

2/10/2026 LINCOLN TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present – Chairman Dan Vaillancourt, Supervisors Brian Seago and Harold Wickman, Treasurer Kolene Arvidson, Clerk Kathy Bay.

Public Present – Carol Seago, Mark Dryer, Margaret Jackson, Charles Ondrik, Shay Zepczyk, Robert Erdmann.

Tonight's meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman Vaillancourt.

All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes – Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt, seconded by Supervisor Wickman to approve the 1/13/25 Town of Lincoln meeting minutes and dispense with the public reading. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Treasurer Arvidson.

- General Checking
 - A. Ending December Balance: \$117,120.96
 - B. January Deposits: \$90,695.43
 - C. December Interest: \$387.39
 - D. January Disbursements: (\$120,740.68)
 - E. January Ending Balance: \$87,463.10

Review Invoice Vouchers/Pay Bills/Other Financial matters/requests:

- Clerk Bay presents check register, January Statement reconciliation, AP vouchers and checks written for board approval and signatures. Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt, seconded by Supervisor Wickman to approve the above financial requests and pay bills as presented. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES/REPORTS:

Clerk Report - Clerk Bay reports on receipt of the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue motor fuel refund in the amount of \$879.41 and receipt of the Bayfield County 2025 10% Timber Sale Revenue payment in the amount of \$922.25. Clerk Bay gave a very short update on a State of Wisconsin Innovation Grant. More research needs to be done.

Waste Management Report by Chairman Vaillancourt - Not much going on with Waste Management. Everything is going good there. There are 2-3 empty dumpsters, 2 full ones of solid waste and 2 full ones of recyclables.

Ambulance Report by Chairman Vaillancourt - The ambulance service received a \$5000 check from Bayfield Electric which will be put into the vehicle replacement fund. They also took \$20,000 from their savings account and put it into the vehicle replacement fund so that fund stands at about \$219,888. Otherwise, everything is going pretty fair with the ambulance service. They've been fairly busy. Still have not heard from Washburn on the \$20,000 donation that they made to the ambulance service last year, whether that will be happening again this year or not. Still have not received any word back on the proposal that was given by the ambulance director on how to better answer calls and have more volunteers.

Fire Department Report by Supervisor Wickman - There was one snowmobile wreck by the Pioneer this past month and that was it. The fire department put new air tanks in and got new backpacks.

Road Department Report by Chairman Vaillancourt – The crew has been busy salting and winging back the snowbanks and drifts. They have been cutting brush and are waiting to see if the warmer weather will allow the snow to slide off the shed roof. They are keeping an eye on it.

Public comments : Mark Dryer speaks in support of the town board establishing a town website. Robert Erdman speaks to the board offering his services to help develop a town website and what it would entail. His education is in graphic arts and he has his own website. He currently uses godaddy.com for his own website and states if you sign up for 5 years you get huge discounts. Right now the total cost for a 5-year contract would be approximately \$539.40. The town would have to buy a website domain and then pay for web hosting. He will reach out to the clerk to set up a time to meet and go over this further.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

USDA 2026 Beaver Trapping Contract – Reviewed by the board at a cost of \$1600/yr. Chairman Vaillancourt spoke with Mark Mackey about using him as a subcontractor to do the town's beaver trapping at \$25/beaver and \$15/hr for beaver dam demolition for one year. This could offer the town a \$1000/yr savings going this route. Mark already does the trapping for Bayfield County and other townships in Bayfield County. Chairman Vaillancourt will check with Mark Mackey whether he carries his own general liability insurance policy and will report back to the board. Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt, seconded by Supervisor Wickman, that if Mark Mackey does have general liability that the town hire him to be the beaver trapper. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carries. The clerk will hold off on mailing out the USDA 2026 beaver trapping contract at this time pending further direction from the board. This is not due until mid April 2026.

Employee Handbook – Clerk Bay read out loud relevant old language and the new proposed language from the employee handbook under sections 3.2 and 6.1. Discussion follows regarding removing language dealing with comp time in the handbook as well. Motion by Supervisor Wickman, seconded by Supervisor Seago to approve the new proposed language for sections 3.2 and 6.1, as well as to remove paragraph 5.9 Compensatory Time from the Employee Handbook. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carries.

Discussion on future town hall building remodeling. Chairman Wickman states he would love to see elections held back at the town hall. He will look into costs for an addition to the building and for putting in a bathroom with running water and report back to the board. Chairman Vaillancourt will get in touch with the adjacent landowners again to discuss the town possibly acquiring some additional land next to the town hall to allow for a building addition.

Discussion on Town of Lincoln Website development – Clerk Bay gave a brief report about using godaddy.com to build a town website. See Public comments for comments by Robert Erdman regarding website design. Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt to spend up to \$1000 on building a town website, seconded by Supervisor Seago. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carried. Updates on website design will be brought back to next month's board meeting.

Gowey Title Company annual special assessment letter – Treasurer Arvidson requests permission from the board to sign the one-year blanket special assessment waiver form received from Gowey Title in place of them sending individual special assessment request letters for every time a property is sold in the town of Lincoln throughout the year since the town of Lincoln does not have special assessment charges. Motion by Supervisor Seago, seconded by Chairman Vaillancourt to approve the treasurer signing the one-year blanket special assessment waiver letter from Gowey Title. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carries.

Discussion on Grader Warranty – Chairman Vaillancourt reports that the grader warranty will be expiring in March 2026. The town could purchase one more year of warranty at a cost of approximately \$15,000-\$19,000 but he does not think it is worth it. Board discussion follows. Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt, seconded by Supervisor Wickman to non-renew the grader warranty. In favor – 3, opposed – 0. Motion carries.

Discussion on Equipment Purchase and Leasing – Chairman Vaillancourt states that with the short amount of time that the town uses a brush cutter each year, it would be smarter to consider leasing/renting a brush cutter rather than spending \$150,000 to

purchase a new one. Board discussion follows. Chairman Vaillancourt reports he has a line on a 2012 dump truck down by Rhinelander with 45,000 miles on it. The asking price is \$89,000 and it comes with a sander, a stainless steel box and is already set up for snow plowing. He would like to take a look at it. The town would be trading in their white dump truck. More information will be coming on this. No further action at this time.

Discussion on taxpayer chargeback item – Clerk Bay presents correspondence from town assessors regarding this parcel stating that it would be reviewed at next year's open book or board of review. Treasurer Arvidson supplies the board with the tax statement. Board discussion follows. The board decided to hold off until next year pending further direction from the town assessor after the open book and/or board of review. Treasurer Arvidson will notify the taxpayer.

Generator purchase at town shop – Supervisor Seago states he has not gotten any numbers yet. This will be tabled until next month.

Set March 2026 meeting date – 3/10/26 at 5:30 pm.

Future agenda items – generator, website, beaver control contract, town hall updates, discussion on equipment purchase and or lease.

Adjourn - Motion by Chairman Vaillancourt, seconded by Supervisor Wickman to adjourn tonight's meeting at 6:46 pm. In favor -3, opposed – 0. Motion carries.

Minutes as transcribed by Clerk Bay.

ADOPTED 3/10/2026