TOWN OF DOVER

4110 South Beaumont Avenue Kansasville, WI 53139
Phone (262) 878-2200 Fax-Office (262) 878-2595
www.townofdoverwi.com

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
ADOPTION OF THE 2027 LEVY-BUDGET
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026 6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Sam Stratton called the meeting to order at 6pm.

2. **Roll Call:** Chairman Sam Stratton, 2nd Supervisor Robin Zimmerman, Fire Department John Dahms, Highway Department Zack Hegemann, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Kim Springer, Clerk/Treasurer Camille Gerou. Absent with previous notice: 1st Supervisor Mike Shenkenberg. Residents in attendance: five.

3. **Verify Posting of Meeting:** The clerk verified the posting.

4. **General Town Information by Chairman Stratton:** Chairman Stratton reported that the Fire Department and Roads equipment loans have been paid in full. The only remaining loan is $150,000 to the Eagle Lake Sewer Department at 4% interest, scheduled for repayment in 2027.

   Chairman Stratton reviewed the Fire Special Assessment, which is collected annually from all improved properties valued at $5,000 or more. In 2026, assessment revenues were allocated 30% to fire services and 70% to EMS based on call distribution. Beginning in 2027, the allocation will change to 50/50.

   The department currently employs fourteen volunteer firefighters (34.15%) and twenty-seven paid EMS personnel (65.85%). All paid EMS employees are cross trained to respond to fire calls, conduct Two Percent Dues Inspections, and perform equipment and apparatus checks. Although call volume is predominantly EMS-related, personnel share responsibilities across both services. The 50/50 allocation more accurately reflects staffing, cross-training, and the shared operational responsibilities of the department.

   Another consideration is the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) Protective Occupation classification, which recognizes positions involving frequent exposure to danger and significant physical demands. State statutory requirements recognize a 50/50 division of fire and EMS responsibilities for the applicable classification. In 2024, the Dover Town Board approved this classification for eligible full-time employees. For 2026, contribution rates are 7.2% for employees and 14.8% for the Town, compared to the Town's previous employer contribution of approximately 7.2%. This classification has significantly increased the Town's retirement expenses and should be considered when allocating assessment revenues, as employees serve both fire and EMS functions.

The 50/50 allocation recognizes the shared responsibilities and associated costs of fire and EMS personnel, regardless of call distribution. Beginning in 2027, the Fire/EMS Department will be fully funded through Special Assessment revenues, freeing other budget dollars for road improvements and shouldering.

Resident Questions and Discussion:

- **Water Patrol Wages:** Residents questioned the increase in Water Patrol wages. Chairman Stratton explained that the 2026 budget was extremely tight, resulting in significant cuts to patrol wages. Some funding for patrol hours was restored in the 2027 budget.
- **Potential Road Projects:** Residents questioned roads projects. The Town completes a state-mandated road rating report, which is used to help prioritize improvements to the roads in the poorest condition. Zack Hegemann of the Dover Highway Department (DHD) discussed several potential projects:

Church Road: A grant requires project completion by 2029 to retain state matching funds, requiring the Town to save funding toward the project. **Haag Drive:** A 50/50 matching grant is available. The most recent estimate was $140,000, requiring a $70,000 Town contribution. **The Manor:** A section is being considered for improvement. **Miscellaneous:** Two culverts and shouldering on many of the roads is needed.

5. **Adoption of the 2026 Town Tax Levy to be Paid in 2027 Pursuant to Sections 60.10(1)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes:** Robin Zimmerman made the motion to approve the 2026 Tax Levy to be paid in 2027 as presented, seconded by Gerad Gage. Those residents present were unanimous in the vote. The Town Board VOTE: 2/0 (Robin yes, Mike absent, Sam yes) Motion carried.

6. **Adjourn:** Robin Zimmerman made the motion to adjourn at 6:14pm., seconded by Sam Stratton. Motion carried.

Submitted this 13th day of November 2026.
Camille Gerou, Clerk/Treasurer