

TOWN OF WEST POINT  
TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 10, 2024

Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.84, the Town Board of the Town of West Point held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at the West Point Town Hall and via Zoom. The meeting was published in the Enterprise, the Star News, posted in the three designated places in the Town and on the Town's website.

The Town Board meeting was called to order by Ashley Nedeau-Owen - Town Chair, at 7:01 p.m. The Town Board members present at the Town Hall were: Ashley Nedeau-Owen - Town Chair, Kevin Kessler - 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisor, Scott Earnest - 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor, and John Ungrodt - 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisor. Also present was Taffy Buchanan - Town Clerk. Absent were Brian Gasser - 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisor (unexcused) and Sharon Richmond - Town Treasurer (excused).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

A motion was made by Scott Earnest to approve the agenda as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Input – None

Copies of the September 12, 2024 regular Town Board Meeting minutes and the October 1, 2024 Special Town Board Meeting minutes were emailed to each Town Board member prior to the meeting for their review. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to approve the minutes for the September 12, 2024 regular Town Board Meeting and the October 1, 2024 Special Town Board Meeting minutes with typographical corrections to the September 12, 2024 minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Earnest - motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk presented the following report for the Treasurer Sharon Richmond: General Fund as of September 30, 2024 - \$589,586.39; Coronavirus Recovery Acct (ARPA Funds) - \$208,290.42; Park Fund - \$2,727.00; Savanna Oaks Park Fund - \$1,170.97; Historical Society is \$7,206.87; and Assessor's Plat Fund - \$64,600.00. The Town Treasurer and Town Clerk reconciled the bank accounts for the month of September.

Correspondence – John Ungrodt sent an email to the Clerk about the poor condition of the bollards at the Sunset Bay boat landing; the Clerk contacted the WDNR and was assured by Jeff Shure, WDNR, that it would be addressed soon. Columbia County held a meeting on October 1, 2024 for a public hearing for the Baker CUP for a Tourist Rooming house and approved it. The Columbia County Board of Adjustment held a meeting on October 9, 2024 for the Ostreng variance. Strander’s Roofing will be putting the new metal roof on the Town Hall the last week in October. Jeanie Hovey contacted the Clerk asking for the erosion control socks be removed from the drainage easement so they could mow the area. The Town received draft minutes from the Sauk Fire District’s September 18, 2024 meeting. The Clerk and 4 Election Workers attended “De-escalation Training” that was held at the Lodi Town Hall on October 9, 2024.

The bills were reviewed by each Town Board member prior to the Town Board meeting. A copy of the bills, deposits, and budget for 2024 were given to each town board member for their information. A motion was made by John Ungrodt to approve paying the bills as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

Columbia County Report – Doug Richmond reported the Columbia County Board of Supervisors met on rebuilding the Solid Waste Facility buildings and that motion failed, but some of the supervisors were absent, so they had another meeting and brought up a different motion to rebuild and that one was approved. Don Nichols was hired as the new County Highway Commissioner. On November 12, 2024 Columbia County will have their budget meeting.

Last month the Town Board postponed action on the CUP for the campground expansion for Crystal Lake Park LLC c/o Steve Bodenschatz, N550 Gannon Road, Lodi, WI 53555. Tax Parcels # 11040-494, #11040-503, #11040-505, #11040-505.1, #11040-505.2, #11040-506, #11040-506.A and #11040-507. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler approve the motion recommended by the Plan Commission to recommend to the County that the Town requests that the following conditions be incorporated into the Conditional Use Permit: 1. Conditioned on receiving all DATCP and other State approvals and permits for the proposed campground project on this site. 2. Conditioned on the Applicant agreeing to and complying with the Town, on terms approved by the Town, covering the applicant’s compliance with all Town infrastructure, environmental protections and public safety requirements for the proposed campground project on this site, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously. The Town Chair asked if the applicant has submitted the application for the campground expansion to the State for approval. Steve Bodenschatz stated they

have the application and will be meeting with Grothman & Associates and will submit the application to the State next week.

The Town Chair updated the Town on Slack Road; he talked to the bus service and let them know it was finished and they could resume the route on Slack Road.

