Town of Plover, Marathon County, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of the Town Board and
Public Hearing on Proposed 2027 Budget Hearing
180771 County Road Z, Birnamwood, WI 54414

Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. **Call to Order by Chairman, Tony Kautza**
   Chairman Kautza called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call – Town Supervisor, Pete Marien, and Town Supervisor, Scott McRae**
   Clerk Valerie Parker noted Marien and McRae were also present.

   Also, in attendance: Treasurer, Connie Sippl, and Clerk, Valerie Parker

3. **Visitors**
   Derrick Larson, 185153 County Road Z
   Dick Lehmann, 177374 Pine View Road
   Diane Resch, 184655 State Highway 52
   Dan Thomas, 178474 Sportsman Drive
   Gary Thomas, 176801 Sportsman Drive

4. **Public Comments/Concerns (Limit 5 Minutes Per Person)**
   Dan Thomas questioned when Sportsman Drive will be finished and asked if the Town could add granite to his 2nd driveway. Kautza stated he will let Meverden Materials know, and how the plan was to finish Sportsman Drive tomorrow. Kautza stated that in 2027, the Town will add more granite to another mile on Sportsman Drive.

   Lehmann questioned when Pine View Road (west of County Road Y) would be graded. Kautza informed him that it is still slated to be done yet.

5. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
- **September 15, 2026, Regular Board Meeting**

   Motion by Marien, second by McRae, to approve the meeting minutes of September 15, 2026.

6. **Review and Signing of Monthly Expenditures**

7. **Review and Action on 2026 Monthly Budget**
   Parker stated that she will combine Agenda Items #6 and #7 going forward as they are essentially the same thing.

   Paker pointed out that she paid off the tractor loan.

   Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to approve the monthly budget.

8. **Clerk's Report**
   Parker stated she is continuing to work on absentee ballots and the Town is at about 21 absentee ballots that were sent out. She stated that she worked on the 2026 draft levy and 2027 Town budget. She asked if the Board would be okay if she ordered a better rolling printer stand for the Town's printer, which the Board was okay with.

   Marien asked about getting a mailbox at the Town Hall. Parker stated she was communicating with the Wittenberg Postmaster, but contact was lost and she did not have a chance to follow back up. She will restart that communication.

9. **Road Report**
   Kautza stated that Sportsman Drive and Clay Road will be completed in the next few days. He commented that Craig Schwocho, from McCoy, is supposed to come back out and work with Mike Block on the grader. He stated that Block is out with pneumonia, but is anticipating to be back to work in the next day.

McRae is planning to continue assisting the Town with right-of-way ditch mowing/brushing. He would also like to be a part of the grader training.

Kautza stated that he and Larson had been working on the bever dam issue.

10. New Business

- **Public Hearing on Proposed 2027 Town of Plover Budget**
  - **Open Public Hearing**

Kautza opened the hearing at 6:25 p.m.

- **Presentation by Board**

Kautza stated that everything is looking good for 2027. Parker explained to the attendees how the budget is calculated out, based on the allowable 2026 tax levy from the State and by adding in other revenues that the Town will receive, then spreading those dollar amounts throughout the different budget categories.

- **Public Comment Period**

It was confirmed to Larson that this proposed budget and levy take into account the new grader loan.

It was confirmed to Resch that levy increase is at about 6.95% from last year.

- **Close Public Hearing**

Kautza closed the public hearing at 6:32

- **Review, Discussion, and Action by Town Board on Proposed 2027 Budget**

Motion by McRae second by Marien, to approve the proposed 2027 Town Budget in the amount of $523,522.79.

11. Old Business

- **Continued Discussion on 2026 Road Projects**

Kautza stated how the Town will add another mile of granite to Sportsman Drive in 2027. He stated we are also planning some seal coating. He stated that there will need to be some digging and added cold mix on Sportsman Drive ("Felner's Hill"), east of Hatchery Road.

Larson commented that the culvert on Red Granite Road needs to be looked at, as he suspects there may not be a bottom in it anymore.

There was some discussion that Don Dahms, of Antigo Arborist, will come back out this fall yet to do some more right-of-way tree cutting and how some areas need to be cut way back to help with icing on the roads in the winter. Parker mentioned about the pines in front of Julie Bray's house, on Pine View Road. Kautza stated he can ask her about it. There was also some discussion on cutting some of the overgrown brush on the east side of Plover-Aniwa Townline Road (which is technically Aniwa's side). McRae could check that out.

- **Discussion and/or Action on Snowmobile Crossing Issue on Hatchery Road**

Kautza stated he will follow up with the Birnamwood Snowmobile Trail Coordinator. Marien stated how some places allow snowmobiles to run right down the road. Kautza stated those are areas where the municipality designated those roads for that.

- **Continued Discussion on Possibly Ending County Zoning (Action Due by January 27, 2027)**

No updates.

12. Remarks from the Board

Sippl asked if the Board would be okay if she purchased a new vacuum for the Town Hall. The Board was fine with that. Kautza stated that Block could keep the current one in the shop for his own use then.

Marien brought up snowplowing for 2026-2027, as far as clearing the snow right away to avoid all the ice and ruts like last winter.

Larson commented that we may want to check our supply of blades for the plow. He stated we may want to talk to Easton or the Langlade County Highway Commissioner.

13. **Future Items**

- Special Town Meeting of Electors on 2026 Tax Levy – Following 10/13/26 6:00pm Meeting
- Special Town Board Meeting on the Adoption of the 2027 Budget – Following the Electors Meeting
- Fall General Election – November 3, 2026
- Regular Town Board Meeting – November 10, 2026, 6:00pm

14. **Adjourn**

Motion by McRae, second by Marien, to adjourn at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully,

Valerie Parker
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