TOWN OF FARMINGTON
MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, July 9, 2026
7:00pm
FARMINGTON TOWN HALL
N8309 County Road C, Mindoro, WI 54644

Attendees: Mike Hesse, Paul Lash, Greg Kastenschmidt, Jodi Anderson
Public Works and SD: Cindy Storandt, Wendell Pfaff and Taylor Brehmer
Minutes Prepared By: Crystal Sbraggia
Absent:

Other Attendees: Gayle Monicken, Larry Craig, Wilfred Berg, Mitch Fenske, Fred Brown, Rep for Mark Dummer, Coulee Country Trucking

CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman, Mike Hesse, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- **Mmsp: Lash / Kastenschmidt:** Motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2026 Regular Meeting. **3/0/0 PASSED**

- **PUBLIC CONCERNS:**
  No public concerns.

  Mark Dummer - Conditional Use Permit – A representative of Coulee Country Trucking appeared before the Board to request a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for non-metallic mining on Tax Parcels 5-546-1 and 5-557-1. Coulee Country Trucking recently acquired Paisley Trucking and was informed that the existing Conditional Use Permit for the non-metallic mine did not automatically transfer with the ownership change. As a result, the company requested a new Conditional Use Permit to continue the existing mining operation on the same parcels.

  MMPS: Kastenschmidt/Hesse moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit for non-metallic mining on Tax Parcels 5-546-1 and 5-557-1. **Motion carried, 3-0-0.**

  Consider 2026 Chip Seal Bids – The Board reviewed chip seal proposals submitted by Scott Construction and Fahrner Construction for the 2026 annual seal coat project on Staff Road, Anderson Road, Hanson Road, Jerome Road, and Young Road.

Fred Brown attended the meeting on behalf of Fahrner Construction. Kevin Schmitz of Scott Construction was unable to attend the rescheduled meeting but was available by phone to answer questions from the Board.

During the review, it was noted that Fahrner Construction's original proposal included only a single-chip application, while Scott Construction's proposal included a double-chip application on all roads except Staff Road. Chair Hesse explained that this discrepancy resulted from an internal error and provided Fahrner Construction the opportunity to submit a revised proposal reflecting the same double-chip application.

After reviewing the revised proposals, the Board elected to award the project to Fahrner Construction for a total cost of **$106,850**. Although Fahrner's proposal was **$8,860** higher than Scott Construction's bid, the Board determined that Fahrner's use of a smaller aggregate stone provided the preferred application for the project.

MMPS: Hesse / Kastenschmidt: Motion made to award the 2026 annual seal coat project to Fahrner Construction in the amount of **$106,850** for a double-chip seal application on Anderson Road, Hanson Road, Jerome Road, and Young Road, and a single-chip seal application on Staff Road. **Motion carried, 3-0-0.**

Consider LP Rates: The Board reviewed LP gas pricing proposals submitted by Consolidated Energy ($1.49 per gallon) and Allied Cooperative ($1.549 per gallon). Discussion also took place regarding ownership of the LP tank located outside the Town Hall.

The Board tabled a decision until ownership of the tank can be confirmed. If the tank is determined to be owned by Allied Cooperative rather than the Town, Kastenschmidt will notify Consolidated Energy and provide the company an opportunity to revise its proposal, if necessary, based on that information.

Operator License
The board reviewed the following operator license applications for Samantha Hammond, Madison Pedretti and Mary Atkinson

Mmps: Lash / Kastenschmidt Motion to approve all three operator license applications.
3/0/0 PASSED

PARK UPDATES:

- The Public Works crew is currently working to remove a fallen tree from the walking trail.
- Hesse suggested that the Board and Staff watch for opportunities to purchase wood chips that can be used to refresh the mulch around the playground equipment.
- The roof on the park shelter is in need of repair and is expected to be addressed this summer.

