

Town of Round Lake – Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 9, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall (10625 N County Road A, Hayward, WI 54843) and via Virtual Platform

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jim Strandlund called the Regular Town Board Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Board members present were Chairman Strandlund and Supervisors Jensen, Verbeck, Wilson, and Palmer. Also present were Clerk Leuschen, Treasurer Palya, Fire Chief Schmidt, Road Supervisor Doug Laier, Land Use Planning Commission Chair Virginia Chabek, and members of the public.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Certification of Proper Meeting Notice (Wis. Stat. § 19.84)

Clerk Leuschen certified that the meeting agenda was posted on the Town website and at the Town Hall and Recycling Center in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 19.84.

4. Approval/Reordering of Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda. No corrections or reordering were made, and the agenda proceeded as presented.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Jensen, to approve the March 12, 2026, Regular Town Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Wilson, to approve March 16, 2026, Special Town Board Meeting minutes with Item #5 removed/redacted due to an incorrect reference. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Comments

Public comments were received regarding the review of the Town's Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance, including concerns relating to transparency, property values, health impacts, dust, and preserving the Town's Northwoods character. Comment also regarding Agenda Item #22 concerning the appointment timing of election inspectors. No Board action was taken.

7. Monthly Recycling Card Drawing

The monthly recycling card drawing was held.

8. Road Report – Doug Laier, Road Crew

Road Supervisor Doug Laier reported that winter maintenance was still occurring, additional brushing, limbing, and storm cleanup had been completed, and more cleanup remained. The road crew obtained workable patch material and filled larger potholes. Equipment, maintenance and cleanup for summer operations had begun. Speed bumps and signs were ordered for Louie's Landing Road. The Board also discussed getting updated information and photographs regarding the dump truck.

9. Land Use Planning Commission Report – Virginia Chabek, Plan Commission Chair

Chair Chabek reported on recent Plan Commission discussions and recommendations, including:

- Approval recommendation for The Preserve CSMs;
- Continued review of the Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance;
- Recycling Ordinance updates for grant compliance;

- Recommendation to deny the proposed Commercial Apartment amendment;
- Recommendation to deny the proposed Data Center amendment and request a one-year moratorium;
- Recommendation to request a six-month extension of the Solar Ordinance moratorium;
- Discussion regarding non-conforming AG-1 lots;
- Rescheduling the Junk Ordinance meeting; and
- Recommendation to postpone the Town Survey until 2027.

10. Callahan/Mud Lake District Report – Supervisor Verbeck

Supervisor Verbeck reported there were no major updates and stated the Lake District intended to speak at the Annual Meeting of Electors on April 21, 2026.

11. Certified Survey Maps (CSMs) – The Preserve Development – Jeremy Hill

Jeremy Hill addressed the Board regarding two proposed Certified Survey Maps associated with The Preserve development. Mr. Hill explained that several lots cross the boundary line between the Town of Round Lake and the Town of Hayward and that the CSMs were necessary to combine certain outlots that could not be created through the original plat process due to the township line. Mr. Hill stated that Sawyer County Zoning Administrator Jay Kozlowski advised that the arrangement was uncommon but permissible and explained that the lots would remain under separate parcel numbers and tax bills based on the portion located within each township.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Palmer, to approve the Certified Survey Maps for The Preserve development. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

12. Proposed Amendment to Sawyer County Zoning Ordinance – Data Centers in Industrial-One (I-1) District

The Board reviewed the proposed Sawyer County zoning amendment relating to data centers in the Industrial-One (I-1) district. Discussion included the Land Use Planning Commission recommendation and concerns that the proposal did not sufficiently address impacts such as power consumption, required infrastructure, water usage, noise, vibration, and future land assembly.

