TOWN OF GRANT
Monthly Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 9th, 2026
6:00 pm

Board Members Present: Sharon Schwab (Chair), Doug Steltenpohl (Supervisor), Scott Provost (Supervisor), Greg Hakala (Treasurer), Stefanie Schlapa (Clerk)

Guests Present: Leo Kruger, Jodi Lomma, Diana Luecht, Thomas Kieliszewski, Beth Duffy, Roland Hawk, Kitty Gross

CHAIR SCHWAB CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00PM

Statement of Public Notice:
Agenda posted on September 7th, 2026, on the Town Website, at the Town Hall and Transfer Station. Clerk Schlapa provided the affidavit.

Chair Schwab asked persons wishing to speak on an agenda item, to register now. Leo Kruger regarding Truck 22. Jodi Lomma Ordinances and Plan Commission, Financial – Synagro

Pledge of Allegiance led by Scott Provost

Announcements

- Data Center Developer PNK Group hosting an open house from 1:00PM-3:00PM on September 13th at Hotel Mead.
- Data Center Public Hearing scheduled for September 16th at the Performing Arts Center at 5:30PM.
- Renewable Energy Academy Wednesday October 7th
- Letter from DNR regarding Managed Forest Law land. Comments should be submitted by September 26th, 2026.

Correspondence (Packet *Correspondence*)

CONSENT AGENDA (Action Required)

1. Approval of Minutes –August 12, August 18 (public hearings)
2. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes/Reports – GCAC, First Responders, Plan Commission, Zoning (Packet *Committee Reports*)
3. Approval of Officers' Reports – (Packet *Officers' Reports*)
4. Approval of Financial Report - (Packet *Financial*)
5. Approval of Bills – (Packet *Review Bills*)

Schwab asked if any board member wishes to withdraw an item under the Consent Agenda for discussion. Hearing none, the consent agenda was accepted by unanimous consent.

Discussion & Possible Action On:

1. **ORDINANCE:** Amendments to Comprehensive Plan (updated solar overlay map and one revised paragraph)
   Thanks are extended to Jodi Lomma for her work on the presentation for the public hearing held August 18th. The next step will be to send to Portage County Planning and Zoning, and then if approved will continue to the Portage County Board of Supervisors.
   MOTION (Schwab, Steltenpohl) to approve the Ordinance 2026-07. Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Zoning/Plan Commission:

a. Revisions to Zoning Ordinance to address data centers following public hearing 8/18/26
   The Plan Commission created a floating district within the Zoning Ordinance for data centers. This will require a public hearing for a rezone should a data center developer wish to apply in the future.

MOTION (Steltenpohl, Schwab) to approve revisions to the Zoning Ordinance as presented. Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.

b. Anticipated request for zoning change on Birch Drive east of Townline
The landowners at 13310/13312 Birch Drive will need to come forward with a request for a rezone. The Plan Commission will recommend a rezone for Birch Drive. Lomma notes a land division request, and a zoning change cannot occur concurrently. First, the land division request should be approved by Portage County, then a Certified Survey Map (CSM) will be provided. That CSM will require a zoning change after the subdivision is approved. Since that parcel is not currently divided there would be no reason to rezone it as high density residential from exclusive ag at this time. Portage County recommends making a land division request first, then proceed with zoning change. Provost inquires if the land division request doesn't pass at the county would the CSM be null and void? Lomma explains the landowners will complete the CSM showing the recommended changes and dividing it into 4 parcels. The remaining land will be used for solar and Mortensons Farms. Schwab explains we are anticipating a request for a rezone which will require a public hearing. Lomma notes no action is needed at this time, and this agenda item is advisory in nature.

c. Request from Vista Sand Solar for cabling on Maple Street
Deputy Zoning Administrator Darin Meyer and Jim Garbe from Plover have made recommendations on the matter. Darin suggested reviewing this request at a Plan Commission meeting.

