

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER
FEBRUARY 10th, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.**

Chairman Mike Hass called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Chairman Mike Hass, Supervisors Darrel Dengel, Matt Leder, Scott Oberg in attendance. Tim Mueske arrived at 5:35 p.m.

Also present: See sign in sheet.

Motion by Matt Leder to accept minutes of the January 13th, 2025, Town Meeting as printed, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 4-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of February 10th, 2025, is \$985,612.54. After checks issued on February 10th, 2025, for \$36,125.55. Balance as of February 10th, 2025, \$948,440.16. Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve as read, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the vouchers as presented, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the tax vouchers as presented, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

ROAD REPORT

Chairman Mike Hass reported that we will be putting a bid notice for Lincoln Dr in the Tomahawk Leader and the Foto News, Mitzi will be contacting the contractors that bid on Airport Rd in case they are interested. Bids will be opened at the March 10th, 2025, meeting.

Currently, we only have one guy to plow snow on weekdays during the day, the other two drivers are not available until evening during the week and on weekends. Please be patient with snow removal.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Because of our trucks sitting for a year, a lot of the hose dried up and cracked, so we are replacing quite a few of them.

As for hiring full-time/part time employees, Matt Leder suggested that we wait until Tony Baumann comes into office, and the Board will meet and discuss personnel.

OLD BUSINESS

There was discussion on Resolution 2025-1 adopting the 2024 Lincoln County All Hazards Mitigation Plan Update. Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-1, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Matt Leder and Mike Hass attended the WTA meeting last month and spoke with them about the Fire Fee. The WTA suggested that we do a Non-Expiring Levee Increase. We have already missed the deadlines for this year, but we can begin going through the steps at the annual meeting. Because our population is less than 3,000 people, it does not have to go on to a referendum.

Tony Baumann went with a tree trimmer to look at the trees on Lincoln Dr and received a quote. He will be meeting with someone else that will look at it and get a quote from them also. We will discuss it again at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Darrel Dengel to approve Resolution 2025-2 to rezone a portion of parcel 014-3206-363-9966 from Rural Residential 3 to General Business, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2025-3 Ordinance amendments which creates revisions to the Lincoln County Zoning Ordinance related to caretakers' residence, home occupation, and board of adjustment application for variance, was discussed. The board has a few questions about it and will be reaching out to the county to get answers. This will be discussed and approved at the next meeting.

Mike Hass sold a hay wagon not realizing he needed to bring it to the board's attention and get approval. Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve the sale of the hay wagon for \$150 to Kevin Hanson, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 4-0.

The Federal Processing registration fee for SAM renewal did not need to be discussed. That is something the clerk can do herself at no cost.

The board reviewed the notice from the DNR regarding their approval of the permit application to create a pond by Plautz Excavating & Logging.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mitzi Flegner reported that the WEC is having a Clerk Conference at the Central WI Convention & Expo Center in Rothschild September 30 & October 1. To register by 04/01/2025 the cost is \$95. Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve that Mitzi should attend and the Town pay the registration fee, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Kay Tautges gave a report on the taxes she collected. Everything went well, and there were quite a few people that paid online, and there were no problems with that.

Mike Hass reported that the LRPC met on February 3rd. There is a company called Sourcewell, that it is no cost to sign up or belong to. Brandon Peterson said that the gentleman who recommended it said that it was worth belonging to, but Brandon also talked to someone at the city, and they didn't think it was worth it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Scott Streich commented that some of the intersections in the township are not being sanded/salted as well as others. Mike said he has already spoken with the drivers, and more will be put on.

Brandon Peterson asked about Levee wondering if we can get rid of it at any time &/or increase it, if need be, at any time. Yes, it can be changed either way, it can be increased by 2% every year, if need be, or stopped also.

Rodney Gutenberger asked why exactly we need a Levee increase. Darrel Dengel explained that in the past few years we have had the ARPA funds to pay for the fire contract, and so we were then able to re-surface and fix some roads. Now that the ARPA funds are gone, we will still have to pay the fire contract, but there will not be as much money to take care of the roads.

Christine Vorpapel talked about the broadband for Lincoln County.

ADJOURN

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.
The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk