Town of Elba
Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 15, 2026, at 7:30pm

The regular monthly board meeting was called to order on Tuesday September 15, 2026, at 7:30pm by Chairman Roger Parpart. Supervisors Jeremy Skemp and Peter Larson, Treasurer Lorraine Kasmiski and Clerk Lori Koenig-Fry were present. Nineteen (19) members of the public were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adopt Agenda: Montion by Supervisor Larson to adopt the agenda for Tuesday September 15, 2026, Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting as presented. Second, by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Supervisor Skemp to approve the Tuesday August 18, 2026, Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented. Second, by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Resident Keith Schultz and his wife stated that they attended one of the round tables offered by Midcontinent Grid Solutions and they asked at the different tables how the representative would feel if this line was to go through their property and not one of them stated that they would like it, stating that they asked questions about stray voltage and electromagnetic fields and they were told to ask someone else, and to trust the science. Keith stated that he does not feel that they received any good responses from their questions and asked that the Town Board adopt a resolution of opposition. Resident Mary Hughes stated that she is not against progress and working in the medical field she sees progress all the time, stating that her family has been in the Town of Elba for three generations and she feels very strongly about this issue. Mary stated that working in the medical field, it would be dangerous and irresponsible to wait for the worst-case scenario to be in front of you before responding; stating that there is actual medical research showing serious concerns about long term exposure to electromagnetic fields from high voltage lines. Mary stated that high voltage lines/electromagnetic exposure has the power to alter the central nervous system activity, changing cell function, altering brain and organ functions; with the amount of exposure changing based on the amount of electric demand on the system. Mary stated that the United States does not have a safety standard covering the amount of exposure, however international health organizations validate even low-level carcinogenic effects of electromagnetic fields. Mary also stated concerns about how it will affect not only humans but wildlife and farm animals, stating that we do not have structures like this currently, stating that it will also affect med flight routes that currently use the area. Mary stated that with something so large we owe it to the next generation to slow down, ask more questions and get more research before moving forward, stating that she is in opposition to the high voltage power lines. Resident Jule Bacon stated that we need to look at this from a larger picture then just a high voltage power line, stating that The Town of Elba is an agricultural community and we cannot allow large companies to come in and change the landscape of our Town, stating that it becomes harder in the future to stop large industry once they start, looking and what it happening to other local communities, stating that these large companies need to be held accountable stating that we need to protect our town. Resident Diane Fox, representing the David & Marie O'Kroley Trust stated that in additional to the health and environmental issues there are other ways to slow down projects like this one by having archaeological studies done in the area, stating that there are known trails between Watertown to Portage, basically where this line is running. Resident Jane Parpart thanked whoever freshen up the flags and stated that she supports adopting the agenda item that is up for discussion, the resolution for opposition, following other counties and municipalities opposition at this time, also encouraging everyone to contact the PSC directly and encouraging people to speak with their State, County and federal Representatives. A member of the Town of Portland group of residents offered for residents of the Town of Elba to join their e-mail group which are sent out weekly with updates and allowed residents to sign up to receive yard signs opposing the transmission lines.

Dodge County Sheriff's Report: None

Reports from Town Officials:

Town Clerk: Clerk Koenig-Fry presented an expense report totaling $5,277.91, the normal monthly expenses for utilities are shown. The payment to Lange Enterprises is for a large sign order to replace signs throughout the township. The payment to Starlink is for the installation of the equipment and the first month of service, also included is the salaries of the election inspectors for the August election as well as the Workers Compensation Insurance policy renewal. Motion by Supervisor Larson to approve the expense report for September 15, 2026, as presented. Second, by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Motion carried.

