

TOWN OF PORT WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Official Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Port Washington Town Board
Monday, January 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
At the Town Hall, 3715 Highland Drive, Port Washington, WI

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chairman Mike Didier, Supervisor Gary Schlenvogt, Supervisor Greg Welton, Heather Krueger-Clerk, and Mary Sampont-Treasurer.

Public: 12, Press: 1

Approval of December Town Board Minutes and Special Meeting of Electors Minutes to approve the 2025 Levy Limit. Welton moved to approve the December Town Board Minutes and Meeting of Electors minutes, seconded by Didier. The motion carried 3-0.

Public Comments:

Chris Karnish, 878 Weiler's Way. Asked the board to comment on the agenda item to change the zoning around the data center. Didier: Currently, the zoning around the data center is zoned Agricultural. Is this still appropriate for this area? The board is seeking a consultant to advise on the best use of this area, which may mean leaving it as is. The town has funds from the Border Agreement to help cover the cost of this. Karnish: Our neighborhood residents are the most affected by the construction; we have to drive by it every day.

Caleb Tydrick 4465 Weiler's Way; how did the developer and border agreement come about so quickly? Didier, it was widely publicized and well attended by residents. Tydrick: Our neighborhood doesn't get any benefits from the Data Center. Can we annex the city to become residents? Residents in our area are also concerned about the possibility of an asphalt plant. Didier: A temporary asphalt plant is not allowed in the town under our current zoning. It is not permitted under the city zoning code at this time either. If the city changed the zoning to allow this use, you would want to monitor the agenda.

Joel Kraft, 3757 County Road H. Many roads are closed, and there is significant additional truck traffic. They do not follow the speed limits, back up on County Roads, and we hear their brakes all day long. We can't cross the road to get the mail. Kraft works for a company that produces drilling equipment and has called the DNR to confirm whether the wells have been abandoned. The DNR has no record of this, which is very concerning. We are allowing outside influences to take advantage of our precious resources: the lake and groundwater.

Rebecca Kraft, 3757 County Road H. It is very frustrating that we can't have our mailbox moved to the driveway side of the road, so we don't have to cross a four-lane County Highway. Is there any enforcement we can use to limit the use of Jake brakes or headlights?

Paul Maechtle, 4348 County Road KK. Did Vantage or the Construction company take out any road bonds for all the damage they will be causing? Didier: The County Roads can handle the traffic, and the County will be responsible for any damages.

Heather Krueger, 3891 County Road H. Is planning to call the County Commissioner to determine whether the speed limit can be lowered temporarily due to heavy construction traffic on County Road H.

Reports:

Chairman Didier: 1) Didier filed the Hold Harmless agreement with the Register of Deeds for the property at 3557 Groeschel Road. 2) The Plan Commission recommended approval of Ordinance 2026-03, Updating §340.61 - §340.72, regarding Sign Permits. The town will hold a public hearing on February 2, 2026, at 6:40 PM.

Town Treasurer: Tax collection is progressing well; 58% of property taxes have been collected. The town's Money Market balance is \$500,385.72, the checking account balance is \$16,396.79, and the small business/tax account balance is \$1,748,318.72.

Town Clerk: 1) Will be tacking Utility Permits separately from Building Permits moving forward. 2) The updated zoning map with the annexation is up to date and posted on the website. 3) Would the Town Board be interested in setting up a meeting with Nationwide to update the OBRA account?

Discussion and possible action regarding Ordinance 2026-01, An ordinance Amending the Frequency of Mandatory Inspections Performed by Authorized Fire Department Personnel. A public hearing was held prior to this meeting, and no public comments were received. **Welton moved to approve Ordinance 2026-01 as presented, seconded by Schlenvogt. Motion carried 3-0.**

Discussion and possible action regarding Ordinance 2026-02, Responsible Unit Recycling Ordinance. The WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests that all municipalities that receive the Recycling Grant update their recycling ordinances. The town attorney will be reviewing the updated ordinance, and a public hearing will be held. **Welton moved to approve holding a public hearing on February 2, 2026, at 6:40 PM, seconded by Schlenvogt. Motion approved 3-0.**

Discussion and possible action on making Norport Park more accessible to the public. Didier was contacted by Forever Green Landscaping, and they would like to submit a bid for this work. The town board will prepare a scope of work and issue a bid package. It does not need to be publicly noticed, as it will not be over \$25K.

Discussion and possible action on initiating a temporary land easement for the construction of the Dixie Road bridge from the owners of tax key parcel 070040500300. Didier contacted the landowner on the Town of Port Washington side, but the landowner on the Belgium side has not responded. The Town will need to have the land appraised, and we will then offer to purchase it at the appraised value.

Monthly Bills: **Schlenvogt moved to approve the December bills totaling \$14,227.18, seconded by Welton. Motion carried 3-0.**

Didier adjourned the January Town Board meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Krueger,
Clerk