

Town of Otter Creek – October 13, 2026
Otter Creek Town Hall – E5905 County Road S, Wheeler WI
Special Town Elector and Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes– 6 p.m.

Attendees:

Chair LeAnn Ralph*

Supervisor 1 Jeff Dehnhoff*

Supervisor 2 Bob Bernier*

Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier

Guests: Dustin Kragness, Gary Axness, Denise Axness, Randy Simpson

*Board Members, 8 resident attendees total

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTOR MEETING

The Special Town Elector Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2026. Discuss and set compensation for the town board effective April 20, 2027, per Wis. Stats. §§ 60.10(1)(b)1. and 60.32(1)(a). Class 2 notice posting requirements met. Motion by Denise Axness to approve Resolution #2026-06 Adopting Per Diem and Compensation Policy as amended during discussion, second by Randy Simpson, 8 show of hands – yes, opposed – 0. MC

Resolution #2026-07 Adopting Per Diem and Compensation Rates - Salary rate for supervisors is \$25/month, and for chair is \$50/month. Per diem rate for properly noticed monthly regular Town Board Meetings is \$100/month for supervisor and \$200/month for Chair. Additional Town of Otter Creek meetings and meetings external to the Town of Otter Creek receive per diem of \$40/meeting. Motion by Gary Axness to approve salary rates and per diem rates as specified, second by Jeff Dehnhoff, MC. 8 show of hand – yes, opposed – 0. MC. Clerk to have both Resolutions updated and drafted for signature by the town board at the November 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion to adjourn Special Town Elector Meeting by Supervisor Dehnhoff, second by Supervisor Bernier, MC.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 6:57 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2026. Meeting minutes from the September 14, 2026 Regular Board Meeting were not read by Clerk as the Town Board reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. Motion to approve the September 14, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes by Ralph, second by Bernier, 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.

Comments from town patrolman – question on who will remove the plastic ribbons left on town trees from search from missing person in September.

Communication from Town Chair – call from Caleb Meyer, doing prescribed burn for Doug Owens Pike this fall, he will call the sheriff and fire chief ahead of time. Brent Miller of DC – salt/sand ready to haul, Monday thru Thursday. EMS – many moving parts. 670th work – complaint from resident that the limerock was not spread.

Communication from Town Supervisor

- **Supervisor 1** - nothing
- **Supervisor 2** – finished mowing roads, put new propane tank in at town hall.

Communication from Clerk –

- Oct. 20 – DC unit of WTA annual banquet 6:30 p.m. - \$19/person, \$50 annual dues

Discuss waiver form – to use for clearing 730th and 1180th of trees. Will move forward with communication to landowners.

Salt sand – 300 tons reserved for Otter Creek. \$15/ton. Ready to haul middle of the week of Oct. 12 and the week of Oct. 19. Determine actual amount needed. We will get all 300 tons, about 15 truckloads.

Salt sand shed – share information on the Town of Auburn's salt shed and Red Cedar's. Supervisor Bernier will gather more information. Figure into 2027 budget - \$50,000.

Discuss and review purchase details of air bag for snow plow wing. \$583 for airbag kit and \$80.90 for wing air bag regulating assembly. Needs installation. Motion to approve the airbag kit and wing air bag regulating assembly, by Bernier, second by Dehnhoff from Universal Truck. Clerk will get the parts ordered. \$583

2026 Levy – payable 2027 – Preliminary levy information.

Cutting Notice – Dean Ferry, County Road N, logger is Travis Anderson

Flatland July Inspection report –

- Don Loback addition permit – 9/15/2026

Zoning permits - Roger Gunnufson - N11005 730th St, Wheeler, 40x40 pole shed, \$10,500.

Fire number assigned to Sean Breslin - E6978 Cnty Rd S, Wheeler WI

Special Assessment request –

- Cody Kahl to Bethany & Nicholas Jackson, N10180 670th St, Wheeler WI

PIN transfers (from reg. of deeds) –

- Kent Cran estate to Briar Cran, N9789 550th St, 11.19 ac; N9836 St Rd 25, 29.57 ac
- Daniel Berryman to Nichole Berryman, N9901 Cnty Rd S, 22.45 ac (3 parcels)
- Corey Carlson to Anthony Williams, N11889 Cnty Rd SS - \$325,000, 39.52 ac (2 par), \$8224/ac
- Ardith Obermueller to Sean Breslin, E6978 Cnty Rd S- \$322,500, 40 ac, \$8063/ac
- Jeffrey Frion estate to Brooke & Brendan Frion, E7047 1058th Ave, 9.37 ac.

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

Future Agenda Items – follow up on action items. Price limbing of 670th, sup. Bernier

Treasurer - Review treasurer's report. Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Ralph, second by Bernier, MC.

Adjournment of Regular Board Meeting. Motion to adjourn 7:51 p.m. by Ralph, second by Dehnhoff. MC.

Respectfully submitted – Beverly Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;

Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;

Town Shop - 715-658-1319;

Bev Bernier – 715-658-0131

Jeff Dehnhoff – 715-225-9479

Dustin Kragness – 715-704-0152