

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Notes

Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER.** At 5:30 p.m. Village President (VP) Shannon Berg called the meeting to order.

II. **ROLL CALL.** Board of Trustee (Board) Members in attendance were Brad Lotts, Gary Pitts, Paul Blodgett, & Gerid Dodge, & VP Berg. There was a quorum in attendance. Staff in attendance were Public Works for Parks & Transportation (PW) Garrett Larson, Treasurer-Deputy Clerk (TDC) Teresa Dachel, Administrator-Clerk-Deputy Treasurer (ACDT) Bradley Hanson, & Building Inspector (BI) Joe Atwood. Public in attendance were Tom & Donna Bischel, Brady Bischel, Landon Cole, Verlyn Motzer, and American Legion Post #267 Commander Dan North.

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.** There were no public comments.

V. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Pitts and seconded by Dodge to approve. Motion carried.

1. Announcements, Complaints, and Communications.
2. Minutes and Reports.
 - a. *Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, September 11, 2025.*
 - b. *Park Committee on Tuesday, September 16, 2025.*
 - c. *Cemetery Committee on Monday, September 22, 2025.*
 - d. *Plan Commission on Tuesday, September 23, 2025.*
3. Village Bills: Invoices and checks. Village expenses for the month totaled \$ 319,620.09.
4. Ordinances.
 - a. *Ordinance 2025 – 12 An Ordinance repealing and recreating § 238-5 Control of Weeds and Grasses, and repealing and recreating § 259-11 Abatement by Village of the New Auburn Municipal Code of Ordinances.*
 - b. *Ordinance 2025 – 13 An Ordinance repealing and recreating Chapter 292 Streets and Somatic Transportation, Article III Somatic Transportation Construction and Repair of the New Auburn Municipal Code of Ordinances.*
 - c. *Ordinance 2025 – 14 An Ordinance repealing and recreating Chapter 284 Solid Waste of the New Auburn Municipal Code of Ordinances.*
5. Operator Licenses Approval:
 - a. *Logan Falkenberg – Bridge Stop (BS).*
 - b. *Wyatt A Yoder – BS.*
 - c. *Wendy Lang – BS.*

VI. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS.**

1. Public Works. PW Larson provided a brief update in written form for the Board's information, he described the North & Central St Project Punch List, County Highway (CH) M being completed, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Effluent contractor, Haas, was fusing the pipes last Friday and should begin with the install, and also went through the utility statistics with nothing out of the ordinary.
2. Public Safety. Provided the monthly statistics to the Board as part of the Board packet. During the month of September, the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) handled 17 incidents/citations, 62 business/citizen contacts with 50 building checks.
3. Building Inspector. BI Atwood reviewed his statistics for the month and the status of permitted work in progress. He advised a hand delivered notice must be delivered to 536 S East St regarding the

dilapidated shed in their yard. Further advised of the property at 234 E Main St's fence needs to be set back as it is currently in the Village's right-of-way (ROW).

- a. *126 S CH SS reconsideration of Unsafe Building designation (Municipal Code 142-12) or extension.* Motion by Lotts and seconded by Dodge to approve another 90-Day extension. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer's Report. No additional details.
5. Administrator-Clerk-Deputy Treasurer.
 - a. *Appoint Village Clerk as Wisconsin Court System's Designated Officer for Judicial System information requests.* Motion by Pitts and seconded by Blodgett to approve. Motion carried.
 - b. *New Auburn Area Fire Department (NAAFD) September 26, 2025 Budget Work Session/meeting report.* ACDT Hanson provided a brief on the Budget meeting status and going from 0.46 mill levy rate in 2024 to a possible 0.38 mill levy rate for 2026.
 - c. *Bloomer Ambulance.* The Bloomer Ambulance met on Monday, September 29 for their quarterly meeting, financially sound, but changed a billing process that would impact residents of assisted living facilities that request lift assists and instead of the property owner it would go to the resident.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