SANITARY DISTRICT

Taylor Brehmer presented the Sanitary District report and provided the following updates:

- **Licensing Update:** Taylor reported that he has obtained all required basic operator licenses.
- **PFAS Sludge Testing:** The Sanitary District received notice from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requiring PFAS testing of the sludge. The estimated cost of the testing is approximately $650. Taylor reported that, based on his research, PFAS exceedances appear to be closely correlated with sludge blanket levels. He is looking forward to reviewing the results of the upcoming sludge survey.
- **Hydrants:** Taylor reported that several fire hydrants are in need of replacement. One replacement hydrant is currently available for installation. The SD plans to order one additional hydrant and two new valves, one for each replacement hydrant. A regional representative from Waterous is scheduled to visit on July 21 to determine the required burial depth. Two additional hydrants will receive extension kits. Once specifications have been finalized, Taylor will obtain quotes for Board review. Installation will be completed by the Public Works Crew.
- **Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing:** The Farmington Sanitary District recently received notice that it did not pass its Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test because *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (C. dubia) did not reproduce at the required rate compared to the control sample. Additional testing is underway to identify the cause and implement corrective measures before the next required WET test, which is currently scheduled between August 10 and August 24. Taylor recommended beginning voluntary quarterly Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Nitrogen BOD testing to better monitor treatment performance and identify potential issues before future WET testing. The Board also suggested scheduling the follow-up WET test as late as possible within the required 90-day compliance window to allow additional time for corrective actions.
- **Service Line Identification:** Taylor reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) now requires a minimum of 20% of water service lines to be identified annually through 2034. To meet this requirement, the District will need to pothole service lines at curb stops. Florite estimates a cost of approximately $300 per hour. With approximately 120 service lines remaining and an estimated production rate of four per day, the total project is expected to require roughly 40 hours at an estimated cost of $12,000.
- **Algae Treatment:** AquaHawk MBS algae treatment was applied to the ponds on May 31, 2026. Taylor reported that, following the June meeting, the treatment has shown improved results after initially not producing the expected response.
- **Sewer Rate Study:** The Board reviewed the sewer rate study prepared by Carson Hackett of Davy Engineering. Because Mr. Hackett was unable to attend the meeting, the Board elected to postpone action on the study until members have an opportunity to discuss their questions with Davy Engineering.

  MMPS: Hesse/Kastenschmidt moved to table the sewer rate study until the Board is able to discuss the report with Davy Engineering. **Motion carried, 3-0-0.**

- **Sonar Sludge Judge Project:** Chair Hesse estimated that the sonar sludge judge project could be completed within the next three weeks following the recommended removal of duckweed from the ponds.
- **Mobile Home Park Line Repair:** No updates were reported.

CEMETERY

- No updates were reported regarding the concrete work for memorial stones.
- Bids still need to be obtained for resetting the headstones that have tipped over.
- Mowing and weed trimming are ongoing.
- A tree fell and struck the cemetery arch; however, no damage was reported.

ROADS AND EQUIPMENT

- The Public Works crew requested that the Board consider purchasing a wood chipper to reduce the need to push brush off the roadside. Staff indicated that either a tow-behind or three-point hitch model would meet their needs. The Board will consider the request during the 2027 budget process.
- **Local Small Structure Improvement Program (LSSIP)**
    - **Schultz Road Structure:** No updates.
    - **M. Olson Structure:** No updates.
- **Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) – Amundson Coulee Road:** The Town of Holland is administering this shared grant and is currently awaiting the State Municipal Agreement (SMA). Holland is also preparing bid documents for next year's project.
- **Agricultural Roads Improvement Program (ARIP):** A second application for Baker Road funding has been submitted.
- Cold patching operations have begun.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- The Fire Department was deemed ineligible for Wildland Fire Gear Grant funding due to a late payment resulting from a check that was damaged during delivery by the U.S. Postal Service.
- The Maintenance of Effort Report was submitted to the State on June 11, 2026.
- The Fire Department's annual pancake breakfast is scheduled for the end of the month.
- Two incidents involving discarded needles have occurred within the Town this year. The Town is working with the County to determine an appropriate response.

RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE

- The Town received a positive inspection report during the June E-Cycle Wisconsin collector inspection.

TREASURER REPORT AND CHECKS

Mmsp Lash / Kastenschmidt: Motion to approve the June Treasurer Report, including receipts 673340 TO 673354. **PASSED 3/0/0**

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Lash: Motion to approve June town checks 24884 – 24914 and previously approved EFT. **PASSED 3/0/0**

Mmsp: Lash / Hesse: No report available for FD

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Lash: Motion to approve SD June 2026 EFT transactions and checks numbered 6096-6107. **PASSED 3/0/0**

Other Business:

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Lash: Motion to adjourn at 0809pm. **PASSED 3/0/0**