3. Public Works/Roads Updates/Requests:

a. Request from Roland Hawk, Wood County Highway Commissioner, for jurisdictional transfer of CTH U north of STH 54 to the Village of Biron.
Commissioner Hawk explains he has a project currently with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) to reconstruct some of HWY U in the Village of Biron, section 2 and 3 on the provided map. He had discussed with Biron that it is a local road and is serving just a local service. If the county would be willing to complete reconstruction of section 4, would be best served by the village. Currently 4 different jurisdictions – Grand Rapids in section 1, section 4 is Town of Plover and Town of Grant. As a county highway, the county is responsible.
General Transportation Aids (GTAs) would be available to the town. Town of Plover has agreed to relinquish their responsibility and allow the Village of Biron to accept jurisdiction of the road right-of-way. The portion in red on the Portage County side of the road. Grant would be able to receive half the GTAs on that stretch, approximately $200 annually. Hawk believes it makes sense for the Village of Biron to maintain that section of road and is currently working on jurisdictional documents. This would entail having all municipalities accept jurisdictional transfer. Hawk is working with WisDOT to create a document showing the transfer of jurisdiction. The Village of Biron is happy to maintain utility and driveway access in that stretch. Hawk notes their policy is very strict, unlike the Village of Biron. Bridgewater development has a few properties on CTH U that would not have typically been granted as a result of a Wood County Ordinance. Also taking over permitting for Village of Plover and Town of Plover. Some of those areas are wetland and WisDOT would retain the right-of-way. Schwab confirms that each town would require a separate resolution, and not a joint resolution. A change in WISLR is also required.
Provost clarifies the location of CTH U. Hawk explains the road extends to North Biron Drive and then south. Provost recalls a sign by Jammers which denoted CTY TRUNK U. There are signs on HWY 54 directing traffic to CTU in two locations. They do not run concurrently, and Hawk believes this jurisdictional change will clear up the confusion. Provost inquires if the area will be subject to a Bridgewater project. Hawk explains the CTU designation would be removed, and he is not sure if Bridgewater intends to develop that area. So far, Hawk has not been approached regarding further development. Provost notes there could also be additional wetlands that are not mapped. Hawk notes the choice is the town could accept the roadway and receive a couple hundred dollars. Provost curious of other intent. From the County's perspective that road does not serve the purpose of a County Highway. County highways must originate and terminate at another county highway or state highway – not a street or road. The road itself serves local access. No annexation is involved. They plan to develop description of the right-of-way then transfer the maintenance responsibility. All will remain town properties.

Hawk notes the current project is still underway – hoping to have everything changed over in 2027. If the project under construction ends up being delayed, will likely wait on the jurisdictional transfer until

construction is competed. Might have landscaping to complete in the spring. Hoping to have the construction completed in the fall.

b. Winter Maintenance Agreement with Wood Co. for Lake Road (CTH U – 100th Street)
Schwab notes Safeway had made the request to salt Lake Road because of multiple bus trips on the roadway. Schwab notes the expense which costs the town $3000 per year for two miles. Hawk notes he is trying to figure out how to keep costs down and explains the cost for salt is over $110 per ton. Hawk notes his costs are actual. Since they already are not making a special trip there is no way to make it more efficient or reduce costs. Other local contractors do purchase salt from Wood County, but he does not expect the price would be different. Provost confirms Town of Grant could purchase salt from Wood County. Despite claims that the road is salted because certain individuals live on the road – Hawk agrees that is nonsense. Provost inquires how much salt is typically needed per mile. Hawk explains 300 lbs. is needed to complete 1 lane mile. If a ton was loaded on a truck, that amount would last a few storms. Hawk notes their team applies salt at the end of a storm. Brine is mixed and sprayed on the salt. The Town of Grant can also purchase brine. Provost notes additional roads and intersections might also benefit from brine. Provost suggests discontinuing the contract with Wood County and instead proceed to purchase salt from Wood County. Hawk notes they receive requests from other townships, and their team has trouble fulfilling all the requests. He suggests getting salt Friday before 3:00PM if a weekend storm is anticipated. Otherwise, it may be crowded during the storm and may take an hour or two to load salt or brine. He recommends purchasing salt a day before a storm is anticipated. Hawk to provide phone number for the on call staff member.