Town Treasurer: Treasurer Kasmiski presented the Treasurers report showing a beginning balance of $124,290.20, deposits in the general account in the amount of $67,782.29, which includes interest, charter trade pay, and the august settlement from tax collection, for an ending balance in the general account of $186,794.58. The Real Estate account has a beginning balance of $50.32; no interest was applied, for an ending balance in the real estate account of $50.32. The LGIP Accounts had total interest applied in the amount of $221.43, for an ending balance of $70,733.50. Supervisor Skemp made a motion to approve the treasurers' report for September 15, 2026, as presented. Second, by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Plan Commission: Chairperson Parpart notified the board that the Plan Commission met prior to tonight's meeting and provided an approval recommendation on the zoning request to go from A-1 to A-2 from Diane Fox on behalf of the O'Kroley Family Trust with the request for a written deed restriction on the 33-acre lot to keep it agricultural. Chairperson Parpart stated that the Plan Commission also recommended that they will no longer meet on stand-alone Conditional Use Permits or Zoning requests that are presented to the Township and only continue to meet on land division requests and conditional use permits what come with land divisions.

County Board Supervisors:
Steve Kauffeld: None
John Kraus: None

Elba Sanitary District #1: Quarterly Meeting/Budget Hearing Tuesday November 17th at 6:30pm

Town Chairman Parpart: Chairman Parpart stated that the asphalt has been completed on Ghost Hill Road east, shouldering has yet to be completed. Chairman Parpart stated that he attended a meeting for the powerlines. Chairman Parpart stated that Dodge County completed some shouldering for the Township on Duffy Road and the Township will look to have them complete some additional roads as well. Chairman Parpart stated that he had Local Pavement complete some improvements on Ninabuck Road on the bridge approach and a patch by Bacon's, stating that the Town should be looking for an invoice for approximately $1,000.00. Chairman Parpart stated that he received a call from a citizen while liquid manure was being hauled on Jahnke road, stating that he contacted the company and they re-routed their trucks. Chairman Parpart stated that there is an EMS meeting coming up with the City of Columbus but there is also an EMS meeting at Dodge County next week, stating that the Dodge County Sheriff wants to make changes to the EMS plan County wide, stating that he is unsure how it will affect the Township, stating that the Town of Elba has a cost effective functional EMS plan and does not want to see the County plan affect the Town. Chairman Parpart stated that the CLR group is still in the process of setting up their EMS District.

Town Supervisor Skemp: None

Town Supervisor Larson: Supervisor Larson advised the board that he is still working on requests to have loved ones buried near other loved ones at Bethal Cemetery.

Proposed Future Agenda Items: Public Service Commission notification on the Frank Road Railroad Crossing

New Business:
Kartechner Brothers: Brody with Kartechner Brothers notified the board that the asphalt overlay has been completed on Hughes and Ghost Hill Road and they are looking to have the shouldering completed next week. He presented the board

with the partial invoice for work completed and the board approved the partial payment. Chairman Parpart stated that he drove the area and is very pleased with the work. The board thanked Brody for coming and being present for questions.

