

Town of Oakland
Douglas County, Wisconsin

The town board convened for the regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10th, 2025, at the Oakland Town Hall 6152 S County Road K. The meeting was called to order 7:00pm by Chairman, Pete Fornengo. The meeting began with a verification of public notification. A quorum was present as well as 11 interested citizens. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from 5/13/25 made by Dana Dolsen, seconded by Randy Polson, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Town Clerk Lydia Schroeder discussed that there are currently 3 town hall rentals for the month of June, working on conversion of the website to .gov and standardizing email addresses for the board members. She is also working with Winter Systems to update Microsoft licensing to create an online community for the residents. She requested a reconciliation needs and division of labor discussion; this has been tabled for a special meeting with date of 6/24 at 7:00pm. Next filing is the Maintenance of Effort. She will collect this information from the FD and certify the form with DOR by the 7/1 deadline. There was also a discussion to change the processing of the Town Hall rental forms to request payment up front for the rental and the deposit. She will continue to manage the return of deposit payments to the renters as well as manage the calendar for renting. Dana Dolsen made a motion to approve this change of process and Randy Polson seconded the motion, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Treasurer Stacy Fornengo recapped her month which included the deposits, bills, and she also discussed the possibility of getting a Town credit card for bill paying. There are different types offered by NBC, offered July 1st. She requests that the board members review these options to establish what the interests are. She will work with the bank to get more information should the board need it. One important part of the discussion is who will be listed as an eligible user(s) on the credit card. The next item was a discussion of the phone bill and how it continually keeps increasing. She provided a copy of the bill breakdown to the board and requested that they review and identify areas to cut back or if there are other ideas for changing that might include different providers such as ECE, Starlink, FirstNet, etc. Chairman Pete Fornengo to investigate this.

Gerry, Chief of the Fire Department, recapped the current events within the Fire Department. For the month, this included cleaning and organizing, ordering Fire Gear, and holding the meeting where a potential new member attended, hopeful to have this person return next month. The Fire Department is also working on applying for some grants and reports; One fire last Sunday, there was no issues with equipment, and one member returned to assist with that fire. According to the recent fire inspection, town gas cans cannot be in the garage sitting out, need the fire locker or it needs to be moved. Stacy discussed the financial needs of the department, how more money is going into maintenance of the trucks as they age, and the need for money for equipment. Dana remarks that she will find something to store the gas cans in. Pete discussed potentially storing them externally would be cheaper. Randy asked about the small tanker and its performance after the recent exhaust work, Gerry agreed that there has been more power and less smoke, but there may be some issues with the tire balancing.

Board members – Dana discussed that she arrived to do the janitor duties and the gas from the Fire Department was moved in the pantry and the metal shelving was taken out of the wall. Put shelving back in and Greg reattached to the wall. Randy had nothing to report.

County Board – no representation

Road Crew – town clean up over a couple of days, moved mower, checked for trees for wind, cleaned shop, helped place dumpsters for town clean up, grading this month. Made a trip to Superior to turn in batteries, called Brightspeed for a repair to the internet, did get this repaired. Clean up around the shop, replaced batteries in 140H, delivered recycling & garbage cans, and did a locate for culvert on the Najt Road.

Dana reported for the Community Events Group, they are on leave through September, nothing to report.

Call for Agenda Items / Approve Order of Business: Review of Bills, Claims, and Expenses—Motion to Approve Payments.

DD made a motion to approve, RP seconded, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried

Planning Commission Reports and Recommendations.

- The Planning Commission is working on a Dog ordinance revision. The board has a copy for review. They are also working on a Utility Ordinance that should be finished for next month. Mary Brill brought an article regarding Town of Scott being sued for their wake boat ordinance. The Planning Commission divided up tasks to find out about the complaint and the answer and how the Town of Scott is going to approach the situation. Last Wilderness Alliance is assisting the town to pay legal fees and help the town through the lawsuit. Town liabilities insurance is paying for the town. Brian talked to Steve Kimmes, our rep, we do have a comprehensive policy for the Town. All of this is in preparation in case this happens here.
- Dog ordinance – Chairman Pete would like to table this for a following meeting to review the changes from previous ordinance. Changes from the previous ordinance include removing the animal control officer, to language including may hire an animal control office. Additionally, the Town Board has the authority to take in these dogs and updated new members of the board. The language was updated for multiple dog license options; this will be up to the board to decide. Dana discussed this issue happening in our town May 30th. A resident concerned about dogs chasing after her; her dog was injured and had to go through surgery. She discussed this with Detective Strang. The detective stated if we were going to take the dogs, we need the Sheriff and a warrant to pick up the dog. She is bringing their ordinance to the County Board. Pete talked to 911 about these issues, it is important to make the police report, and any Complaint must be a written complaint. The biggest question surrounding this issue is, is the Town Ordinance enforceable?

Correspondence Received from Douglas County Zoning (if any) – none.

Review of Applications Received (if any)

- Rellie's – liquor license and opening tentative for repairs that are scheduled for this week.
- Kettle Liquor license is within the 15 day holding period. Will be reviewed at a special meeting 6/24 to not hold up their 7/1 date.
- Operator License – No. 2505-04 for Dale Barnard. DD makes a motion to approve, RP seconded. All in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Status of Current Town Issues/Ordinances/Land Use Plan Being Worked On (if available) - none

Clean-Up Day Update. Town Clean Up went well, didn't seem as busy this year in comparison to other years. Mostly tires disposed, followed by mattresses, then monitors and TVs. The board will provide a full scope of the costs and expenses once the scrap metal and other items are finalized. The idea for next year to include a slip that the resident could fill out beforehand with a simple outline of things being disposed of to help with tracking.

Dogs around Dowling Lake – this issue was discussed above with the Dog Ordinance.

Census Information [Local Update of Census Addresses \(LUCA\) Operation](#) beginning the process of working on the Census in 2030, asking for preparation. Contact Lydia, clerk if anyone would like more information.

Grader Replacement. Randy started the conversation with Brock at Fabick providing a value on the old grader and it is currently worth more than what was expected. In November the grader loan payment will fall off. The value of the offer was \$50,000 for the current grader, cost for new one would be \$323,000. \$10,000 for a different blade from the current setup that we have. The specifications could be changed to adjust the price. A resident asked the year of the current old grader. It is a 1996. The new one is 3 years old – 2022. Pete asked about benefits of having two graders. The discussion summed up that two is for efficiency because plowing with one grader to plow 16 – 20 hours to get through the town once. Greg mentioned rolling over the grader instead of dropping the tax basis without a loan on any equipment. one grader to plow 16 – 20 hours to get through the town once.

Credit Card Request for Treasurer/Clerk use to allow for cost saving – covered in treasurer recap.

Staffing Update

- This item is tabled for a later meeting to discuss 6/17 at 5:00pm.

Cell Phone / Internet / Phone Line Changes, potential for savings – covered in treasurer recap.

Public Comment/Set Next Board Meeting Date

- Decontamination before boats operate on a lake, create a new ordinance, suggestion from concerned resident.
- Next meeting July 8th, 2025 is the next meeting.

Adjournment RP made the motion at 7:58pm, DD seconded, voice vote all in favor; motion carried.

Submitted, Lydia M Schroeder, Town Clerk