

Town of Otter Creek – April 21, 2026
Otter Creek Town Hall – E5905 County Road S, Wheeler WI
Regular Town Board Meeting – 6 p.m.

Annual Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 6:03 pm on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. In attendance were board members:

Chair LeAnn Ralph
Supervisor I Cecil Hayes
Supervisor II Bob Bernier

Guests - residents: Bev Bernier (Clerk Treasurer)
Non-residents: Chuck Boyer, Faron Flatland

Advertising - Ralph stated the Colfax Messenger had advertised the meeting in their paper plus notices had been posted on the Town Hall door and the Otter Creek website.

Minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting were read by the Clerk/Treasurer Bernier. Supervisor Bernier made a motion to accept the minutes as so read, second by Chair Ralph. Carried = 4 residents, 0 opposed.

Annual Financial Report was presented by Clerk Bernier, which shows the revenues and expenditures related to the year of 2025. Recipients were asked to review the report on their own and submit any questions at the May meeting. Supervisor Hayes made a motion to accept the financial report as presented, second by Supervisor Bernier. Carried = 4 residents, 0 opposed.

Noxious weeds, per WI Stats Sec 66.04, was announced and explained by Chair Ralph that Otter Creek residents need to control and destroy all weeds listed under the Statute. Chair read through the Noxious weeds information, which is available at the town hall and on the website.

2027 Annual Town Meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of April, 2027, being **April 20, 2027**, at the town hall according to state law requirements. The motion to approve the 2026 Annual Town Meeting date was made by Supervisor Hayes, Supervisor Bernier second. Carried = 4 residents, 0 opposed. Regular Town Board meeting will also follow.

Permits/Ordinances: Chair Ralph announced those in effect for Otter Creek are building, driveway, zoning, fire and burning, trailer, Uniform Dwelling ordinance, UTV/ATV ordinance, Utility and sand mining regulations, etc.

Roadwork project for 2026-27: The bulk of roadwork for the upcoming year is mainly prep, grading and spreading of limerock and other road material on non-paved roads, along with brushing and clipping of vegetation. Miscellaneous graveling as needed. We will be doing 670th from the intersection of 970th to ¼ mile from 1020th. Will advertise for bids and haul in 4" of material.

Chair Ralph asked if there was any other business to discuss. No response was heard.

Supervisor Hayes made a motion to adjourn the 2026 Annual Town Meeting at 6:15 pm, Supervisor Bernier second, MC.

Respectfully submitted, Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

Town of Otter Creek - Regular Town Board Meeting – April 21, 2026

Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 6:16 pm. In attendance were board members:

Chair LeAnn Ralph

Supervisor I Cecil Hayes

Supervisor II Bob Bernier

Guests - residents: Bev Bernier (Clerk Treasurer), Dustin Kragness, Shirley Shelley

Non-resident: Chuck Boyer

Immediately following the annual town meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 6:20 p.m., chair LeAnn Ralph called the regular town board meeting to order. Attendance at this meeting were the people listed above who attended the annual town meeting and several additional town residents who arrived for the latter part of the meeting. Advertisement of this meeting was also the same as listed under the annual town meeting.

Meeting minutes from the February 27, 2026 and March 10, 2026 regular board meeting were not read by Bev Bernier as Ralph, Hayes and Bernier reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. Chair Ralph made a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2026 and March 10, 2026 as presented, second by Supervisor Hayes, MC.

Public comments - Public Comment is limited to 3 minutes. As per the state's Open Meetings law, there will be no back and forth discussion with the town board. The state Attorney General's guidance is that board members can ask clarifying questions but that back and forth discussion is not advised.;

Shirley Shelley lives on 670th street. She appreciates Dustin and Faron's work on the roads. 670th is on the docket for improvements. She would like part of the road graveled, but maybe not the whole road. She opposes blacktop on this rustic road, there are S curves, gravel, etc., people should drive slower.

Comments from Patrolman; doing some grading, there are still soft spots.

