

(Village Board Meeting, April 13, 2026)

DENMARK VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026

4:30 P.M., DENMARK VILLAGE HALL, 100 NORTH WALL STREET

Call to Order

President Selner called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. the meeting started after the Sex Offender Residency Board of Appeals and a Public Hearing

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call

Present: Jim Steffek, Leah Goral, Michael Johnson, Tim Schroeder, Vince Wertel, Brandon Ackley, Susan Selner

Officials Present: Clerk/Treasurer Sherri Konkol, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Charles Wanish, Director of Public Works Erika Thronson, Building Inspector Chelsea Myers, Deputy Jeremiah Rusk, Deputy John Pigeon

Approval of Agenda

Johnson/Schroeder moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Remarks/comments from the village president

President Selner welcomed all present. She recapped the rules of an open meeting and explained the only opportunity for the public to speak at the meeting is if they are a preregistered citizen or to discuss an agenda topic. Unless the rules of the meeting are suspended, the public cannot speak during the meeting.

Preregistered citizens to be heard

Deb DeGrave, 508 Woodrow Street, thanked the Village for putting a 4-way stop at Woodrow and Oak Streets she feels it is working well. Here to share her concern with the electric bikes and scooters around the Village not following the rules, as they are not stopping at stop signs and flying right through, and they are riding the scooters on the sidewalks.

Molly Arneson, 408 Tivoli Trail, Mike Peterik, 326 Wisconsin Avenue, Andy Dimezza, 191 Dworak Avenue here representing Denmark Connects which is a local group that kind of brings people together who want to teach, people who want to learn, and other groups that bring in information free for the citizens of Denmark.

Arneson stated first she would like to talk about their yarn bombing. They did it last year and had it up for 6-8 weeks, it held up great, didn't have any tampering and everyone loved it, so, they are working on doing it again this summer. We would like to do a patriotic theme for the 250th anniversary and brought some samples for the Board to see. The yarn decorations will be wrapped around poles. Would like to put them up the end of May and take down the end of July and would use the same poles they used last year and any other common ones they might be able to use.

Denmark Connects long term plan is to slowly work with the Village to build an understanding between the community and them on how we can do things to beautify the Village. The crochet bombing was successful, and now we would like to try some other things that villages and cities have done.

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Crosswalk art as an example, a Stars and Stripes theme, that would be a crosswalk, you could put books as a crosswalk by the library, ice cream crosswalk by Lickety Splits, railroad crosswalk if it is by a railroad trail, or 4th of July 250th anniversary stars and stripes. Denmark Connects has been talking with the County Board and Highway Department about if they did anything over T or KB, if they were allowed in the next 20 years, how they would go about doing that, and they are great to work with, so we are hoping to go that direction in the future along with other potential beautification projects.

Peterik would also like to beautify the Village a bit more with mural artwork. The paint they would use would be 100% outdoor acrylic paint and last for a couple of years, would like to put something historical on the wall that represents the old flour mill, the old hotel, the old railway-railroad station, the old brewery. I have been here for 5 years, and my fiancé has been here for 11 years and says the Village looks slummy and rundown and the downtown has no color, no culture, and nothing eye-appealing or eye-catching. The murals would represent the history of the Village, and they would like the community to be invited to join them in these projects as well. Denmark Connects wants to continue to work with the Village, with the community. Maybe they can get some help with community feedback on what people would like to see. They already know a few businesses would be interested in murals. We will work with the Village to set things up so that there can be more space for groups to do this in the future, in a proceduralized regular way that can be tracked, maintained, cared for and if something goes awry, we have a reason and a way to take it down. At this time the Village does not have an ordinance for public art, and Demark Connects would be willing to work on getting sample ordinances from other communities.

Approve consent agenda, all items under the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted upon by one (1) motion. there will be no separate discussion of these items unless a trustee so requests, in which event the item will be removed and put on the regular agenda by the Village President

Steffek/Wertel moved to approve as presented.

- a. **Approval of Village Board minutes and other committee minutes for preceding meetings**
 - i. **Village Board Meeting March 9, 2026**
- b. **Approve miscellaneous licenses and permits Motion carried.**

Board approval of monthly disbursements

Ackley/Goral moved to approve the monthly disbursements as presented. Motion carried.

Report of Village Officials

Selner stated we have written reports from the zoning administrator and electrical inspector.

Thronson

- Pretty much everything is in the written report
- Pointed out the treatment plant had two bypasses due to wet weather. The information was sent to the DNR, and there will be notification in the Denmark News. We were also not able to land spread the digested sludge so we are hauling it to Black Creek right now, and they will land spread it. It is cheaper than trying to treat it. We have done this before, but haven't done it since 2013 or 2014
- The RRFB's will be installed this month – We will let Luke from the school know ahead of time
- New street banners for the USA 250th anniversary are in and we will be installing them toward the end of April
- Central Business District Parking Lot, the storm sewer needs to be corrected, and the project will start the week of July 28th

