

MINUTES

Byron Town hall

Tuesday, November 11th, 2025

Town of Byron – Special Hearing & Special Town Meeting on Budget 6:45 pm

Attending: Chairperson Dustin Westphal, Supervisors Aaron Buckarma and Tim Hackbarth, Treasurer Kay Murre, Clerk Katie Trewin, Randy Faber, Melanie Westphal, Don Knuth, and Maureen Betz.

Call to Order: Chairman Dustin Westphal called the meeting to order.

Confirm Posting: The meeting was posted at the Town Hall and on the website.

The Board presented the proposed 2025 budget.

Public Hearing on Proposed Budget: Don Knuth asked the difference between Public Safety & Health under expenditures. Public Safety covers ambulance and fire protection. Public Health is Humane society, cemetery donations, etc.

Adopt Levy Limit to be paid in 2025: The state allowable levy is \$378,140.00. The Town board feels this is adequate and has proposed a budget accordingly. **MOTION: (Don Knuth, Melanie Westphal) moved to adopt the 2025 levy of \$378,140.00 to be paid in 2026. Motion Carried. 9 Aye, 0 nay.**

Non-Salary wage scale adoption: To update hourly rates for town board members when doing non-salary work to match the rate of hired town employees. **MOTION: (Randy Faber, Don Knuth) For Board members doing other duties to be compensated same wage as hired employees. Motion Carried.**

Motion to Adjourn: (Randy Faber, Don Knuth) Motion Carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Town of Byron – Regular Board Meeting

Chairperson Dustin Westphal, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present Agenda: MOTION: (Westphal, Hackbarth) to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes: MOTION: (Hackbarth, Buckarma) to approve the October 14, 2025 minutes as written.

Approve Bills: MOTION: (Westphal, Buckarma) to approve paying the bills as presented. Motion Carried.

Permits Issued: Randy Faber issued four building permits in October.

Memorial Committee: No members present to report.

Historical Society: Maureen Betz reported that the open house/calendar sale and Veteran's day program was a success and had a great turnout on November 8th. The winner of the Ed Kelroy Essay contest, Alexis Kottke, a junior at Lomira High School was present and read her essay. The new calendars are for sale at \$12 each. Lomira High School wrestlers participated in Change4Troops, meeting at the Byron Town Hall at 7am on November 9th and walking to Theresa, carrying donations received along the way. All contributions will be donated to the Byron and Theresa Veterans Memorials. Owen Stoppleworth of Brothers Antiques will hold an Appraisal night following the monthly meeting on

November 17th. Monthly open house is November 15th, from 9 am to Noon. For more details, please refer to the Historical Society's Minutes on the Town's Website: www.townofbyronwi.gov/historical-society

Public Comments: There were none.

Unfinished Business:

Update on Roads: Dustin shared that Ron's wife, Sharon, passed away. If anything comes up regarding roads, please call Dustin or Aaron. Snowplows are ready for action and sand/salt is stocked.

- Dustin plans to complete some more brush cutting.
- There are two concrete culverts in the township that need to be fixed. One on Hickory Road and one on Mill Pond Rd. The Hickory Road will need to be done next year for sure.
- Tim brought up how much junk/scrap gets dumped in the Town ditches. Tim is going to look into signage to put up.

New Business:

a) **Treasurer's Report:** Kay Murre read the Treasurer's Report. The checkbook balance is \$21,928.77.

b) **Action to approve the 2026 Budget: Motion: (Westphal, Buckarma) to approve the 2026 Budget. Motion Carried.**

c) **Discussion of lack of trapping ordinance/setbacks:** The Town received an email from a Town of Byron resident who is concerned about the lack of trapping restrictions to a property line and that it poses a public safety risk. The resident's cat was recently killed in one. Dustin read the email that the resident sent out loud at the meeting. The Town board discussed the issue and decided that landowners placing traps are doing so on their private property. No action is being taken on this issue at this time.

d) **ATV/UTV county highway routes:** County Executive, Sam Kaufman, reached out to the Town Board about possible county highway roads that would be open to ATV/UTV traffic in the Town of Byron. Sam proposed a portion of County Road V – Starting at Kelly Road and ending at County Road K, and a portion of County Road K – Starting at County Road V and ending at Mill Road. **Motion: (Westphal, Hackbarth) to approve a resolution of support for the ATV/UTV route recommended by Sam Kaufman.**

e) **Discussion of Town Byron Christmas Party:** The Town Board agreed to hold a party again in January at the same venue as the past. The board agreed Katie could send out email invites due to the cost of postage.

Correspondence: Dustin shared that the Town needs to get back into compliance with property taxes. The Town is aware and the town assessor is completing a full assessment of the Town next year to get us back into compliance.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- **WTA District Christmas Meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2025 @ Avenue 795, Fond du Lac**
- **Next Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 @7:00 p.m.**

(All meetings are held at the Byron Town Hall unless noted otherwise)

Motion: (Buckarma, Hackbarth) to adjourn. Motion Carried. 7:30 p.m.

Katie Trewin, Clerk

(These minutes are not yet approved and are subject to change)