

Town of Oakland

Douglas County, Wisconsin

The town board convened for the regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12th, 2025, at the Oakland Town Hall 6152 S County Road K. The meeting was called to order 7:02pm by Chairman, Pete Fornengo.

The meeting began with a verification of public notification. A quorum was present as well as 10 interested citizens. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from 7/8/25, 7/14/25, 7/16/25 made by Dana Dolsen, seconded by Randy Polson, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried at 7:03pm.

Lydia, Clerk, reported the town hall rentals for August. Four rentals and a wedding scheduled. She received a quote from Sprinter to handle the .gov transition and Microsoft implementation. There are grant funds available to cover the cost of the transition. Stacy, Treasurer, worked with the bank to review the terms for the grader, contacted Brightspeed about the phone, paying bills and correct accounting with Lydia. Board Members – Dana nothing, Randy nothing Pete, Chairman. Conducted interviews for the Road Crew position, selected candidate, Shawn Conley. The board would like to complete the employment review process and have him fully employed by 9/1. Fire Department, Gerry, Fire Chief, the group responded to 8 medical, 1 structure fire, 1 vehicle fire, attended Town of Parkland 6pm training, and represented a truck at the National Night Out event. Road Crew report, Greg, graded 12 days, removed trees, delivered garbage cans, reviewed driveway permits, installed culvert on Neuman Rd, installed a culver on Najt Rd, replaced a culvert on Neuman Rd & W Lyman Lake, reviewed ECE permits and approved. Reviewed job applications for the Road Crew Position. County Board had no representation at this meeting. Community Events Group, Dana reported, the group met 8/6, plan for the next Fall Fest event 9/20 11:00-3:00. Will meet again 9/19.

Review bills, claims and expenses: Randy made a motion to approve, Dana seconded; all in favor via voice vote; motion carried at 7:09pm.

Planning Commission – met 8/11 at 2:30pm.

- Variance request for Markon. Township doesn't have a lot of control over this process, belongs to the county. The planning commission recommends no objection.
- Zone change from R-2 to A-1. Resident spoke up and states that the property is zoned agricultural on County Road B based on the Town's meeting. Brian of the planning commission mentioned that the request was very vague. Farming can be done on R-2. Main reasons the board Next door to another house and a bar. Would like the board's input on this request. Resident spoke to this request would like to do some clearing and get animals, more than just a hobby farm. Brian explained that the Town zoning map was created 15 years ago. R2 covers hobby farm, harvest trees nuts, seeds, hay, etc. Resident remarked that having the designation streamlines all of the other processes. Instead of a conditional permit for hobby farm agricultural would cover this. Near future he would like to cut access deeper into the property narrow and deep into the woods, clear some of the property to plant hay and put up a barn along with getting a dairy cow. Agricultural zoning would make things easier instead of applying for multiple conditional use permits. The property of concern is only 10 acre property. User conflict with bar next door. County has it zoned as R2. Planning commission tasked with updating those 15 year old regional maps. Ultimately the planning commission left the decision up to the board. Dana asked resident how many farm animals they are considering. Right now they have birds, next would be to get rabbits with a housing unit. Pete recommends sticking with the recommendation of the Land Use group. Brian recommends extra detail on the application when submitting the request for change. Dana motions to stay with the R2 designation, Randy seconded, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried at 7:20pm.

Review of applications –Two operator licenses still pending after contact requests.

Dog Ordinance. Approved last month, need to have the board sign and post.

Utility Accommodation Ordinance – Review of the ordinance, safety and signage aligns with the county. Pete would like to review the county ordinance before approving. Brian asked for a list of questions and he will look into them. The board will create this list.

Remote and Phone attendance policy. Brian brought this up previously. WTA had a section on this and provided samples that Lydia presented. A discussion occurred about the equipment to enact these policies. The discussion led to the potential of get a booster for cell phone/internet. The policies were tabled for review going forward. Dana recommends that Planning Commission to review this.

Grader Loan Terms – Stacy presented information to get approval of how long we want the loan for and how much we want the loan for. Typically 7 years. Total loan 7 year loan is \$329,500 includes lawyer and preparation fees. \$324,450 with the lawyer and preparation fees paid out of pocket. 5.25% interest. The board decided on the full amount at \$329,500 at 7 years. The amount equates to around the same amount being paid now. Randy motioned to approve the full, Dana seconded, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried at 7:32pm.

Credit card use – Stacy reviewed the credit card options. Business cash preferred or the community card. Community card is set for municipalities and non-profit organizations. It does not have a guarantor. She has the application to fill it out. Randy made a motion to move forward, Dana seconded, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried at 7:34pm.

Staffing Update – Pete mentioned earlier, the board offered the position to Shawn Conley. The Board scored all of the applications and sent the rejection letters accordingly.

Cell Phone / Internet / Phone Line Changes – Stacy talked to Brightspeed, they said that the copper keeps increasing resulting in increases in the bill. Not a lot of changes that they are willing to offer us. Previously discussed moving to First Net or Starlink. Pete to get a demonstration for next month.

Garbage – charges aren't matching up with the tax payment. Schedule a special meeting to discuss. Lydia to compile the data about what is being billed and where we ended last year. Brian mentioned that the board can update the ordinance at any time.

Public Comment – Resident asked for a description of the proper way to grade a road. Resident stated that the edges of the road are lower than the ditches. The question was deferred to Road Crew member, Greg. Greg stated that the road in reference is graded edge to edge. A comment was also presented about the high weeds on the edge of the road. Pete, stated that the road crew will get the ditches cut after we get the new employee is trained and there is staffing to do so.

Date for the next meeting is 9/9 at 7:00pm

Randy made a motion to adjourn, Dana seconded, all in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.