

Town of Oakland
Plan Commission Meeting
Monday, July 7, 2025

Members Present: Chairman Brian Conley, Mary Brill, Sandee Pease, and Sandy Waletzko. Stanley Dzikonski was unable to attend

Interested Citizen: Judy Peterson from Amnicon Dowling Lake Management District - ADLMD.

Called to order at 2:30 pm by BC. The meeting was posted and a quorum was present making the meeting legal. Minutes of meeting on June 9, 2025 were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes by MB, seconded by SP and passed on a voice vote.

Correspondence: BC reported that the only correspondence was the zoning variance request on the agenda.

Review of Ordinances: SP outlined the changes made to update the town's Utility Accommodation Ordinance. She explained the three provisions she added to the general conditions listed in Section III. This followed the recommendations given by the Wisconsin Town's Association. Those additions covered: archaeological, historical, and environmental assessments and compliance requirements; prohibitions on use of chemical treatment or tree removal without a permit; and having appropriate traffic control plan following minimum standards shown in the MUTCD or WisDot work zone field manual. The permit application form and town's policy manual will be changed to reflect the ordinance revisions. MB explained the wording and punctuation corrections she did on the ordinance. There was a brief discussion on the signature block. BC suggested that all board members be listed with their names typed below their signatures. Motion by MB, seconded by BC, to approve the revisions to the town's Utility Accommodation Ordinance and submit it to the town board for adoption. Motion carried on a voice vote.

SW asked about the status of the Dog Ordinance as it was on the agenda for the town board meeting on Tuesday. BC said the board members at the last meeting felt they needed to review the matter further before taking any action.

New Business: Judy Peterson from the ADLMD shared information she received from the NW Wisconsin Lakes Conference. Steve Kessler from the Last Wilderness Alliance spoke to the conference about the law suit filed against the Wake Enhancement Ordinance in the Town of Scott in Burnett County. He reported there are 54 similar ordinances in the state with 60 more in the works and he recommended towns check with their insurance agency to check their coverage. The Alliance is looking to join the suit in support of the township. A suit would be like a personal injury claim that once filed there is a 120 day time period to decide response. BC contacted town's insurance company but got no commitment on our coverage. MB will contact the town clerk to get copy of policy to review. Judy said the Town of Summit is on hold with their ordinance in view of litigation in Town of Scott. She said that the state doesn't have very strong laws covering the use of wake enhanced boats and that towns can have greater restrictions in their ordinances.

Zoning Application: The town received a request for a variance from Markon Life Estate for putting in a driveway within 300 feet of a driveway on the same side of the road on County Highway B- parcel OA-022-00816-01. The request for the driveway is to access their parcel (for harvesting/planting apple trees and getting some firewood) which is separated from another parcel they own by a parcel owned by someone else. The application indicated an ATV trail around to connect their two parcels would need to go through wetlands. MB reminded members that granting of a variance can only be done if three conditions are met: there is an unnecessary hardship; the hardship is due to unique limitations of the property; and if granted would not cause harm to the public interest. Members studied the site location map and they had several questions. Since the hearing on the matter is set for August 27, the members decided to table the request to review the area and get more information.

Plan Commission Matter: SW submitted a letter of resignation from the plan commission requesting the board appoint a replacement. She expressed appreciation for working with everyone on the commission and what a positive experience it has been.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is set for August 11, 2025 at 2:30 pm.

Adjournment: Motion by SW, seconded by MB, and passed by voice vote to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Recorded by SW