

Town of Round Lake – Special Budget Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 17, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Town Hall – 10625 N County Road A, Hayward, Wisconsin

1) Call to Order

- a. Chairman Strandlund called the Special Budget Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He noted that the posted agenda listed a mistake of 6:30 p.m. on the line item however listed the correct time on the top of the agenda and on the notice provided on the website. This was corrected and no objections were raised by the Board.
- b. Present were Chairman Strandlund, Supervisors Verbeck, Wilson, Palmer, and Jensen. Clerk Leuschen and Treasurer Palya were also present. In attendance there were 3 town members and 1 online.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

3) Certification of Proper Meeting Notice

- a. Clerk Leuschen certified that the meeting notice had been properly posted at the Town Hall, Recycling Center, and on the Town website in compliance with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law, as required under Wis. Stat. § 19.84.

4) Discussion – 2026 Budget Preparation

- a. **Fire Department Budget Adjustment:** Clerk Leuschen reported that the Fire Department operating budget had been decreased from \$130,000 to \$100,000, resulting in a \$30,000 reduction. Supervisors noted the importance of clearly presenting this change within the Fire Department portion of the budget so the public can easily understand the expenses that the Fire Department have within a given year. Clerk Leuschen explained that the Town's accounting software has limitations in how reserve funds are displayed, but he will create a dedicated grouping or line item so that any contribution to the Fire Department Reserve Equipment Fund is properly shown and transparent in the final 2026 Budget.
- b. **Road Crew Wages and Compensation:** The Board reviewed wage considerations for Public Works. Leuschen confirmed that part-time wages are currently \$20 per hour. Supervisors discussed raising wages for road crew employees in 2026, including a proposed 5% increase, which would add approximately \$3,760 to the Public Works budget. Additional discussion included the rise of the roadmen's expenses from \$1000 to \$1947.00 this was due to costs of safety equipment and the need for updated gear, including boots and protective clothing. Training expenses from 2025 were reviewed, with Leuschen noting higher training participation in May 2025, affecting current budget comparisons.

- c. **Board/LUPC Expenses Review:** Clerk Leuschen confirmed updates to Board Expense and LUPC lines to reflect 14 months of compensation, including meeting rates appropriate to each position (\$50 or \$60 per meeting). These adjustments aligned the 2026 Budget with expected meeting schedules and include two additional meetings in case of emergency.
- d. **Cultural/Education Expense Allocation:** The Board discussed adding \$1,000.00 to the Cultural/Education expense line in the 2026 Budget. Possible uses for these funds include providing first aid or other emergency-related training opportunities for the community or contributing to the Hayward Public Library. The Board noted that no final decision has been made regarding how this allocation will be used, and further discussion will occur at a future meeting.
- e. **Prior Year Applied:** The Board reviewed the 2024 surplus funds and confirmed that a total surplus of \$259,461.00 will be carried forward into the 2026 Budget. Of this amount, \$185,860.00 will be applied to balance the 2026 Budget. The remaining funds will be distributed to designated reserve accounts as follows: \$48,601.00 to the Fire Equipment Fund, \$5,000.00 to the Bridge Reserve, \$10,000.00 to the Paving Fund, and \$10,000.00 to the Equipment Fund.

5) Scheduling of Public Budget Hearing

- a. The Board discussed upcoming deadlines and confirmed that the 2026 Public Budget Hearing would be held on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

6) Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

**TOWN OF ROUND LAKE
STATE OF WISCONSIN**



chairperson



supervisor



supervisor



supervisor



supervisor

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