O'Kroley Re-Zone Request: Clerk Koenig-Fry summarized the Plan Commission recommendation from Plan Commission Chairperson Jane Parpart's report. Supervisor Skemp made a motion to provide an approval recommendation to Dodge County with the request of a written deed restriction on the 33-acre lot to keep it agricultural, regarding the petition of Diane Fox agent for David W & Marie P O'Kroley Family Trust to rezone from A-1 Prime Farmland zoning district to the A-2 general agricultural zoning district to allow for the creation of two lots, one 33-acres and one 42-acres. The 42-acre lot will contain an existing dwelling, and the 33-acre lot will remain agricultural and in an existing Managed Forest Lands (MFL) program and not for residential use. The property is located in part of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 20, Town of Elba parcel #014-1013-2041-002. Second by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Future Plan Commission Recommendations: Chairman Parpart summarized the Plan Commission decision from Pan Commission Chairperson Jane Parpart's report. Supervisor Larson made a motion that the Plan Commission will no longer meet on stand-alone Conditional Use Permits or Zoning requests that are presented to the Township and only continue to meet on land division requests and conditional use permits that come with land divisions. Second by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution of Opposition of the 765-kV Transmission Line: Clerk Koenig-Fry notified the board that she reviewed multiple local Town and County resolutions and created a draft resolution which was sent to the board prior to the meeting for review, for whichever direction the board decides to go tonight. Chairman Parpart stated that he just wanted to speak to everyone in attendance, stated that the more you oppose any kind of building, any kind of construction you open yourselves up to being a rural area, where these items are forced upon you because there are no houses, building, or industry, that is one of the draw backs to the quiet lifestyle we enjoy within the Township, stating that we need to make sure its kept in context. Supervisor Larson made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-09-15 opposing the routing and construction of the proposed Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois/Wisconsin State Line (BECI) 765-kilowolt Electric Transmission Line Project through the Town of Elba, Dodge County Wisconsin. Second by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Resolution passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dodge County Highway 2026-2027 Snow Removal Contract: Chairman Parpart stated that Dodge County is changing the way they are billing for snow plowing, stating that the Town use to send Dodge County $34,455.00 at the beginning of the snow plowing season and Dodge County would apply invoices against that amount until it is gone and then the Town would pay any shortage; stating that Dodge County is now going to plow the snow and then send the Township a bill, which will need to be paid. Supervisor Skemp made a motion to approve the requisition to Dodge County Highway for the 2026-2027 snow removal season, to be billed monthly on a time and materials basis for work performed. Second by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dodge County Shouldering Town Roads: Chairman Parpart stated that he and Supervisor Skemp toured some Town roads and determined that there are some town roads that could use some shoulder reshaping with a grader and then some additional gravel brought in, stating those are Behan, Bethel, and Oxbow Road. Clerk Koenig-Fry advised the board that they have approximately $12,000.00 left with Dodge County for additional shouldering. Supervisor Skemp made a motion to approve additional shouldering work to be completed by Dodge County to exhaust the remaining $12,000. Second by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Parpart will communicate with Dodge County Highway and provide the Clerk with copies of the requestions.

Town of Elba Credit Card: Clerk Koenig-Fry notified the board that the Town American Express credit card has been transferred to US Bank, and because everything was set up by the prior Clerk, we are unable to get the new cards issued; stating that US Bank is requesting a letter on Town letterhead canceling the current account. Clerk Koenig-Fry asked if the

board would like the Town to have a new credit card that we work with Farmer and Merchants to get one set up as we use them for all our other banking. Supervisor Larson made a motion to cancel the credit card account with US Bank and contact Farmers and Merchants to get a new credit card set up. Second by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dodge County Humane Society Stray Animal Contract: Supervisor Larson stated that he feels that the contract is expensive per animal and he has been handling this for the township for years and does not see a reason to change at this time. Supervisor Skemp made a motion to decline the Dodge County Humane Society Stray Animal Contract. Second by Supervisor Larson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: None

Correspondence: Clerk Koenig-Fry reviewed the packet that was sent to the board, which included the permit report from General Engineering and Dodge County. The LifeStar EMS report is included as well as an email from the DOT regarding LRIP projects, and an e-mail from the DOR regarding the Innovation Grant application period. Multiple e-mails from the WTA with different legislative updates as well as information about the WTA Convention, Cyber Security Grant training and the Town Law Conference. The PSC notified the Town via e-mail that the Frank Road Railroad Crossing is out of compliance. The Town also received an e-mail stating that the next CLR Meeting is 9/23, the Clerk will forward the agenda to the board. Clerk Koenig-Fry reminded the board that the next election is on Tuesday November 3, absentee ballots will be sent tomorrow (9/16), the Town Board will have a working budget meeting after the October Town Board meeting and Open Book is Monday September 28th from 4pm to 7pm by appointment – Lorraine will let the assessor in.

Adjourn: Motion by Supervisor Larson to adjourn. Second, by Supervisor Skemp. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Roger Parpart, Chairman

Jeremy Skemp, Supervisor 1

Peter Larson, Supervisor 2

Prepared By: Lori Koenig-Fry, Town Clerk

Note: These DRAFT minutes are subject to approval at the October 20, 2026, Town Board meeting.