

March 5, 2024

Community Members,

You are receiving this notification as a property owner within 2,650 feet from the section of Gresham Road that lies between USH 51 and Diamond Lake Road, the section commonly known as Gresham Hill. The Arbor Vitae Town Board has been discussing the idea of closing the section of Gresham Road, between USH 51 and Diamond Lake Road, at every monthly board meeting since November 15, 2023. After much deliberation the Arbor Vitae Town Board has voted to move forward with the process to abandon that section of road.

There are multiple reasons for closure, the first being that the condition of the road has significantly deteriorated and the cost to reconstruct the road would be a big tax payer expense. There are only so many dollars in the road budget and there are other town roads with higher use and function that need work and repaving. The board has discussed that the amount of traffic and pedestrian use the road gets does not justify the tax dollars it would cost to reconstruct it. The other main reason for closure is the road grade, the steepness of Gresham Hill creates a dangerous route of travel.

In accordance with State Statute, the land the road lies on would go to the current land owner that surrounds the road, in this case the town would turn over land ownership to the Trout Lake Golf Course. The Town of Arbor Vitae has already been in contact with the Trout Lake Golf Course owners and the local Snowmobile Club, and all are in agreeance that the snowmobile trail that uses Gresham Hill, will stay open.

There will be a public hearing at 5:30 PM on Tuesday April 16, 2024 at the Arbor Vitae Town Hall, address 10675 Big Arbor Vitae Dr, Arbor Vitae, WI 54568. The town board will hear the opinions of the community at that time and will vote to approve or deny the final abandonment.

If you have any questions on this matter, you can contact the Arbor Vitae Town Office during our business hours 9 AM- 3 PM Monday-Friday at 715-356-3120. Arbor Vitae Town Board Members contact information is also listed on the town website townofarborvitae.org.

Sincerely,

Emily Biertzer
Arbor Vitae Town Clerk

* Please see the attached map of Gresham Road, the blue highlighted road section is the proposed section to abandon.

*Below is the legal description of the section of Gresham Road that is proposed to be abandoned.

Legal Description for Gresham Road Discontinuance

All of the right-of-way of Gresham Road lying east of the easterly right-of-way of Diamond Lake Road and west of the westerly right-of-way and vision triangle described in Volume 137, Page 574, for US Highway 51. Said Gresham Road right-of-way being part of Government Lot 5 of Section 11, and part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, all in Township 41 North, Range 6 East, Town of Arbor Vitae, Vilas County, Wisconsin.