1. Village Project Updates:
 - a. *Village Park Improvement update.* PW Larson and TDC Dachel provided an update for the Board with the bathroom, wetland delineation for the trail, and Veteran's Memorial.
 - i. Xcel Energy move of Three-Phase Line out from underneath Veteran's Memorial. Commander North explained that the completion of the Veteran's Memorial completion will be postponed due to the work Xcel has to complete.
 - b. *Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Effluent Pipe Replacement.* PW Larson advised the equipment is ready, just waiting on a locate on the existing effluent line by CBS Squared.
 - c. *North/Central Street.* Moved to the Special Meeting on October 23, 2025.
 - i. 5202-09 North & Central St Project Change Order 01.
 - ii. 5202-09 North & Central St Project Pay Request 05.
2. Ordinance 2026-xx An Ordinance to add to Chapter 350 Zoning, Article VIII Performance Standards, Section 350-88 property appearance and maintenance of the new auburn municipal code of ordinances. No action and moved to the November 13, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting.
3. Designating the Planning Commission for Public Hearing regarding consideration of the aesthetic ordinance at their next available meeting. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Lotts to designate the Plan Commission for the Aesthetic Ordinance. Motion carried.
4. Barron County Department of Waste to Energy and Recycling partnership for Village Recycling needs. ACDT Hanson advised staff was hoping an agreement would be ready for consideration, however, due to time constraints Barron County Waste to Energy and Recycling were unable to get it to us for your consideration. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Dodge to postpone until the November 13, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting. Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Chippewa County Highway SS 2026 Resurfacing Project through the Village. ACDT Hanson provided a summary of his discussion with Chippewa County Highway Department Project Manager Fred Anderson. They discussed: Co are planning 3.5" removal and 3.5" replaced, which does not help with drainage concerns and the flooding of a couple of our businesses, and for only the 22' of drive lanes. Village believes reconstruction is better, Hanson requested their consideration of other options which they are open to discuss, and possibly using the County's ROW for a trail to connect the Village Park with Downtown. After the meeting, staff discussed possible improvements for Board consideration of up to 5' of paving with somewhere in there a small drivable curb for stormwater flow. Motion by

Lotts and seconded by Dodge to provide additional information to the Board at the Special Meeting on October 23, 2025. Motion carried.

2. Cemetery items.

- a. *Discontinue the Cemetery Committee.* Motion by Berg and seconded by Dodge to accept the Cemetery Committee's recommendation to disband their Committee due to lack of meetings and evidentiary value of the Village managing it appropriately without Committee interaction since 2009. Motion carried.
- b. *Ordinance 2025 – 15 An Ordinance repealing and recreating Chapter § 156 Cemeteries of the New Auburn Municipal Code of Ordinances.* Motion by Berg and seconded by Pitts to postpone until the November 13, 2025 Regular Board of Trustees meeting. Motion carried.
- c. *Cemetery Tree care.* Committee members requested some tree care and this has been relayed to PW Larson. No action.

3. Accept recommendations from Plan Commission rezoning of: Motion by Dodge and seconded by Blodgett to approve the Plan Commission's recommended rezoning of the below parcels. Motion carried.

- a. *Re-zoning of Parcel Number 23110-0121-6227OL27 (330 Mathias St) from R-1 Single-Family Residential District to GA General Agricultural District.*
- b. *Re-zoning of Parcel Numbers 23110-0121-60480101 (401 – 409 May St) and 23110-0121-60480113 (unaddressed vacant lot) from R-2 Single and Two-Family Residential District to R-3 Multi-Family Residential District.*
- c. *Re-zoning of Parcel Numbers 151-8021-06-010 (unaddressed vacant lot), 151-8021-06-030 (733 N East St), and 151-8021-06-070 (713 N East St) from R-1 Single-Family Residential District to R-3 Multi-Family Residential District.*

4. Designate "No Parking" for the west side of the 300 block of S East St beginning at the intersection of Park and S East Streets moving south for 250 feet. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Lotts to approve "No Parking" on the west side of the 300 block of S East St beginning at the intersection with Park St and moving south for 250 feet. Motion carried.

5. Future Board Meetings:

- a. *Park Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025.*
- b. *Special Board Meeting - Budget Work Session at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2025.*
- c. *Next Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2025.*

IX. **ADJOURN.** At 6:15 p.m. motion by Pitts and seconded by Berg to adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed:  for Clerk
Bradley J Hanson, Village Administrator-Clerk-Deputy Treasurer

