

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**Town of Silver Cliff**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting**  
**September 9th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. located at the Silver Cliff Town Hall, Marinette County WI**

MINUTES

1. **Call to order** - Pledge of Allegiance; Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dee Farley; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Roll call- Verification of Meeting Notice** - Present: Chair Dee Farley, Supervisor Jim Fencl, Supervisor Scott Volkmann, Treasurer Carol Kitchmaster, Clerk Lisa Weinrich, Constable Sabin Rosenbaum
3. **Approval of Agenda;** Motion to approve the agenda by Supervisor Scott Volkmann, Supervisor Jim Fencl second, motion carried
4. **Approval of Town Board Meeting Minutes** - A motion to approve the minutes from the August 12th regular meeting with the following adjustments: Item 9 because we do have a Nuisance Ordinance; amend Item 20-d because we do have a Noise Ordinance in the Nuisance Ordinance; Item 12-c name correction of Pete Riley not Keith Riley by Supervisor Scott Volkmann, Supervisor Jim Fencl second, motion carried.
5. **Approval of Payroll, Vouchers, and Bills**
  - a. Check #10 461 to Check #10 488 Supervisor Scott Volkmann made a motion to accept payroll, vouchers and bills, Supervisor Jim Fencl second, motion carried.

**Consider for discussion, approval, or other actionable items:**

6. Approval to send Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk to WTA Fall Training in September at a cost of \$70 each - Motion was made by Supervisor Scott Volkmann to to pay for the training, Supervisor Jim Fencl second, motion carried.
7. Discussion and possible action to approve the EMS Contract - Motion was made by Supervisor Jim Fencl to approve the contract, Supervisor Scott Volkmann second, motion carried.
8. Discussion and possible action to implement the use of an Iron Ranger in lieu of the black drop box currently being used - This item was tabled until next month and further research.
9. Improvements on County Road C from Conklin Hill to first curve just past Old J, recommendations from the County Road Crew - Eric Burmeister was spoken to and he will do the brush cutting on County Road C, he also stated that it is extremely difficult to try and get the speed limit reduced on County Road C. Eric Burmeister also stated that he was going to be observing his crew brush cut and he will watch for any really bad spots. It is not believed that they will trim the hill on the intersection of County Road C and Old J, Eric will get back to us with what he has found. Eric also told Chair Dee Farley that if property owners have a driveway they will be responsible for trimming/ cutting their own brush on their property. Chair Dee Farley also stated that she will follow up with him also.
10. Bluebird Development - Planning Commission Chair Sabin Rosenbaum stated that a meeting was held on September 8th, in attendance was the Silver Cliff Town Board, some of the Planning Commission, Town Road Crew, and Road Builder. They went over information and the Road Builder didn't know a lot

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he was told to go in and build a road to light traffic standards and it looks like it is a glorified driveway almost. He seems like a pretty decent guy and seems like he is willing to work with us. We are working on getting the initial part of the road straightened out and replacing plastic culverts, there is a lot of work that needs to be done. Sabin requested permission from the Town Board to seek some legal advice, Supervisor Scott Volkmann asked if he contacted WTA for free legal advice? Sabin had contacted them and they said there was nothing we could do and that is why Sabin wants to talk to a lawyer. The reason for all the concern is because a road was built without any authorization. We received absolutely no documentation from the builder and now the road that they built they want the Town of Silver Cliff to take over and make it our responsibility. There are three investors for this development and none of them seem to know what the others are doing. One of the reasons that Marinette County seems to want this road to become a public road is because at the end of the road/ property it butts up against Marinette County land. Sabin spoke to the Marinette County representative and she told him that this road is currently listed as a Silver Cliff Town road; it is also going to be put on the Marinette County Plat Map the first of January. Sabin asked if we could stop that from happening because we never approved any road, we never received any kind of Road Application, absolutely no road paperwork. A discussion ensued about stopping accepting town roads as it is practiced in neighboring communities, further discussion is needed but waiting to hear what Sabin finds out through legal advice.

11. Town Road Crew Equipment status - Jeff DeBauche (Road Crew Foreman) stated that our new employee Kasey Hayden is adjusting very well with maintenance and after going over the vehicles that they all need some work but nothing major. They hope to have the brush mower fixed, they were waiting on a part that has arrived and will be working on it this week. The only other thing is they are working on patching and grading the roads, and working on brushing some roads with the side mower and trying to get rid of trees before winter.
12. Recycling Employee status - We currently have 3 employees working recycling stated Chair Sue Victoreen. Chair Dee Farley stated that she noticed a dumpster was missing from the recycling area but was informed it is over by the Town Shop, apparently the contracted company moved it there for unknown reasons possibly needing repairs. Note that we own one dumpster and the other two are rented. Chair Dee Farley will call to find out why the company moved the dumpster over there.
13. Revised Recycling Center hours status - New hours for Recycling Center will begin October 1. The 1st and 3rd Sunday from 8-12 and 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 8 to 11.
14. Election workers status - Clerk Lisa Weinrich stated that training is needed however we have not had a chance to check into the training currently available, more information will be available next month.
15. Status of Litigation – Approval of Settlement is potential, according to ex-chair Bruce Weber a decision needs to be made because there is no guarantee that we will be given a better offer and the possibility

