

Minutes to be approved April 13, 2026.....
Town of Rockland March 9, 2026 Board Meeting
Rockland Town Hall @ 7:00 P.M.

Chairperson Rosalie Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. opening with Pledge of Allegiance. Officials present were Rosalie Geiger, Derek Genske, Mike Havlinek, Daniel Benter, Clerk, Paula Winkel and Road Superintendent, Keith Brandes. There were 3 citizens present and 3 visitors (Gordy Tasch, Brian Horn, and Brett Glaeser). Motion made by Derek Genske and seconded by Mike Havlinek to approve the secretary's report as posted and printed. Motion carried. Motion made by Mike Havlinek to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Second by Derek Genske. Motion carried. The agenda was followed as printed and posted.

Public Input: A Recycle Center employee shared that the doors at the Center were fixed and seal strips on the bottom of doors were replaced.

Brillion School Referendum: Gordy Tasch from the Brillion Public School Board presented an overview of the planned referendum question that will be on the Spring Election ballot for those in the Brillion School District related to funding. Both Gordy and Brian Horn (School Board President) then answered questions from residents. The ask is for \$2.275 million/year for each of the 3 next years starting with the 2026-2027 school year. Without this funding, serious cuts in teacher positions will be needed. Even if the operational referendum passes, the school district mill rate is projected to be lower than it is this year. For more information, please see the Brillion School District website or a School Board Member.

Reports and Communications: Various upcoming meeting dates for Annual Valders Ambulance, WTA and County meetings were shared for potential Board member attendance. The Town's annual financial audit was completed in January. Our attorney from Menn Law Firm in Chilton is retiring so we will review next steps for selecting a Town attorney at the April meeting. The previously approved part-time role at the Recycling Center will be posted this month with applicant next steps discussed at the April meeting. All that dog annual dog licenses are due April 1st.

License and Permits: As listed on agenda.

Treasurer Proposal to Set Up Separate Bank Fund for Vehicle Capital Fund: Mike Havlinek made a motion to have the Treasurer set up a separate fund at Collins State Bank to place future vehicle capital funds in as we build that up for future needs with unspent 2025 and current 2026 budgeted amounts. Derek Genske second the motion, motion passed.

Spring Election Reminder: April 7, 2026: Reminder there is a Spring Election 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall on April 7th. The public test will be held at 1:00 pm on March 31st.

Date and Plans for Annual Meeting: Meeting will be Tuesday, April 21st at 7 p.m. The Town will provide refreshments for those attending.

Set Early April Town Road Ride Around Date: Road Supervisor Keith Brandes to finalize, but the Board recommended 4:00 p.m. on April 8th or 9th.

Plan For Town Hall Entrance Concrete Work: Two quotes have been received (one from late fall last year that recommended waiting to do work until warmer in 2026) and a few more are expected. Board would like to close acceptance on April 10th so that all proposals can be reviewed and decided upon at the April 13th Town Board Meeting.

Resolution for Transportation Funding: Rosie Geiger read a resolution that supports Wisconsin Towns Association's efforts to compel the State to enact a more comprehensive road funding plan that supports Towns' needs. Mike Havlinek made a motion to support Resolution #2026-03-09 and Derek Genske seconded the motion. Motion passed 3 yes, 0 nays. It will be posted and copies sent to State officials.

Hilltop Bridge Project Status and Next Steps: The Town has a 6-20ft structure on Hilltop Road, west of County W, that has been rated as "severe condition" and needs replacement. A 5-ton weight limit has been posted. Ayers Associates representative, Brett Glaeser, reviewed a proposal to support the Town in gathering inputs needed for the LSSIP (Local Small Structure Improvement Program) grant application at a cost of \$2000.00. This grant has a 90% cost share by the state (Town would cover the other 10%). Another proposal was reviewed by Cedar Corporation and other approaches were discussed. Mike Havlinek made a motion to move forward with Ayers proposal and Derek Genske second. Motion passed. The Clerk and Road Supervisor will work with Ayers on the grant submission and file before May 1, 2026.

Cost To Set up QSEHRA and Alternative Options: The Board previously agreed to move forward with a medical health insurance credit for an employee Starting March 1st. However, due to the steep cost to get the benefit plan set up which is a requirement to have a QSE HRA (type of health reimbursement account), Mike Havlinek made a motion to move forward with an alternative approach which is to pay a taxable wellness stipend of \$1100/month. Derek Genske second the motion and the motion passed.

Road Superintendent Report on Roads/Culverts/Signs: Hilltop Road bridge was flagged and posted with a 5-ton weight limit. Road Supervisor signed up for WTA's April Road School Conference. The AED box was installed at the Town Hall but there were issues with the AED unit so a replacement is on order. Radiator was replaced on truck #43. Two possible locations have been identified for taking tires that are currently at the Recycle Center and those will get hauled out. Tires are no longer will be accepted at the Recycle Center.

Constable Report: Worked with the Sherriff's office on couple citations for dogs on the loose.

Vouchers Approved: Motion made by Derek Genske and seconded by Mike Havlinek to approve payment of vouchers #22664 to #22693 and EFT's in the amount of \$587,280.48. Motion passed.

Topics for April 13, 2026 Board Meeting: Salt contract, Town attorney, concrete vendor selection, open book dates, financial report overview

Meeting Adjourned: Derek Genske made motion to adjourn meeting at 8:37 p.m., second by Mike Havlinek, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Paula Winkel, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Rockland, Manitowoc County