The Town Chair went over the memo the Town Engineer sent. The Town Engineer is working with Columbia County on getting a signed contract for the work to be done on East Harmon so we can use the ARPA funding on that project. The Town Engineer was putting together a bid package for Selwood Drive, but does not feel it would be ready by the end of the year to use the ARPA funds and suggested getting bids for Juniper Drive instead. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to authorize the Town Engineer to proceed with the bidding process for Juniper Drive so that they can be opened, awarded, and signed no later than December 2024 and to have a signed contract with Columbia County for East Harmon by December 2024 so we can use our ARPA funds, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Ungrodt – motion carried unanimously.

Al Deming, Crystal / Fish / Mud Lake Association, requested the Town to consider putting grates with a 1” opening on the culvers going out of Crystal Lake under the North / South Schoepp Road to limit the movement of large carp out of Crystal Lake and ending up in Fish Lake. Kevin Kessler was concerned that it would not prevent carp fry from going through and that the smaller opening with grates would cause more clogging. Scott Earnest asked if we have anything from the DNR saying this would make a difference in the carp population in Fish Lake. The Town would like to get more information on if this would help before making a decision. The Town Chair will contact a limnologist or fish manager to get their opinion and also contact the Town of Roxbury to get on their agenda to talk about invasive fish in Crystal & Mud Lakes.

The Town needs to contact the County Highway about pothole filling on Hillcrest and Golf Road.

Nate Sievers, Chief of the Lodi Area Fire Department, reviewed the 2025 LAFD budget. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to approve the 2025 LAFD operating budget as proposed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously.

Russ Schafer, Chief of the Lodi Area EMS, explained the 2025 LAEMS budget. A motion was made by John Ungrodt to approve the LAEMS 2025 budget as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

Mike Fehrenbach, Secretary of the Sauk Fire District presented the updated Sauk Fire District Inter-Governmental Agreement. A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to approve the Sauk Fire District IGA as presented, 2nd by Scott Earnest – motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Lodi Fire Commission – Kevin Kessler reported they met on September 25, 2024. Steve Neander updated them on the site selection progress.

Sauk Fire District – Mike Fehrenbach reported they met on September 18, 2024. He said in 2023 they had 223 calls for the year and so far in 2024 they have had 235. The 2025 budget was approved. The IGA was approved and sent to the municipalities for approval.

Sauk Prairie Ambulance – no report

Lodi EMS Commission – John Ungrodt reported they met on September 26, 2024. The trucks were inspected by State Patrol. The state might increase the number of hours of training that is required of the EMTs. They asked Russ Schafer to submit a Chief Report to the Commission ahead of the meetings. The next meeting will be October 24, 2024.

Plan Commission – Kevin Kessler reported the Plan Commission had a meeting on October 3, 2024. The Plan Commission discussed and gave a recommendation to approve the CUP for Crystal Lake Park. They discussed having Tourist Rooming House Ordinance and went over pros and cons but did not make any recommendations. They also reviewed a CSM and land division for Allen Ness but did not make any decisions because they needed more information. A CSM for Sina & Katelyn Sunby was withdrawn.

Transfer Site Report – no report

Park & Open Space Committee – no report

“Tourism Commission” was postponed.

“Commission / Committee Appointments” was postponed. The Town still has a vacancy on the West Point Area Historical Commission.

The “draft” of the Tax Newsletter was sent to the Town Board for review, if any of the Board members have any suggestions they should get them to the Treasurer within 10 days.

A motion was made by Ashley Nedeau-Owen to have a Special Town Board meeting on October 24, 2024 at 4:00pm to work on the budget, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ashley Nedeau-Owen to hold the Special Meeting of the Electors of the Town of West Point on November 14, 2024 at 7:00pm with the regular Town Board meeting to immediately follow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin Kessler – motion carried unanimously.

The next regular town board meeting will be on Thursday, November 14, 2024, immediately following the Public Hearing for the Budget and the Special Meeting of the Electors which starts at 7:00pm, on the agenda is: Commission / Committee Appointments, approving the 2025 Budget, Town roads, Tourism Commission, and any other business that can be legally added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Kevin Kessler to adjourn the October 10, 2024, Town Board meeting at 9:47pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Ungrodt – motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted By  
*Taffy Buchanan*, Town Clerk