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of them removing the offer from the table is also possible. We need to approve the offer “as is” or reject the settlement and go to jury trial. Details of the proposed settlement were discussed. Dan Simmer stated that if we refuse the settlement then they can go to trial and this could drag out another 5 years. Supervisor Jim Fencl made a Motion to Accept the Offer, Supervisor Scott Volkmann seconded, motion carried. (Amended)

16. Schedule a Budget Review Session - Chair Dee Farley requested a copy of the current budget from Clerk Lisa Weinrich, a copy will be sent tomorrow so a date can be scheduled, Supervisor Jim Fencl stated that he would not be available for the month of September.
17. Updated status of Old J Road work - Jeff DeBauche stated that Old J Rd has been graveled and compacted, and the work should be completed within a couple weeks
18. Closed Session - Moved to the end of the meeting.

**Reports/ Updates**

19. Supervisor 1 Report
  - a. Discussion and possible action new Recycle Center Fees - Supervisor Jim Fencl sent copies of proposed change in recycling fees to Chair Dee Farley and Supervisor Scott Volkmann, he also stated that they would like the new fees to go into effect by October 1st to coincide with the changing of the hours. Chair Dee Farley asked about competitive pricing throughout the area, which Recycling Chair Sue Victoreen confirmed, Supervisor Scott Volkmann did note that the fees appeared to be still very low, Chair Dee Farley also noted that the price for mattresses was very cheap. Supervisor Jim Fencl expressed his concern of people leaving items along the road. There was additional discussion about using the blue building that housed the fire department's apparatus to be utilized for housing the mattresses so they don't get soaked and weigh more when they are taken in. Supervisor Jim Fencl also stated JnS would come and compact recycling material so that the contents of the large dumpster could be taken away in one garbage truck which in turn would save us money. Chair Dee Farley asked about added cost for that service and Supervisor Jim Fencl stated he believed he would charge the same as if he was doing a regular pick up. Recycling Chair Sue Victoreen stated that JnS told them that if he weighed the truck first then compact that material and then let us know how our fees would be in comparison. Chair Dee Farley requested further discussion about the compacting idea. Supervisor Jim Fencl stated that they would have the prices posted at the Recycle Center. A motion to accept the new price list was made by Supervisor Jim Fencl, Supervisor Scott Volkmann second, motion carried.
  - b. Discussion and possible action to approve the installation of the septic riser at the town shop - Supervisor Jim Fencl requested to have Don Schmidt add a new riser so that it doesn't freeze up again this year and had quoted a price of \$676 for labor and materials. Supervisor Scott

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Volkman made a motion to accept Don Schmidt's estimate of \$676, Supervisor Jim Fencil second, motion carried.

**20. Supervisor 2 Report**

- a. Hardwood Lane Property Variance Request - Planning Commission Chair Sabin Rosenbaum reported they had a question and answer session which was productive and will be having a second meeting with the property owners on September 22nd at 4:30 pm the owners will meet them there, the commission wants to do more fact finding and have not made a decision about recommendations for the Town Board.
- b. Short Term Rental Ordinance/ Registration Draft - Supervisor Scott Volkman stated that the Planning Commission discussed having an ordinance that would maintain a register of short term rentals basically outlining location, ownership and contact information. Supervisor Scott Volkman stated that Margret Lewis has most of that information that she will supply to them.
- c. Upper Roaring Rapids Subdivision Road Construction - Supervisor Scott Volkman stated that the subdivision is a mess and the county is not helping. We do not want to take on any roads and would like to see an ordinance so this situation does not happen again which the planning commission is working on. .
- d. Supervisor Scott Volkman stated that he had spoke to Supervisor Jim Fencil and he would like it put into the record at one of the special meetings and Gwen Schmidt complained that she was being persecuted by one of the board members and even though he did not know what she was even talking as many people did not understand it, we did our usual "thank you" and he feels we should have been a little more sympathetic towards what she was feeling and he wishes to put it on the record that the Town Board owes her an apology.
- e. Chair Dee Farley discussed making a resolution not to accept any roads in the future, Supervisor Jim Fencil agreed noting we don't have the money to maintain the roads we currently have. According to Planning Commission Chair Sabin Rosenbaum no approval was ever given by the board to take on wants to make a resolution to no longer accept roads for the responsibility of the roads and we do have the right to turn down the roads. Sabin also told of how Marinette County is not working with us at this point and that Marinette Co. has plans to post it on their GIS site that this road is one of our adopted roads which it is not.

