

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER JULY 13th, 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, Clerk Mitzi Flegner in attendance.

Also present: See sign in sheet.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to accept minutes of June 8th, 2026, Town Meeting as printed, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of July 13th, 2026, is \$1,310,066.70. After checks issued on July 13th, 2026, for \$60,387.16 and outstanding checks totaling \$918.91. Balance as of July 13th, 2026, \$1,248,760.63. Motion by Matt Leder to approve as read, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

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

ROAD REPORT

Road weight restrictions are still in effect on Norwegian Road, Lacelle Road, Sunrise Road, Schiller Drive and Savannah Lane. The roadwork on Hwy. 17 with the culvert/bridge replacement hopefully will be completed in late July/August.

Lincoln County Highway Dept. has started spray patching our town roads.

Chairman Tony Baumann and Supervisor Tim Mueske went and looked at Swamp Road culverts; the town is now waiting for a price from the Lincoln County Hwy. Dept.

Supervisor Tim Mueske reported that Lokemoen boat lading is paved, shouldering still needs to be done, and parking/no parking signs need to be placed.

Tentatively Hinz Road and Lacelle Road will be grounded up this year, and trees will be taken down to open up Hinz Road.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

The snow wings have been removed from the Western Star.

Ryan will be doing an inventory and condition of the Town's small gas-powered tools. Once this is done, at the next board meeting these tools will be discussed regarding replacement and/or disposal.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alyssa Moran spoke about the poor condition of Hinz Road. There are numerous dead trees lining the road, a strong windstorm could bring them down. There are several large potholes and deteriorated sections on the road. During a recent barn fire, a fire truck became stuck while responding, in the same area where the snowplow had also struggled to turn around. There will be action taken on Hinz Road, it will be ground up when the grinder is in the area for Highway 17, which will be soon. Until then the potholes will be fixed temporarily.

Greg Duginski asked about the survey done on Swamp Road.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on recycling. Matt Leder and Tim Mueske helped our recycling overseer Jake this past Saturday. There weren't as many people there this time, Matt and Tim's suggestion was to have a board member at the recycling again on July 25, 2026. And to direct Jake that he needs to watch closer as to what people are throwing in the dumpsters.

Discuss/Approve the electrical bids. Tim Mueske presented the board with a breakdown of the electrical bids. Bid #1- LED bulbs for the hall and office, In The Lite-\$6,510.00, RTL-\$4,681.50, H&H-\$4,322.00. Bid #2-50 Amp (Hall) generator hook up 3 phase, In The Lite-\$4,989.00, RTL-\$3,770.00, H&H-no bid. Bid #3-50 Amp (Shop) generator hook up, In The Lite-\$1,770.00, RTL-\$1,508.00, H&H-\$1,324.42. Darrel Dengel made a motion to award H&H electric with Bid #1- LED bulbs in the hall and office. And award RTL with Bid #2-50 Amp (Hall) generator hook up 3 phase and Bid #3-50 Amp (Shop) generator hook up, and also replacing the lights in the shop, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Tony Baumann presented the board with the Long-Range Planning Committee's spec's for buying a new 450/4500 class 4-wheel drive truck. The total for the truck, a plow, and a dump bed will be approximately \$80,000. Tim Mueske made a motion to put this out for bids, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss/Approve driveway permit for Kati Lee. This will be moved to Old Business next month as she will not be in town until August.

Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve the driveway permit for Brad Barton, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Darrel Dengel made a motion to renew the CD at Crossbridge Community Bank with the highest interest rate when it comes due July 26, 2026, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Discussion on the procedures and rules for facility rental, the board felt that it is very clear what the rules and consequences are with renting the facility. Bio-hazard kits/companies will be investigated and discussed again next month.

The town received an email from the commissioner of railroads for the State of WI. The crossing on Hillside Drive needed pavement marking and stop lines painted, and there is a missing AWS sign, and one AWS sign is leaning that should be straightened. The pavement has been painted, and pictures were sent to the commissioner. Ryan will be fixing and putting up the sign this week.

Review/Approve Ordinance No. 2015-1 ATV/UTV Ordinance will be discussed again next month.

IT needs, Mike Geise will be coming on August 3, 2026, at 10:00 am, if any of the board members have IT questions for him. We need to have another computer with Microsoft on it in the office is one of the items to be talked about.

Matt Leder made a motion to approve the bartender's licenses presented to the board, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

The board was given a business card to call for yard damage complaints about the new underground happening.

CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Mutual Insurance changed our policy regarding Cyber coverage.

The information for what was spent on the blizzard March 15 & 16, 2026, was emailed to Kelsey Brown the WI Disaster Fund Coordinator.

Our floor machine either needs to be fixed or replaced, some of the board members will investigate it and we will discuss it again next month.

The town received a letter from Frontier saying that they will be getting rid of copper lines.

The WTA Lincoln County Unit Meeting will be held Thursday July 16, 2026, at the Harrison Town Hall, dinner at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

Next Merrill Town Board Meeting will be Monday August 10, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURN

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk