Note: These are the proposed Minutes that will be approved at the next Board Meeting.

Town of New Hope October Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 6:00 pm
North New Hope Church, 845 County Road T North, Amherst Junction, WI

Members present: Chair Todd Knepfel, Supervisors Timm Raddatz and Ray Reser
Also present: Treasurer Dorene Stolpa, Clerk Pat Zellmer
Guests: Amanda Haffele, Ryan Ruggles, Brandon Schuster

1. Call to order, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.
   The October Regular Town Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

2. Review/Approval of Minutes.
   Minutes from the September regular town meeting were posted on the town website (https://tn.newhope.wi.gov/) and at Sunset Lake and N. New Hope Church kiosks, and were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Supervisor Raddatz made a motion to approve minutes as written (with the addition of Arnie Kaminski's contact information) from the September Regular Town Meeting, seconded by Supervisor Reser. Motion carried 3:0.

3. Persons who wish to address the Board.
   a. Brandon Schuster, Schuster LLC
      The Board met with Brandon Schuster to go over details on the snowplowing contract and MOU for Schuster LLC. Schuster was paid $5000.00 as a retainer for the 2026-2029 contract, to begin with the first snow storm this fall. Information for salt/sand purchase by the Town was provided. All documents (contract, resolution, MOU, winter road maintenance policy, and snow removal procedures) were signed; copies will be emailed to the Board and Schuster.
   b. Ryan Ruggles, Superintendent, Tomorrow River Schools
      Superintendent Ruggles met with the Board to address the fall referendum for Tomorrow River Schools. A handout with more information will be posted on the Town website .
   c. Amanda Haffele, Director, Portage County Solid Waste Dept.
      Director Haffele met with the Board for an update on recycling through the County. She has agreed to join a future meeting for the Harter's contract renewal for discussion of a possible reduction in recycling costs. Zellmer will send a copy of the Harter contract to determine whether New Hope is receiving a cost break in recycling and will also contact the Church Board about a used Christmas lights recycling bin.
4. Road Report.
   a. Gullickson Road repair – completed.
   b. WISLR Report – Zellmer will update road ratings on 2026 report, and provide that information to the Board via email as a reference for the 2027 Annual Road Survey.
   c. Snow Plowing: MOU, Contract, Procedures (including a friendly amendment), Resolution, Winter Road Maintenance – completed. Reser made a motion to approval all snow removal documents by consensus, seconded by Chair Knepfel. Motion carried 3:0.

Discussion or discussion and action may occur on any of the items listed on the agenda.
Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the clerk at 715-677-4784 (clerk@tn.newhope.wi.gov) prior to the meeting.
Submitted by Clerk Zellmer, posted on website, and at Sunset Lake and New Hope Town Hall

Note: These are the proposed Minutes that will be approved at the next Board Meeting.

5. WI Towns Unit Meeting
   Reser and Zellmer reported on the highlights of the Towns meeting, including 'floating zoning ' for solar and data centers, Town of Grant's Data Center Ordinance, and request to support the WI Towns By-Laws. Discussion ensued.

6. Elections.
   a. Early Voting (In Person Absentee) begins Tuesday, October 20 (by appointment w/clerk)
   b. Public Test for DS200, General Election: Saturday, October 24, 9:00 am
   c. General Election: Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 am – 8:00 pm – see website.
      Stolpa reported that five positions plus a greeter/door opener for the general election are covered. Reser made a motion that all poll workers (except the Chief Inspector) be paid the same ($15/hour), regardless of the task assigned, seconded by Raddatz. Motion passed 3:0.

7. Board of Review.
   The 2026 BOR has been completed, including the revaluation for New Hope.

8. Budget. 2027 Initial Budget Workshop: Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 pm Clerk's office.

9. New Business.
   a. Combining two parcels for Town Hall site. Clerk will contact title company.
   b. WI Towns Association By-Laws. The Board unanimously supported this document (Reser motioned, seconded by Raddatz, Motion carried 3:0)
   c. IT coverage for New Hope. Clerk will contact IT support, per diem
   d. Projector for town meetings. Town will consider projecting documents on the wall for public attending upcoming meetings.
   e. November – Deer Donation Program and Deer Donation Month Proclamation. The Board unanimously supported this document (Reser motioned, seconded by Raddatz, Motion carried 3:0)
   f. Planning/Zoning: Two members of the Town Board met with Portage Co. Planning and Zoning Director and Assistant Director regarding a non-conforming structure within the Town of New Hope. By unanimous consent, the Board has agreed to appeal that decision.

10. Payment of Bills.
    Supervisor Raddatz made a motion to pay September bills totaling $32,455.89, seconded by Supervisor Reser. Motion carried 3:0.

11. Next meeting date.
    a. Budget Workshop: ***Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00 pm, Clerk's Office***
    b. November Regular Board Meeting: ***Tuesday,* November 17, 6:00 *pm, N. New Hope Church***

12. Adjournment. Supervisor Reser moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34, seconded by Supervisor Raddatz. Motion passed 3:0. Meeting adjourned

Discussion or discussion and action may occur on any of the items listed on the agenda.
Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the clerk at 715-677-4784 (clerk@tn.newhope.wi.gov) prior to the meeting.
Submitted by Clerk Zellmer, posted on website, and at Sunset Lake and New Hope Town Hall