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21. Chair Dee Farley asked Planning Commission Chair Sabin about contacting other land owners for the Hardwood Lane property, he stated that they have until September 22nd to talk to them. Then Chair Dee Farley asked ex-Chair Bruce Weber if we could make a resolution not to accept responsibility for any more roads or a temporary moratorium on the subject. Bruce Weber recommended that we did not adopt anything at this time because there may be roads that we may want to take on that would be beneficial. Supervisor Jim Fencl stated that most townships and even the county are not taking on any more roads because of the expense and because of the way the Roaring Rapids subdivision road is being forced onto the town which is why he feels we should have something in place so it doesn't happen again. Planning Commission Chair Sabin stated that he would like to get legal advice to find out what our rights would be and Chair Dee Farley agreed but cautioned how much is spent on legal advice and we can always say no on taking on any roads. We never approved taking on this road, we never got anything from this developer. Supervisor Jim Fencl would still like to have some kind of resolution regarding the regulations of our roads. Chair Dee Farley asked Sabin if he would look into it further. Supervisor Jim Fencl wants Sabin to look into other municipalities to find out what ordinance they have on the books about their roads and how they have it worded. Sabin added that there is documentation that the developer presented to the Board stating that they would be responsible for the road until such time the Board would consider taking the road over but at the County level, at the Register of Deeds a separate description of that road with Silver Cliff's name on it has been filed and accepted by the County and will be going on GIS as of January. Chair Dee Farley expressed a willingness to give them the benefit of a doubt and had spoken to the owner who said they would be willing to work with the Town, she also stated that the County has not been a friend to us.
22. Treasurer's Report - Checking: \$21,316.62; Money Market: \$96,635.71; Tax Account: \$148,337.05 along and our CD's
23. Planning Commission Committee Report - Planning Commission Chair Sabin Rosenbaum stated that they had touched on everything they were going to discuss. Chair Dee Farley commended the Planning Commission for their acceptance of great responsibility and the good job they are doing and how much our Town appreciates their efforts.
24. Recycling Committee Report - Recycling Chair Sue Victoreen stated they had a meeting on the 27th and discussed the price changes and Steve from JnS was present to discuss options for handling recyclable items. Sue Victoreen said they looked into having different garbage collection at possible bags with our names on them at \$3 per bag and possible elimination of roadside garbage which will be discussed. Chair Dee Farley asked them to schedule another meeting and was told there would be another meeting. Sue Victoreen the next meeting will be September 24 at 1:15, she also said that they were looking at using the old fire department for housing some recycling items but there are some issues with the building and will be having further discussion at the next meeting

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25. Community Center: Due to shrubs/ trees overgrowing possibly into the foundation at the community center we have volunteers who have offered to remove the trees with the overgrown vegetation alongside the building, Chair Dee Farley requested that Roadcrew Foreman Jeff DeBauche look at the situation to determine if that needs to be done.
  - a. Entrance overhang has a leak and is missing 2 sections of soffit, we need an approval to get an estimate for those repairs, Supervisor Jim Fencl said he took Kenny Borchovitz over there and discovered there are more issues with repairs
26. Cemetery Committee Report-Nothing to report at this time, more people are buying graves
27. Road Status Report - Already reported
28. Fire Department Report- 1 call for ATV rollover on Fox Lake Rd and that was pretty much it. Golf outing next Monday; Supervisor Scott Volkmann asked about the donation from the May Fire Ride? Fire Chief Al Walesh stated that he wasn't sure off hand but they got about \$13,000-14,000, money was divided up between Athelstane and Stephenson fire departments and the trail clubs that were involved.
29. Marinette County Supervisor Report - There was a meeting with Supervisor Jim Fencl and County Supervisor Chris Norton with the County Representatives and County Parks Director to re-open the Falls area trail at Goodman Park, they were told that they wanted to improve the trails and possibly add a few more before they open that up again and Chris Norton said he would keep us posted.
30. Fire Department Treasurer's Report: Carol Kitchamster gave the report: Fire Department Treasurer's Report - CD: 27,195.76; Checking: 12,370.10; MM 24,652.10; Balance 64,217.96
31. **Public Participation at Town Board Meetings** - Welcome
  - a. Sabin Rosenbaum gave an update on the work being done by WPS, they were to move the overhead line from a pole across the street to the town hall and run it underground but due to a mix up of paperwork and supply chain issues they fell behind schedule but should have the work done on Monday so there will be no electricity at the town hall on Monday.
  - b. Chair Dee Farley also stated that there have been several calls regarding Brightspeed phone service was down and has been out in several areas in town and Vicky Farrell stated that Brightspeed was coming tomorrow and will be working on the issues
  - c. Joanne Sisler made a correction to the newsletter and minutes from a few months ago stating that she was not taking care of the cemetery but instead she was THANKING whomever was taking care of the cemetery because they are doing a good job
  - d. Vicky Farrell stated that there was no Constable report on the agenda and would like to see it back, Sabin Rosenbaum stated that at any time if anyone wants to know what is going on they can always just ask. Chair Dee Farley said that report would be added to the agenda.
32. At this time Chairperson Dee Farley broke the meeting into Closed Session, Supervisor Scott Volkmann made a motion to adjourn, Supervisor Jim Fencl seconded the motion carried.

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