

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Town Board meeting on November 5, 2025
(this meeting was correctly posted)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Declaration of quorum followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve minutes from 10/15/25
5. Public input
6. Payment of bills
 - a. LGUD#1 bills
 - b. Town bills
7. Liquor License for Griffin Inn
8. Administrator Report
9. Plan Commission response to the text changes proposed by County Land Use Services
10. 2026 Health & Dental Insurance Plans for Full-Time Employees
11. Discuss alternatives for Town office internet and phone service
12. Rescind motion to from Ad Hoc for Dark Skies
13. Consider addition of lean-to for equipment storage
14. 2026 Short-Term Rentals
15. Correspondence
16. Future meeting(s)
17. Adjourn

Chairman Goss called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Supervisors Janet Johnson, Billy Appel, Cathy Ward, and Dan Watts were present along with Clerk/Treasurer Pamela Donart-Welcome and Administrators Kalms and Buckingham.

Ward moved, Johnson seconded to approve the agenda as posted. **Carried 5 – 0**

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the 10/15/25 minutes as presented. **Carried 5 – 0**

Public input: none

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the payment of Utility District bills as presented totaling \$56,110.73. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Johnson seconded to approve the payment of bills for the Town totaling \$23,336.52. **Carried 5 – 0**

The Board had additional questions for the Griffin Inn regarding their liquor license application and will revisit at the next meeting.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Kalms reported the TRIP application was submitted and fund awards will be decided on Nov 14th; Buckingham gave an update Rowley's Bay: The property has been inspected, and asbestos abatement are scheduled to begin in the next month;

regarding Mariner Park, the asbestos abatement has been done earlier this week. Kalms reported the 2026 Budget work is done, and the November 12th Budget Hearing & Special Town meeting have been posted; The Levy is \$2,600,961; the preliminary MIL rate is \$1.60/\$1,000, which is down from last year's \$1.75/\$1,000; the Town's assessed value is \$1,625,956,300.00, which is a little over 80% of our equalized value of \$2,005,832,900.00; Demographic Services reports as of January 1, 2025 the population of the Town is 2,175—1,194 of which are at voting age; the new generator for the North Fire Station arrived in Green Bay, and we just received an e-mail late this afternoon advising us that due to the tariffs, there's additional \$1,200 added to the cost; a letter from FEMA indicated that submitted costs of the August 9 storm clean-up have been denied for re-imbursement; the Town's septic tanks have been pumped out.

Ward reported the Plan Commission reviewed the text changes proposed by County Land Use Services at their last meeting and concluded the Commissioners were ultimately “okay” with the changes.

Donart-Welcome shared that 2026 premium rates for Town employee Dental Insurance would remain the same, while Health Insurance premiums would increase 15.63%.

After reviewing the existing plan and alternate plan options, **Johnson moved, Goss seconded** that we renew the Health & Dental Insurance plans as presented for the full-time employees with the understanding that Door County Medical Center is included in Anthem's plan. **Carried 5 - 0**

Goss requested discussion on alternatives to the existing VoIP phone service, as it relies on the internet, and when the internet is down, the office phones no longer work. Donart-Welcome reported that Frontier will offer a “land-line” plan for less than the VoIP service charges. The Supervisors agreed on the need to have a more reliable phone service. Alternatives to internet backup systems for the office were also discussed.

After confirming the Town is in full support of Liberty Grove being Dark Sky friendly, it was decided that because both the Technology Committee and the Plan Commission can handle discussions and actions in collaboration with Newport State Park's Dark Sky groups, forming an additional committee would be redundant.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to rescind the motion to form an Ad Hoc for Dark Skies. **Carried 5 - 0**

Administrator Kalms summarized the proposed construction of a “lean-to” for storing road maintenance equipment out of the elements at a cost of \$16,562 in materials, and noted that money exists in the budget to cover the costs. **Johnson moved, Appel seconded** to move forward with building the “lean-to” for equipment storage. **Carried 5 - 0**

Johnson moved, Ward seconded to approve the 2026 Short-Term Rental applications as presented. **Carried 5 - 0**

Future Meetings: The next Town Board meeting will be held on November 12, 2025, immediately following the Budget Hearing and Special Town meeting which are scheduled to begin at 6:00pm.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to adjourn at 8:06pm. **Carried 5 - 0**

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Donart-Welcome, Clerk/Treasurer
Approved 11/12/25