

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER
FEBRUARY 9TH, 2026 AT 5:30 P.M.**

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

Moment of silence in honor of Butch Tesch

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Also present: See sign in sheet.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to accept minutes of January 12th, 2026, Town Meeting as printed, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of February 9th, 2026, is \$872,081.34. After checks issued on February 9th, 2026, for \$33,758.40 and outstanding checks totaling \$70,273.14. Balance as of February 9th, 2026, \$768,049.80. Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve as read, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

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

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

ROAD REPORT

Chairman Tony Baumann reported that the salt/sand supply is currently adequate.

The contractor has completed Duginski Road tree clearing/removal and cleaning up.

The township has been able to utilize both snowplow trucks along with the grader due to 3 employees being available.

The township has received many compliments to the work our road employees have been doing with the removal of snow and ice on our roads.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Our employees replaced wear edges on some of the snowplows.

We are waiting for one more quote on the replacement of the drive tires on one of the townships plow trucks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Gipple spoke about the issue that has been raised about the possibility that part of his shed is on the townships right of way. He has lived there for 35 years, and this shed has been there for quite some time. Chairman Tony Baumann said the Township will discuss this further under Old Business #4.

OLD BUSINESS

Mailbox damage policy, Tony has not had the opportunity to complete this. It will be put on old business again for next month.

The utility permit with the appendices is completed and was presented to the board.

Supervisor Matt Leder reported that as an alternative polling place our shop could be used. He also spoke with Lori Anderson-Malm, the City of Merrill Clerk, and she said the township could also use the Enrichment Center located at the Fair grounds if there is a need. He has all the information needed to complete the Emergency Response Plan. The biggest concern is if there is a power failure. The 2 voting machines used have a battery life of 2-4 hours if there is a

power failure. We would be able to get a generator from the National Guard within 2-4 hours. The township would need to have some electrical work done for a generator/hook up. We have received some quotes from H&H Electric which also include changing all the lights to LED. We will talk about this again next month.

Discussion on River Road turn around. Supervisor Tim Mueske thinks that the first thing we need to do is have it surveyed before we do anything. Scott Gipple said he put his shed where Lincoln County zoning said it was allowed, but he is willing to pay for the land that the shed is over onto the townships right of way. The Town Board said it must be surveyed first. Scott Oberg made a motion to have River Road turn around surveyed, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

DOT inspection for plow trucks will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Discuss Little Florida M.H. Park Ordinance No. 1-70. To re-do the ordinance is a very lengthy process. We will discuss it along with the New Business #1.

NEW BUSINESS

Along with the M.H. Park Ordinance needing to be re-done, the township has received a complaint about one of the sights having excessive garbage by it. We have not received any payments from the new company that took over in December, they are now 2 months behind. They also operate without a license. Because of all this the Board agreed that we need to hire an attorney to help us with all these matters.

Discuss City of Merrill Common Council Meeting Feb. 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Tony spoke with Mayor Steve Hass about the concerns the sewer district plan has brought forth. Tony has also been talking with the Townships of Pine River and Scott about the concerns the sewer plan has raised and how the process can be improved. Tony will be asking the Common Council of the City of Merrill to form a committee that includes the City of Merrill and the Townships of Merrill, Pine River and Scott as these are boarding Townships.

Discuss Lincoln County Unit Meeting that was held at the Town of Wilson Jan. 15, 2026. Jason Lemmer from the Lincoln County Highway Department was there to discuss bridge inspections and he also said that the County salt supply is good. Tom Boisvert from Lincoln County Land Services was there also, he gave an overview of the results of a culvert inventory-inspection of the eastern half of Lincoln County which included the Township of Merrill. It pointed out the culverts that need attention, this will help the Township with our 3-5-year road maintenance plan. Tom said he would like to come to one of the Township's Board meetings and explain the program in detail. Our Township shared our utilities permit process and suggested that all Townships adopt the same process. We thank Supervisor Scott Oberg for all the work and expertise he has provided to improve this process.

The Town of Merrill will be hosting the next Lincoln County Unit Meeting. It will be held on Thursday April 16, 2026, dinner is at 6:30 p.m., meeting is at 7:00 p.m. This is a good opportunity for all Town Board members to attend.

Discuss Chairman/Supervisors wages for extra work. This was discussed at an Electors meeting in November of 2023. At that meeting it was only Cutler Nowak that was approved to receive the higher pay scale for snow plowing. Tony explained that all Town officials should be able to receive this higher wage and it should be expanded to include more tasks. It will need to be brought up and approved at an Electors meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk received a letter from Public Service Commission of Wisconsin pertaining to an application from American Transmission Company for construction of a new 115 kV transmission line. The proposed project facilities would be located in the City of Merrill and the Towns of Pine River and Scott in Lincoln County and the Village of Maine and the Towns of Stettin and Texas in Marathon County.

The Township received another email about Charter Spectrum damage done to a pedestal on Hillside Drive. The damage was done when JJ Brushing was cutting. The Township is waiting for a call from JJ Brushing to see if their insurance will pay for this. We need to take care of this soon since we received the bill at the end of December.

A reminder that the Town Board Meeting will be held Tuesday April 21, 2026, following the Annual meeting of Electors.

ADJOURN

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk

