MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF DAKOTA
2027 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL TOWN ELECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The Town of Dakota 2027 budget public hearing was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the town hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Roll call found the following town electors present: Board Chair Jeremy Kubasta, Board Supervisor #1 Gary Grenier, Board Supervisor #2 Bob Bandt, Clerk Melanie Stake, Treasurer Teri Kubasta, Assessor John P. Blader, Sr., and Robyn Blader and Bailey Blader-Lucht, both of W8694 Cypress Ave.

PUBLIC HEARING

Stake explained that in the proposed 2027 budget, both revenues and expenditures increased by 3 percent, mostly due to increased state transportation aids and associated public works/road costs. The tax levy for 2027 would remain at the 2026 amount, though it could have increased by approximately $2,000 due to net new construction.

No one had any comments, so J. Kubasta closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTORS MEETING

The special town electors meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Moved by Stake, seconded by Grenier, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Moved by Grenier, seconded by Bandt, to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025, budget public hearing and special town electors meeting. Motion carried.

Approval of Tax Levy: It was the consensus of the electors present to approve the 2026 town tax levy to be collected in 2027, in the amount of $170,153. The motion carried with all 8 electors voting aye. A resolution to this effect was signed and will be posted as required.

Changing Clerk to Appointed Position: Stake will not be running for re-election as clerk. The town board thinks the position will be easier to fill if it is appointed, so candidates living outside of the Town of Dakota could be considered for the job. The process of changing a position from elected to appointed used to require a referendum, but 2025 Wisconsin Act 71 now allows this decision to be made at a meeting of the town electors.

Moved by R. Blader, seconded by Blader-Lucht, to convert the town clerk from an elected position to an appointed position effective with Stake vacating the office on April 20, 2027. A roll vote showed 7 ayes, 1 nay (Stake). Motion carried.

The town board will, therefore, hire and set compensation for the next clerk.

Elected Town Officials' Compensation: Compensation was set for the chair, supervisors and treasurer for the term of April 20, 2027, to April 17, 2029; and for the assessor for the term of June 1, 2027, to May 31, 2029. Moved by Blader, Sr., seconded by Bandt, to leave annual compensation the same for the chair ($12,268), supervisors ($6,134 each) and assessor ($20,000), and to increase the treasurer's compensation from $12,223 to $15,000, since it has not been increased since 2017. The motion was carried, with 5 electors voting aye, and 3 abstaining (J. Kubasta, T. Kubasta, Stake).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, J. Kubasta moved to adjourn, seconded by Stake. Motion carried, with the meeting ending at 6:48 p.m.

These minutes are a draft, subject to approval or amendment at subsequent meetings of the town board. Any amendments made will be detailed in the minutes of the meeting at which the changes are proposed, and afterward these minutes will be reposted with the changes.

Melanie R Stake

/s/ Melanie R. Stake, Town Clerk