Rusk

- Drug take back is coming up on April 25th
- Registered golf carts will be allowed on the streets again starting April 15
- Over night parking hours ended on March 31
- Had vehicle break ins
- There were about 10 houses that had them on camera where they were pulling unlocked door handles on cars, taking a couple of things, like easy access things and then leave. Ultimately, within a couple of days we had an idea of who they were. They came from Manitowoc, and at a traffic stop in Manitowoc, they admitted to the thefts all over this area. Denmark, Green Bay, Michigan, Pigeon will talk more about that
- We will keep an eye on electric bikes and scooters not stopping at stop signs

Pigeon

- I don't know if you have been made aware of the situation in the park, but two weekends ago there were two kids ripping through the woods like it is a racetrack and causing damage to the lawn in the park
- Some of these kids have basically electric dirt bikes, no pedals, just a hand operated dirt bike and to operate those you need to have a driver's license, and it needs to be registered
- We could change the ordinance to not allow them in the park
- We would need to check the state statutes to make sure
- Maybe limiting to the paved area
- With the vehicle break ins, it involves multiple different agencies, different municipalities. From Sheboygan to Green Bay, they worked their way through several townships looking for firearms, and if they would find them, they would scratch the serial numbers off of them
- They are all juveniles
- Encourages anyone that knows someone that has something as silly as \$12 stolen to come forward with it so they can build this case as big as they possibly can throughout all different agencies
- Remember to keep your car doors locked

Myers

- Not a whole lot going on now
- Waiting for some approvals from Jeff to come through before we get some new mobile homes into the park
- Gave an update on 120 Wisconsin

Ackley

- Gave an update on Emergency Management
- We are in the process of submitting for State of Wisconsin Disaster Fund for snow storm
- Looks like we have everything we need to submit
- The cost is just under \$50,000 and talking with Dan from Brown County, he thinks we should submit for \$33,004.00 towards the reimbursement
- If everything is approved, then you get 70% of that back
- We also have a couple recognitions to give out to 3 members of the community who helped during a medical emergency during the snowstorm. Those community service awards were presented to Jeremy Meeuwsen, Tim Czarneski and Tim Brice

Steffek

- Trustee Ackley and I met with One Denmark last Wednesday. They asked us to sit in on their monthly meeting, as they were discussing the easement. Steffek stated he did bring all the information we have on the easement, and explained to them that the Village is not going to move forward with an easement agreement, because we have an easement in place
- A sign up sheet was sent for the board and staff to sign up for a tour of the community center
- One Denmark would like to be on the Village Board agenda in May or June to present the status of the construction project progress

Konkol

- Gave an update on the rummage sale numbers (185 sales)
- Gregg Thompson came in this afternoon and asked to put down July 25th down for the tractor pull in Memorial Park

Wanish

- Went over budget to actual reports

Selner

- Had an opportunity to speak with an arborist from Door County and told him it would be really nice if he would be able to go through our park and identify which trees could be removed, and he told me he is a retired teacher/arborist and likes to work with the technical schools, so he can bring in students from technical schools and use it as a teaching moment
- Had an opportunity to attend a session that was hosted by NEW North and K Communications. The Greater Green Bay Chamber sponsored it. It was about data centers and I found it to be very interesting – and I would like to share the information NEW North does have fact sheets on their website. They had two panel discussions with industry experts which included a water conservationist, WPS, Ehlers, and the city manager from Janesville. I thought it was very good and I would like to share the video and would like the board to attend. We can put it up on the big screen and I would invite some industry leaders and the local townships

Board discussion/action on requirement by the DNR to update (amend) Ordinance 249, Solid Waste, Article I., Recycling by April 30, 2026

Thronson went over the areas of the ordinance that need to be updated (amended). **Ackley/Schroeder moved to approve the updates required by the DNR to Ordinance 249, Solid Waste, Article I., by April 30, 2026. Motion carried.**

Board discussion/action on creation of an ordinance to allow Virtual meetings in case of adverse weather, emergency situations, or other uncommon events

This was a discussion item only. Will be on next agenda

Board discussion /action on Bank First site available property

Selner stated she received a call from Bank First asking if the Village would be interested in the southern piece of their property. It is landlocked. Is the Board interested in the property? Yes, the Village is interested in it for a possible park, but we need to find out if we can get access to it from the trail.

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Board discussion/action on private use of empty office

Selner asked the Board if they were ok with the Lions of Wisconsin using the empty office off of the back door of the Village Hall to put a Lensometer there that would read the prescription of the glasses for recycling usable glasses. **Ackley/Johnson moved to approve the private use of the empty office off of the back door for the Lions of Wisconsin for a Lensometer. Motion carried. Selner abstained.**

Board discussion/action on sale of Village property

CLOSED SESSION

Steffek/Goral moved to go into closed session. Motion carried.

**Wis Statute 19.85(1)(e), deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, as it relates to the sale of Village property whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session
Steffek – aye, Goral – aye, Johnson – aye, Schroeder – aye, Wertel – aye, Ackley – aye, Selner – aye. Motion carried.**

Reconvene into open session under wis. Statute 19.85(2) to take possible action on item(s) in closed session

Steffek/Schroeder moved to reconvene into open session under Wis. Statute 19385(2) to take possible action on item(s) in closed session. Motion carried.

No action taken.

Adjourn

Goral/Ackley moved to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Sherri Konkol, Village Clerk/Treasurer