Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Town Board meeting on October 7, 2026
(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 9/16/26
5. Public input
6. Committee Reports
7. Presentation from Door County Strategic Trails Plan representative
8. Payment of bills
    a. LGUD#1 bills
    b. Town bills
9. Administrator Report
10. Discuss process for accepting a Town Road
11. Approval of additional 2026-2027 cycle Election Poll-workers
12. Set date for 2027 Budget Hearing followed by Special Town Mtg to adopt the 2026 Tax Levy
13. Consider recommendation from Personnel Committee for 2027 wages
14. Consider STR fee based on Deckard monitoring contract
15. Correspondence
16. Future meeting(s)
17. Adjourn

Chairman Goss called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Supervisors Dan Watts, Cathy Ward, Sylvann Welcome and Janet Johnson were present. Administrator Buckingham was also in attendance along with Clerk/Treasurer Pamela Donart-Welcome, and 8 members of the public.

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

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the 9/16/26 minutes as presented. **Carried 5 – 0**

Public input: Public Input on item#10 can be found below.

Committee Reports: Welcome reported that the Community Development Committee is continuing their work on helping obtain some attainable housing options in Ellison Bay. Ward reported that she will follow up with the County Parks Department regarding the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), and that the Plan Commission is continuing their work on a Design & Aesthetics Review ordinance.

Mark Glasser and Natalie Dorrler spoke on behalf of the Door County Strategic Trails Plan, and asked that the Town consider sending in a referendum expressing support for the project to help support grant applications for the project.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the payment of LGUD#1 bills totaling $232.97. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Welcome seconded to approve the payment of Town bills totaling $135,063.58. **Carried 5 – 0**

Administrator's Report: Administrator Buckingham reported that the draft 2027 Budget is being finalized in the coming days; the new black stone used in the 2026 chip-sealing has been well received and the Town Maintenance Crew and Highway Committee will continue to monitor the durability of the product for future use; the Town Crew has largely completed the tree trimming on the new disc golf course fairways at the Gills Rock Park and placed the baskets, and some residents have already begun testing out the course; most, if not all of the mowing for the season is completed and the Town Crew will begin working on brushing Garrett Bay Road from the boat launch area towards Garrett Bay Hill in anticipation of paving sometime over the next two years; the Town Park bathrooms will be closed for the season on October 26th; the Crew recently added fresh gravel & graded many of the gravel roads into Town; the Dock Master Mike Kellogg wrapped up his seasonal marina and park related activities last week; regarding the upcoming election on November 3rd, office staff have been working diligently on the absentee ballot process, and will begin offering In-Person Absentee Voting starting on October 20th through October 30th; the owners of the former Rowley's Bay Resort property are going through the County process to get their proposed development approved; regarding the recent activity on Mueller Lane, where a property owner has been using the Town road for multiple boats, jet skis & trailer storage, the Administrator is addressing the situation to ensure the road is cleared for Town maintenance by an October 15th deadline.

Former Administrator Bud Kalms offered a summary of the **process to accept a road into the public Town Road** inventory, as there have been recent requests from a developer asking the Town to acquire a road they plan to build on the former Rowley's Bay Resort property.

Ward moved, Goss seconded to accept the names of Sandy Miller, Grace Johnson, Emily Johnson, Tiffany Porter, as presented and added to the list of potential Poll-Workers. **Carried 4 – 0** Johnson abstained.

Johnson moved, Ward seconded to set the 2027 Budget Hearing date for November 11th at 6pm, followed by a Special Town Meeting to adopt the 2026 Levy. **Carried 5 – 0**

Johnson moved, Ward seconded that the Town Board accept the Personnel Committee recommendation for 2027 wages as discussed in Closed Session for the Town Crew, Assistant to the Clerk, the election officials, and other hourly employees. **Carried 5 – 0**

Johnson moved, Ward seconded that the Town Board approve the recommendation from the Personnel Committee for the 2027 wage as discussed for the Liberty Grove Clerk/Treasurer. **Carried 4 – 0** Welcome abstained.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded that we increase the Short-Term Rental permit fee to $550.00 beginning with 2027 permit applications.

Correspondence: Administrator Buckingham shared an email from the County, advising about an upcoming household hazardous collection scheduled November 6th, 2pm-4pm at the Sister Bay & Liberty Grove Fire station on Mill Road in Sister Bay, and November 7th, from 9am-11am at the Highway Department on South Duluth Avenue in Sturgeon Bay, an e-mail from the

DNR Wildlife Program Specialist asking us to declare November “Deer Donation Month” as a way to promote Wisconsin's Deer Donation program, a copy of the Sister Bay & Liberty Grove Library Commission minutes from their September 21st meeting, and a notice from the Mission Square Retirement program advising some changes in target investments.

Future Meeting: The next regular Town Board meeting was scheduled for October 21, 2026, at 6:00pm.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to adjourn at 7:10pm. **Carried 5 – 0**

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Donart-Welcome, Clerk/Treasurer
Approved on 10/21/26