Communication from Town Chair; working on the Colfax EMS district, intergovernmental agreement. The EMS team applied for the State Innovation Grant, should hear by June 1 if we are to receive it. Potential grant of approximately \$850,000 over 5 years. The Colfax Fire Department now has the new fire engine. They will put old fire engine up for sale on Wisconsin Surplus site.

Communication from Town Supervisors;

Supervisor 1 – will be gone most of the month of May, will miss the next meeting.

Supervisor 2 – provided a report of road work and calls, repaired culvert, removed trees, cleaned up town yard.

Communication from Clerk/Treasurer; completed the audit for Rural Mutual, submitted today. Clerk and Supervisor 2 are not able to attend WTA District meeting on Monday, April 27, Chair has conflicting meeting, Supervisor 1 stated he is not available.

Flip style weight limit signs from Dunn County – These cost about \$75 each. DC weight limits are 5 tons per axle with a 25 ton gross weight. There are still some roads that need to be restricted year-round. Look at this during the road inspection. Approve the number of signs to purchase at the May meeting.

Discussion/repair needed - culvert on 670th with crushed end located on the east side of the road about halfway or so between the intersection with 970th and Riemer residence. Supervisor Bernier repaired.

Driveway Permit – D-1-2026 – Mark & Cynthia Seyer, 670th Street. Still need payment.
POWTS for Mark & Cynthia Seyer for new build - 4 bedroom home

Discussion/possible approval of purchase of box blade for tractor. Could carry crushed rock in the tractor bucket, use box blade and not need to use the grader. Majority of work can be done with tractor and back blade. Can vary from \$1200 to \$2500 for heavy duty. Tainter could copy the back blade owned by Wirth or Warner. Supervisor Bernier can take a current box blade to Tainter and get a price. Put on agenda after we have a price.

Possible Town Hall roof repair - Hayes looked at the roof – it looks excellent.

Limerock - Discussion/possible approval of two loads of limerock delivered to town hall. Motion to approve 2 loads to approve 2 loads of limerock by Supervisor Hayes, second by Supervisor Bernier, MC.

Sales – Special Assessment Report Requests: Jacobs / Emmert - N11480 County Road S Wheeler, WI;
E6783 1090th Avenue / 1702023012154300002 / Johnson /26-76844

Flatland Inspection March report –

E5944 County Rd N- Brian Mattmiller is the electrician, EL Service permit and inspection. Farm panel for future house. DC shows resident as Allen & Jolene Miller for new in-ground sanitary permit.

4/14/2026 – Allen & Jolene Miller – E5944 County Road N, Wheeler – new in-ground sanitary permit
4/7/2026 – Wayne & Kimberly Leibfried – E6160 1030th Ave, Wheeler - sanitary replacement permit from DC – in-ground – Todd Sinz plumber

Zoning permit approval- shed (Accessory Structure) at N10680 690th St, owned by Roy D Kallenbach.

Review Utility Permit application for Otter Creek – add “valid for two years from issue”. Chair Ralph motion to approve, second by Supervisor Hayes, MC.

Tavern license application to be sent to Too Mixed Up and Woodwind Park for 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2027.

Set date for town road inspection. Clerk to post notice. (last year 4/18/25 8 a.m. Friday). Look at Saturday, April 25, 2026, at 8 a.m.

Order a load of cold mix. Maybe do a grader patch. No action taken.

Upcoming dates:

- 4/27/2026 Dunn County Unit Meeting WTA, 6:30 DC Judicial Center
- 6/1/2026 – Open Book 3 – 5 pm
- 6/9/2026 – BOR 6 – 8 pm

Treasurer - Review treasurer's report. Motion by Supervisor Hayes to accept the treasurer's report, Supervisor Bernier second, MC.

Auditing of bills for payment. Bills circulated and approved by the Town Board.

Any other business

Adjournment of Regular Board Meeting. Supervisor Hayes moved to adjourn the monthly board meeting, Supervisor Bernier second, MC. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Beverly Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

Gary Anderson – 715-658-1483;

LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;

Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;

Cecil Hayes – 715-577-6334

Bev Bernier – 715-658-0131;

Town Shop - 715-658-1319;