Minutes

Town Board Meeting

APPROVED – 8.10.26

Town Board

Date	2026-07-13
Time	7:00 PM
Location	Spring Prairie Town Hall
Present	Clerk-Town of Spring Prairie, Chair, Supervisor1, Supervisor2
Absent	
Note Taker	Clerk-Town of Spring Prairie

Agenda

1 - Call to Order and Pledge

Chair Jeff Sunderman called the meeting to order at 702pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2 - Roll Call Attendance

- **Board and Staff Present:** Jeff Sunderman attended as Chair, with Mary Grossman and Mike Dominas serving as supervisors. Ashley Dewart attended as Clerk.
- **Public Attendance:** Nine residents were present.

3 - Announcements

- **Clerk Office Availability:** The clerk advised that the office would be closed for the week due to training, with urgent matters directed to the cell phone number and non-urgent matters directed to email.
- **Voting Information:** Residents were told to watch for upcoming in-person absentee voting hours. The clerk also clarified that any in-person absentee ballot not mailed must be delivered directly to her during designated absentee voting hours.
- **Town Assistance Update:** Jeff Sunderman also shared a brief announcement regarding town support and assistance to other jurisdictions during storm emergencies.

4 - Public Comments

- **Resident Inquiry:** Tom Higgins asked whether anyone had information about a gas power plant in Walworth County, noting that WE Energies had not provided details when he inquired and that he had only seen mention of it in a news article.
- **Board Response Constraint:** The matter was heard during public comment without substantive board deliberation under the agenda limitations for that portion of the meeting.

5 - Minutes of Previous Meeting

The board reviewed the minutes from the June 8, 2026 meeting and Mike moved to approve the minutes as presented, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6 - Reports

- **Clerk and Financial Reports:** Ashley Dewart reported that the budget workshop was scheduled for August 27, 2026 at 2:30 PM.The previously approved move of cemetery funds to US Bank remained pending while attorney review continued.
- **Sheriff's Department:** Lt. Shaw's report showed 80 calls in June and 483 year to date. When asked about the main call types, the explanation covered accidents, traffic stops, complaints, well checks, and related service calls.
- **Mount Hope Cemetery:** No meeting was held, so there was no formal report.
- **Honey Lake Protection and Rehabilitation:** Tim Slavin reported a possible crack in the new wall near the dam, with an engineer expected to review it at the end of the month. Work on Del Monte had been delayed because of turtle habitat protections but was expected to resume soon. Storm damage resulted in downed trees, weeds were inspected and the lake was treated, $200,000 was transferred into the State of Wisconsin local government investment pool, small parcels formerly owned by the Village of Rochester were acquired by the district, and the annual meeting budget and agenda were proposed for August 23, 2026 at 1:30 PM.
- **Emergency Services:** Tom Grossman for East Troy Fire District reported 2 fire calls and 2 EMS calls, with its next meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 5:30 PM. The district was also considering Sugar Creek's request to join and revisiting the Town of Troy agreement. The Lyons Fire Department reported 9 calls.

- **Transportation and Roads:** Nancy Lightfield reported that no date had yet been set for the Valley View project, the Potter Road culvert bid opening was scheduled for July 21, 2026 at 1:00 PM, and the transportation committee meeting was moved to July 23, 2026 at 11:00 AM. The committee remained on track to bring a road budget to the board in August and planned to use the old meeting-room map to color-code roads by traffic counts in order to prioritize maintenance. Jeff Siegler added that culverts on Kearney had been replaced, mowing would resume over the next few weeks, and shoulder work was in progress.

7 - Review and Approve Bills for Payment

- **Building Inspector Report:** June permit activity totaled $1,454, consisting of $1,004 in building permits and $450 in mechanical permits. The month included one permit item, two accessory structures, and two new decks.
- **Bills and Expenses:** The board reviewed total bills of $87,345.61. Mary moved approval, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8 - 8. Plan Commission

- **Clintsman Matter:** The commission addressed the Clintsman issue involving removal of a deed restriction and tabled the matter indefinitely. The applicant was advised to pursue judicial direction through a lawsuit against the town.
- **Quirk Farm Separation:** The commission also reviewed the Quirk farmland separation request and recommended Town Board approval.

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

- **Mount Hope Cemetery Ordinance and Processes:** Discussion addressed whether a separate cemetery board remained necessary, with Mary questioning the need to maintain it and Jeff expressing support for its continued role. The board also discussed consolidating the existing bylaws into the ordinance so that prior bylaws would be repealed and fully absorbed into the new ordinance structure. Mike moved to table the cemetery ordinance item, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Cemetery Plot Sales and Burial Fees:** The board did not finalize the fee resolution and instead tabled it by unanimous vote after a motion by Mike and a second by Mary.
- **Cemetery Sexton Appointment:** The appointment resolution for Mount Hope Cemetery Sexton, identifying Don Henningfield for the role and compensation formalization, was also tabled. Mary moved to table, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Nuisance Ordinance:** The revised nuisance ordinance, updated to reflect the attorney's direction on enforcement and merged with the existing ordinance framework, was presented. Mike made a motion to adopt ordinance 2026-05, an ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Chapter VI entitled, “Public Nuisances”, Mary seconded, passed unanimously.
- **Right-of-Way Permit and Deposit Policy:** The board agreed to send the proposal of a right-of-way permit and deposit to the Transportation Committee for discussion. Mary made the motion, Mike seconded, and the referral passed unanimously.
- **Data Center Discussion:** No formal action was taken. Mary expressed interest in attending a county board meeting so the town's concerns could be voiced, and she suggested sending a letter to County Supervisor Joe Schaefer and inviting him to a Town Board meeting to hear resident concerns.

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

- **Certified Survey Map Review:** The Plan Commission is recommending approval on the Mary Ellen Quirk certified survey map for Parcel OSP 2100002B.The proposal involved separating a parcel of 35 acres and under 5 acres in a configuration that would meet A1 zoning requirements.
- **Board Action:** Mike moved to approve the certified survey map, Mary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

11 - Adjourn

Mary moved to adjourn at 7:35 PM, Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Dewart
Clerk/Treasurer