Motion by Wilson, seconded by Jensen, to deny the proposed Data Center Ordinance amendment and request that Sawyer County place a one-year moratorium on data centers while additional review and ordinance revisions are completed. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

13. Proposed Sawyer County Solar Energy Systems Ordinance

The Board reviewed the proposed Sawyer County Solar Energy Systems Ordinance. Discussion included the timing of County review, the need for towns to have an opportunity to provide input, and the Land Use Planning Commission's request for additional review time.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Palmer, to deny the proposed Sawyer County Solar Energy Systems Ordinance as presented and request that Sawyer County extend the existing moratorium for an additional six months to allow further review and town input. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

14. Proposed Amendment to Sawyer County Zoning Ordinance – Apartments in Commercial-One (C-1) District

The Board reviewed the proposed Sawyer County zoning amendment that would allow apartments as a conditional use in the Commercial-One (C-1) zoning district. Discussion included the Land Use Planning Commission recommendation, the Town's lack of municipal water and sewer infrastructure,

and concerns that apartment development is more appropriate in residential districts rather than commercial districts.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Verbeck, to deny the proposed amendment allowing apartments within Commercial-One (C-1) zoning districts. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

15. Review of Town of Round Lake Nonmetallic Mining Licensing Ordinance No. 2022-04 and Related Statutory Considerations

The Board reviewed and discussed the Town's Nonmetallic Mining Licensing Ordinance No. 2022-04 and related statutory considerations. Chairman Strandlund stated that no ordinance change or formal action would be taken at this meeting and that the review was intended to examine the ordinance, including legal and practical concerns. Discussion included gravel use by the Town, past gravel costs, lack of local gravel tax authority, possible impacts of state law changes, current and future mining-related permits or renewals, possible legal review, setback discussions, dust mitigation, crusher placement, enforcement concerns, correspondence from residents, and continued coordination with the Land Use Planning Commission. No formal action was taken.

16. Repeal of Town of Round Lake Recycling Ordinance No. 2019-01

The Board reviewed the proposed repeal of Recycling Ordinance No. 2019-01 in connection with adoption of an updated recycling ordinance needed for state recycling grant compliance. Discussion clarified that repeal should be tied to the adoption and effective date of the new ordinance to avoid any gap in ordinance authority.

Motion by Wilson, seconded by Strandlund, to repeal Town of Round Lake Recycling Ordinance No. 2019-01 upon adoption and effectiveness of Ordinance No. 2026-01. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

17. Adoption of Town of Round Lake Recycling Ordinance No. 2026-01

The Board reviewed proposed Recycling Ordinance No. 2026-01. Discussion included the added definition of "Occupant" recommended by the Land Use Planning Commission and the requirement that the ordinance become effective upon publication.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Wilson, to adopt Town of Round Lake Recycling Ordinance No. 2026-01. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

18. Review of Proposed Junk Ordinance and Scheduling of Land Use Planning Commission Review

The Board discussed the proposed junk ordinance and the Land Use Planning Commission's request to postpone review to a joint meeting with the Board. Discussion included scheduling the joint meeting before the next regular Board meeting and adjusting the May meeting date due to the Clerk's availability. The Board discussed holding the joint Board and Land Use Planning Commission discussion on May 13, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., with the regular Board meeting to follow at 6:30 p.m. No formal action was taken.

19. Compensation Adjustment for Land Use Planning Commission Members

The Board discussed a request to increase the per-meeting compensation for Land Use Planning Commission members. Discussion included the workload of the Commission, the chairperson's additional responsibilities, the Town survey budget not being used in 2026, and budget impacts for future years. Clerk Leuschen indicated that a budget resolution would not be required unless the approved budget amount was exceeded.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Palmer, to increase Land Use Planning Commission compensation to \$125.00 per meeting for the Chairperson and \$100.00 per meeting for regular Commission members. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

20. Operator's License Application – Julie Skopek (April 9, 2026 – June 30, 2026)

The Board reviewed the Operator's License application for Julie Skopek for the term of April 9, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Clerk Leuschen reported that the application materials, fee payment, responsible beverage server training documentation, and background check had been completed and reviewed with no issues identified.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Wilson, to approve the Operator's License application for Julie Skopek for the stated term. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

21. Operator's License Application – Bonnie Jean Melby (April 9, 2026 – June 30, 2026)

The Board reviewed the Operator's License application for Bonnie Jean Melby for the term of April 9, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Clerk Leuschen reported that the application materials, fee payment, responsible beverage server training documentation, and background check had been completed and reviewed with no actionable concerns identified. The Board also noted that the license would require renewal after June 30, 2026.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Jensen, to approve the Operator's License application for Bonnie Jean Melby for the stated term. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

