Minutes

Town Board Meeting

APPROVED

Town Board

Date	2026-06-08
Time	7:00 PM
Location	Spring Prairie Town Hall
Present	Jeff Sunderman - Chair, Mary Grossman - Supervisor, Mike Dominas - Supervisor, Ashley Dewart - clerk. 18 residents.
Absent	
Note Taker	Clerk-Town of Spring Prairie

Agenda

1 - Call to Order and Pledge

- Jeff Sunderman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2 - Roll Call Attendance

- **Attendance Recorded:** Jeff Sunderman - Chair, Mary Grossman - Supervisor, Mike Dominas - Supervisor, Ashley Dewart - clerk. 18 residents.

3 - Announcements

No board announcements were presented before the meeting moved to public comment

4 - Public Comments

The board opened the public comment period with the standard reminder that public remarks could be heard, but matters not properly noticed on the agenda could not be discussed in depth at that time.

- **Recycling Concern:** Chuck Findlay presented a screen he had built to prevent recycling from blowing away and explained that it was being mistaken for trash and discarded.
- **Road Shoulder Issue:** Tom Brown, W447 Kearney Road, asked whether anything could be done about the lack of shoulder near his driveway because it continues to wash out.
- **Board Response on Follow-Up:** Jeff Sunderman and Jeff Siegler indicated they would look at the shoulder condition.

5 - Minutes of Previous Meeting

- **May 11 Minutes:** Mike moved approval of the May 11, 2026 meeting minutes as presented, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **May 21 Special Meeting Minutes:** Mary moved approval of the May 21, 2026 special meeting minutes as presented, Mike seconded, and the motion also passed unanimously.

6 - Reports

- **Clerk and Financial Reports:** Ashley Dewart reported no separate clerk update of note and presented the financials.
- **Sheriff's Department:** The sheriff's report showed 70 calls for service in May and 403 calls year to date.
- **Mount Hope Cemetery:** No meeting was held, so no cemetery report was presented.
- **Honey Lake Protection and Rehabilitation:** The board heard that estimates for dam and dike structures came in above expectations, including figures of $177,600 and $96,000, with another $14,000 tied to brush and tree clearing. Because the proposals were higher than expected and would require added maintenance support, attention shifted toward riprap work during the winter as a more manageable interim approach. The report also noted storm debris cleanup affecting drains, and Customs Grading is expected to complete road repair work for about $4,500. The district is also exploring investment of district funds in a state investment pool.
- **Emergency Services:** East Troy Emergency Services reported 3 fire calls and 1 EMS call for the relevant period. The Town of Lafayette has formally requested inclusion in the district, the Town of Sugar Creek is also leaving the Elkhorn Fire District, and the next meeting is scheduled for June 18 at 5:00 p.m. Lyons Fire Department reported 5 total calls.

- **Transportation Committee and Roads:** Dave Vanderwerff secured all 3 land agreements for the Potter Road culvert project, permits are still pending, and there was no update on the LRIP project. Jeff continues to update traffic counts, with Spring Prairie Road currently receiving about 800 to 900 vehicles per day. Jeff Siegler reported that the first round of mowing, tree trimming, and shoulder work is being finished, with some areas still requiring 2 mowing passes.

7 - Review and Approve Bills for Payment

- **Building Inspector Report:** 1 new single-family home permit on Horse Hollow, a basement repair permit, and several mechanical permits, for total permit-related activity of $4,636.30.
- **Bills and Expenses:** Mary moved approval of $79,612.61 in bills and expenses, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8 - 8. Plan Commission

- **May Plan Commission Update:** Mary reported that one application carried an incorrect parcel number and will be heard in June.
- **Paschen Matter:** The Paschen request advanced with a recommendation on the subdivision coming forward to the board under new business.
- **Deed Restriction Status:** The Clintsman deed restriction matter was tabled indefinitely.
- **Records Request:** Tom Higgins requested access to the Plan Commission meeting minutes. Ashley will update the website to reflect all approved Plan Commission meeting minutes.

9 - Old Business - The following agenda items may be considered for Discussion, Consideration, or Action:

- **Mt. Hope Cemetery Management Ordinance:** Discussion clarified that the town already has a cemetery board and a sexton, so hiring another party to run the cemetery was not considered necessary. The draft ordinance was described as superseding prior rules for town-owned cemeteries while allowing future bylaws and regulations. Mike moved to send the ordinance and related resolutions to the attorney for review, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Depository for Cemetery Funds:** The board reviewed the low-yield status of Mount Hope Cemetery funds currently held at First Citizens State Bank. More than $50,000 is sitting in the account with virtually no interest, while U.S. Bank in Elkhorn was identified as offering about 3.85 percent interest and a $400 checking-account bonus. Mary moved to establish U.S. Bank as the official depository for Mount Hope Cemetery funds, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Nuisance Ordinance:** The board remained dissatisfied with receiving modifications instead of one unified ordinance. Mary stressed the need for a single solid nuisance ordinance that both the town and residents can follow easily. Mary moved to table the nuisance ordinance, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

10 - New Business - The following agenda items may be considered for Discussion, Consideration, or Action:

- **Cemetery Fees and Sexton Resolutions:** The board reviewed draft cemetery resolutions covering plot pricing, perpetual care, burial fees, and sexton appointment. The discussion referenced a structure of $650 for the plot, $500 for perpetual care, and a proposed $25 burial fee that can still be revised. Mary moved to send the cemetery fee resolution to the attorney for review, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mary then moved to send the sexton appointment resolution to the attorney for review, Mike seconded, and that motion also passed unanimously.
- **Chief Election Inspector Pay:** Discussion recognized that election days can run from roughly 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 or 11:00 p.m., and possible compensation figures of $300 to $400 were discussed. Mary moved to increase Chief Election Inspector pay to $350 per election, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Public comment also urged the board to consider raising board wages next year before the election cycle.
- **Data Center Regulation:** The board discussed the limits of town authority because zoning sits with Walworth County. Mary noted that the town has minimal commercial land and that a data center would likely require rezoning and reconsideration of the comprehensive plan. Public comments emphasized the scale of such developments, including concerns about sites requiring hundreds of acres, heavy power and water demand, low long-term employment, and community impacts seen elsewhere, including in Port Washington and Beaver Dam. Julie Sunderman urged deeper review of licensing and regulation to deter future targeting of the town, and Mary recommended board attendance at a future county board meeting to raise concerns. Mike moved to table the item, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Certified Survey Map - Diane Paschen:** Mary reported no opposition at the Plan Commission meeting. The proposal breaks out 3 new lots, keeps the main parcel with the existing home as A1, places the new lots in C2, and results in a 4-parcel subdivision for N4942 North Rd, parcel OSP 3400010. Mike moved to approve the certified survey map in line with the Plan Commission recommendation, Jeff seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Licenses:** The board reviewed annual licensing for Shaver's General Store and Albert Ventures - The Rustic Barn. No concerns were raised, background checks were clear, and applications were complete. Mary moved to approve the liquor license for Shaver's General Store, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mary then moved to approve the liquor license for Albert Ventures - The Rustic Barn, Mike seconded, and that motion passed unanimously. Mary also moved to approve the cigarette, tobacco, and electronic vaping device retail license for Shaver's General Store, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Right-of-Way Permit and Deposit Proposal:** The board reviewed sample ordinance language and raised concerns about requiring both a bond and refundable deposit, equipment storage restrictions during active construction, and notice requirements. Jeff Siegler clarified that the intent would be a bond or a deposit, not both, and noted prior instances of damage to town property from right-of-way work. Mike moved to table the matter, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **International Truck Buildout Proposal:** Jeff reported that several companies had been asked for bids and Casper's was the only company to return one. The discussion compared brine and non-brine setups, with roughly a $25,000 difference between the options. Jeff Siegler advised that a brine setup would be necessary for serious brining and would support direct application and larger capacity, while the smaller setup would only handle pre-wetting salt. Nancy Lightfield added that county expectations may eventually require brine capability. After discussing overall cost and functionality, Mary moved to approve the quote for $213,950.61, with the understanding that the amount may still change, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

11 - Adjourn

Mike moved to adjourn, Mary seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Dewart
Clerk/Treasurer