

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER
JANUARY 12TH, 2026 AT 5:30 P.M.**

Chairman Tony Baumann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chairman Tony Baumann, Supervisors Darrel Dengel, Matt Leder, Tim Mueske and Scott Oberg in attendance.

Also present: See sign in sheet.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to accept minutes of December 8th, 2025, Town Meeting as printed, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of January 12th, 2026, is \$2,943,868.04 (\$1,827,433.68 tax collection/liability). After checks issued on January 12th, 2026, for \$112,817.61 and outstanding checks totaling \$1,640.23. Balance as of January 12th, 2026, \$2,829,410.20. Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve as read, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Matt Leder to approve the vouchers as presented, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the tax vouchers as presented, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

ROAD REPORT

Chairman Tony Baumann reported that due to the recent rain, the town roads are very icy. The road crew are doing their best to get our roads clear. If you are calling about road conditions, please leave your name and phone number and the road name.

Duginski Road contractor should be coming this month to remove over-hanging trees. Duginski Road will be closed when work is performed, hopefully for only 2 days. If Road Closed signs are up, please use an alternate route.

There was a danger tree on Spruce Road that has now been removed.

Sand/salt supplies are ok currently. Tony talked with Lincoln County Highway, and they are keeping salt on reserve for only Lincoln County municipalities.

Snowplow drivers have some concerns about the turnaround on River Road. Tony would like Board members to take a look, and we can discuss at a different meeting.

We received a bill from Spectrum for damage done to one of their peds. JJ Brushing apparently hit it when they did the mowing. JJ Bushing is looking into seeing if their insurance will pay for it.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

The Peterbilt plow truck had a broken inside rim on the back. Fortunately, Ryan discovered this before any damage was done to the truck. The Township will need to replace all the rear tires and rims. Tony has reached out to suppliers for estimates. Total will be approximately \$3,000 or under.

Tony wants to start a daily walk around (inspection form for trucks). The Township should start doing this, Tony discussed this with the drivers and stressed how important this was. Tony will work on the form, and we will discuss it again next month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss/Approve mailbox damage policy. We will discuss this again next month.

Discuss/Approve Utility permit. Discussed changes made and they are still being worked on. We need to add indemnification clause and appendices. A preliminary approval motion was made by Darrel Dengel to approve the Application/Permit to Construct, Maintain, and Operate Utilities within Road Right-Of-Way, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

We need to survey Gibson Drive & Lakeview Avenue so we know what type of turnaround we can put in. Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve surveying Gibson Drive & Lakeview Avenue, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Election Day Emergency Response Plan, Matt Leder will look into contingency plan.

Discussed the Life Line Screening rental/deposit fee, and the addition they wanted added to our indemnification agreement. It was decided that the Township would not add anything to our indemnification agreement, and they would need to pay \$450 for rental and \$150 for security deposit, since they have a \$600 cap on how much they can spend.

Discussed the sale of Little Florida M.H. Park and Ordinance No. 1-70. Darrel and Tony will review the Ordinance and discuss it again next month.

Discussed recycling, Waste Management is no longer picking up recyclables. Because of that we will be having a lot more people coming to recycle at the Town garage. We will need to monitor it and may need to increase recycling weekends.

Election workers' wages were discussed. Darrel Dengel made a motion to increase the Election Inspector wages to \$15.00/hr. and the Chief inspector to \$17.00/hr., 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Tuesday February 10, 2026 @ 6:30 P.M. there will be a City of Merrill Common Council Meeting, in regards to the Sewer Service Area Plan. Tony is going to speak at the meeting and would like some of the Board members and/or some of the Town's people to attend as well.

CORRESPONDENCE

Talked about WTA letter on chargebacks, if someone wants an employee (mainly the clerk) to look information up from the past, after 3 hours we are allowed to charge for that service.

Lincoln County Unit Meeting is at the Town of Wilson on Jan. 15, 2026, Tony and Matt plan to attend.

We needed to send a letter to the Lincoln County Highway Department with a 3-year road plan to be able to get some assistance from the State. In the future we really should have a 3-5 year road plan in place. Matt Leder volunteered to contribute to this.

ADJOURN

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk