Town of Holland, Brown County
1293 Holland Road, Greenleaf, Wisconsin

Public Hearing for Ordinance Changes Regarding Data Centers

July 8, 2026 at 5:30 pm
1293 Holland Road, Greenleaf

MINUTES
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
The Public Hearing was opened for comment.
There were ten persons in attendance, plus the Town Board and Attorney.
Attorney Parmentier outlined the process that has taken place so far:

Both the Town Board and Planning Commission have been involved in discussions and considerations of what can be done regarding the growing interest in development of Data Centers across the State and in the local area. Later this evening the Town Board will be considering a package of ordinance amendments that has been recommended by the Planning Commission.

There are a few ways that municipalities can address this development: a) Do nothing; b) Adopt a Moratorium; c) Adopt Zoning Amendments that prohibit the development; d) Create a permitting process

A Moratorium was ruled out because that is only good for one year, and must include how we are going to make this possible in the future. It implies that we will be creating a process to allow data center development to happen.

It was decided to pursue Amendments to our Ordinance. First we created the necessary definitions to be added so that the language is in place. Then we identified sections of the Ordinance that could have any possible connections to the type of activity that takes place in the data industry, and then modified those ordinance sections to say they do not allow data center development.

In addition, we have no zoning district that would allow it right now. At this time, there's also no State Law dictating that they must be allowed.

Public Comments:

Marty Adams: Is the town seeking to penalize property owners for any land taken from the town for this kind of development? Concerns about the Village of Wrightstown annexing some of our land. He urges that we penalize land owners by taxing them at an industrial level for 'x' number of years as penalty if they sell to data center development.

He also suggested that we look at taxing ALL of their remaining land (the owners) at industrial rate.

Attorney: Once the town is annexed, it loses control of any land that is gone. We lose jurisdiction. Also, the State has uniformity laws that would prevent taxing some people's land different from others of the same classification.

There were no other comments from the floor.

Steve Deslauriers made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Mike Smits seconded the motion. Motion passed and carried. 2-0. 5:55pm

Minutes taken by Gloria Kennedy, Clerk.