22. Appointment of Election Inspectors (Poll Workers) for 2026–2027 Term

The Board reviewed the appointment of election inspectors for the 2026–2027 term pursuant to Wis. Stat. §7.30(4). Discussion included questions raised during public comment regarding the timing of appointments and oath administration. Clerk Leuschen explained that election inspectors had completed training and oaths for the recent election and stated that, after learning of the issue, he contacted the Wisconsin Elections Commission, Sawyer County Clerk, and Town Chairman regarding the process. Clerk Leuschen further stated that the election inspector oaths would be completed again to ensure the record was clear and complete moving forward. Discussion also included future appointment timing and the Clerk's authority to appoint additional election workers as necessary to conduct elections.

Motion by Verbeck, seconded by Wilson, to approve the appointment list for election inspectors/poll workers for the 2026–2027 term as presented. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

23. Moose Lake Road Improvement Project – Direction to NWBE and Authorization to Submit Written Response

The Board reviewed the written response requested by Northwest Engineering (NWBE) regarding Moose Lake Road Improvement Project design options previously discussed by the Board. Discussion included the QMP pulverize and relay option, geogrid, detour or route signing by the Town, use of regular paint rather than epoxy pavement marking, driveway and side road apron considerations, gravel driveway bump-outs, and culvert material selection.

Motion by Strandlund, seconded by Palmer, to approve the written response to NWBE regarding the project options selected by the Board and authorize submission of the response. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

24. Fire Department Report – Mike Schmidt, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Mike Schmidt presented the Fire Department report, including recent fire calls, inspection activity, and coordination efforts with the Town of Hayward. Fire Chief Schmidt reported that no recent inspections have occurred due to weather and seasonal business conditions. Discussion also occurred regarding the need for additional assistance with inspections. Fire Chief Schmidt informed the Board that the Fire Department had been invited to attend the April 18, 2026, Power Sports event for community outreach and volunteer recruitment purposes at no cost to the Town. The Clerk was directed to post information regarding inspection assistance opportunities on the Town website and coordinate with the Town of Hunter regarding similar outreach.

25. Clerk's Report

Clerk Leuschen provided the Clerk's Report. Discussion included a recent county sand/salt bill of \$8,519.51 for 345.71 tons purchased in February and March, road sand/salt use, and possible targeting of road treatment based on need and crash data. Clerk Leuschen also reported on the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., noting that legal notice had been published and an agenda would be prepared consistent with Open Meetings Law requirements. Discussion also included Open Book scheduled for May 11, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the assessor present, and Board of Review scheduled for May 18, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with Board members required to be present and certification requirements met by Clerk Leuschen and Supervisor Verbeck. Clerk Leuschen also reported that April 7, 2026, Spring Election went smoothly, with 379 total votes, 58 absentee ballots, 22 Election Day registrations, and no rejected ballots.

26. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Palya presented the Treasurer's Report, including monthly receipts, vouchers, and account balances. She stated that the written report had been provided and was self-explanatory. Discussion included money market interest earned for the month.

27. Approval of Checks and Vouchers

The Board reviewed checks and vouchers. Discussion included payroll, property tax refunds, sand/salt expenses, insurance claim payments, Town of Spider Lake fire service payment, recycling, room tax, American Tower rent and revenue share, Department of Transportation financial operations expenses related to the road project, and payment in lieu of taxes items.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Palmer, to approve vouchers/checks as presented. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

28. Correspondence, Reports from Conferences, Seminars, Meetings

Supervisor Verbeck and Clerk Leuschen reported attending a Wisconsin Towns Association meeting in Cable, Wisconsin, where they completed Board of Review training. Chairman Strandlund and Supervisor Wilson also reported attending an online seminar regarding the Annual Meeting of the Electors. Chairman Strandlund reported that the Northgate Advisory consulting agreement related to the telecom matter had been signed and that work had begun. No formal action was taken.

29. Future Agenda Items

The Board discussed future agenda items, including a lake access issue, the Clear Lake Boat Landing, and further discussion of the nonmetallic mining ordinance. Chairman Strandlund indicated that Board

members would receive additional information to review and that the mining ordinance item would likely be placed on a future agenda for discussion only. No formal action was taken.

30. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Leuschen III, Town Clerk

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