ellen replied that there are no UTV/ATV allowed on interstate and will not be on Hwy 60 since it is a state hwy. Concerns of what will take place when the Interstate is closed and the traffic is re-routed thru the town roads.

April Stroemer lives in Poynette, and many weekends they load their UTV/ATV and travel up north. They would like to be able to ride them here, and spend their money in our county, instead in another up north. She also pointed out that many motorcycles are louder than UTV/ATV.

Steve Hefel said he is excited that the UTV/ATV routes opening in the town. He looks forward to taking his UTV/ATV to go fishing, and on rides on the town roads. Organized groups help take care of problems. Also keeping the town/village ordinances similar would be easier, so they don't have to check each town/village ordinance for differences as they ride. Steve didn't think their would-be noise complaints, since the UTV/ATVs are not as loud as a snowmobile.

Tom Klahn, asked questions regarding regulation enforcement, cost & installation of route signage, state regulations. Ellen Pulver was able to answer those questions.

Chair Marvin Manke called the Public Hearing to conclude at 7:10.

Chair Marvin Manke called the Madigan CSM Public Hearing to order at 7:10p.m., with all commission members present, except Luke Walz & Brett Severson. Because the applicant is not here, Chair Marvin Manke called the Public Hearing to conclude at 7:11pm.

Chair Marvin Manke called the Planning Commission to order at 7:11p.m., with all commission members present, except Luke Walz & Brett Severson. Clerk Struck read the minutes of the November 10th, 2021, meeting. MSC Ringelstetter/Mulchay to approve the minutes.

Chair Manke asked for discussion for ATV/UTV ordinance, after hearing feedback from the community

Nate Moll asked the committee what regulations the committee would like to add, if any, to the ordinance. He suggested adding regulated hours of operation, such as dawn to dusk. Ryan Ringelstetter agreed with adding that, and he also suggested having the club pay for part of the signage costs. Dan Mulcahy would like to see designated routes.

Mike Manke agreed to those regulations but was concerned about the visibility of the machine on the road. There was discussion off adding a light beacon on top of the UTV/ATV regulation, but it was discussed that the UTV/ATV lights would be sufficient.

Marvin Manke suggested that the town wait until county passes their ordinance and have the town ordinance be the same. Ellen Pulver suggested the town adopt the basic ordinance now, and then have the counties ordinance cover the rest of the regulations.

Paul Johnson, the town lawyer, suggested to have the town ordinance adopt all the state and county regulations, and add in some additional regulations to the towns. He also suggested having the ordinance identify the roads that are open, or state that all town roads are opened.

Ryan Ringelstetter suggested to open all town roads. Nate Moll hold off on Meek Road, which is shared with Dane County, town of Vienna.

Nate Moll asked Paul Johnson if the town could get an ordinance started but wait to pass it after the Town of Leeds, Village of Arlington, and Town of Dekorra pass theirs. Paul Johnson will get an ordinance draft together and asked if the Planning Commission would like to review it prior to going to the town board, or if it could go straight to the board. Ryan Ringelstetter said it could go straight to the town board. Also, that the town board could address the sign costs, Ellen Pulver stated that the routes are not open until the signage has been placed, and that the signage needs to be installed by the County Hwy Dept. Also, the ordinance has to go thru DNR, the County, the State, and State Patrol for approval.

Below is a recap of the regulations the Planning Commission would like in the ordinance.

- Hours of operation, dawn to dusk
- All town roads except Meek Road
- Adopting all state regulations
- No Open intoxicants
- Reference the county ordinance when it comes into effect

MSC Ringelstetter/Mulcahy motion to pass the UTV/ATV Ordinance on to the town board with the above recommendations. 5/0.

MSC Moll/Ringlestetter motion to table action on Madigan CSM and waiving any further public hearing.5/0

MSC Manke/Moll to adjourn the meeting at 7:59pm.

Becky Struck, Clerk