c. Griffith Avenue (110th – CTH F) discontinuing section of highway
   i. Plat of Survey re: discontinuous section (start/stop points)
      Provost confirms the map looks good. Will work on lis pendens, public hearing.
   ii. Remove & replace culvert in concert with WisDOT Local Small Structures Improvement Program Award of $22,500 prior to discontinuing road (pending go-ahead from WisDOT)
   Schwab notes once the agreement is signed, then we can begin the bid documentation. If 30 cubic p s of water flows through the area, then an engineer is required to recommend the opening – the cross-section aerial is needed.

d. Road sections recommended for weight limits (map)
Rod Sutter, Portage County GIS Specialist, forwarded a map which denotes weight limits. Provost notes all roads are single ply. Schwab notes they could be signed as Class B. Can put a specific like number of axles. Leo Kruger recommends having a certain weight limit (Class B). Provost notes signs could still read 48,000 lbs. total and number of axles determines weight distribution. Schwab to find examples of signage and if an ordinance is required. Had previously completed an ordinance for 6- and 10-ton roads. Map is correct. **MOTION (Provost, Steltenpohl) to approve the map provided an ordinance is not required for enforcement.** Leo Kruger is also happy with decision. **Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.**

e. Response to PCDD re: Open Records, Foley property, beaver activity, etc.
Provost notes it is a circular argument. The town has ditches we have to maintain. When the town has problems with the artificial ditches' implementation by PCDD, they bill the Town of Grant. DATCAP engineer is in charge via State of WI. The Portage County Drainage District board members are appointed by circuit court judge. Schwab notes many landowners pay quite a bit of money to have land drained – not necessarily agricultural. In the past, have been billed for removal of beaver dams. It seems Town of Grant is the only municipality. Folks within the drainage district pay an assessment per acre. As a result, the town suspects residents are being double charged. Since the statute was changed to give them 100 ft right of way on either side of the ditch. Judge interprets that area can be removed and taken – could be timber or field. When the statute changed, his interpretation was it would be cleared and bulldozed, then left up to the landowner to pick up their mess. These landowners could be losing thousands of dollars of timber. When the PCDD did ditch 6 – if it wasn't for one property owner putting a stop to it they would have kept going. Provost demands that the PCDD starts answering questions and respecting people's properties. Hakala notes $26,000 is drainage district special assessment. So, those residents are being double taxed to complete the PCDD maintenance. Provost notes the PCDD walks away from the damage they cause in Town of Grant crossings.

4. Financial:

a. Request for $225 to host WTA – Portage Co. Unit mtg.

Every second- or third-year towns take turns to host the WTA unit meeting. $175 provided by WTA, estimated cost is $400. Provost is impressed by Ryders Roadhouse and Chat R Box working together. Board agrees on the meal cost.

b. Request for cold patch for an amount not to exceed $2500.
Steltenpohl notes the Public Works team is out of cold pack.
MOTION (Steltenpohl, Schwab) to purchase another quad of cold pack for under $2500. Hakala notes item 6 on purchasing policy denotes clerk should make that determination. **Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.**

c. Request for additional 23 loads of crushed red granite from Red Rock to complete the southern ½ of 87th Street (Tower – Evergreen) for an expected amount of $9,832.50
MOTION (Schwab, Provost) for additional 23 loads of crushed red granite from Red Rock to complete the southern ½ of 87th Street (Tower – Evergreen) for an expected amount of $9,832.50. Provost asks why another load would be purchased when the first load was decimated. Schwab notes that was fixed. Provost asks if road limits can be placed on gravel roads. Two hours, two loads, Synagro will pay for it. **Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.**

d. Request for 70 loads of black base ¾" granite from Kafka to complete 100th Street (south of STH 54 one (1) mile) for an estimated amount of $23,345.
Hakala requests moving on to item F first. Can't commit to both. Hakala notes $180,000 is available, which considers loan payments. Hakala notes if we are anticipating an expense, funds can remain past the end of the year.

e. Current costs to Synagro to repair 95th Street south of CTH FF due to damage from hauls, and estimate to overlay ~220LF with town equipment, labor and materials
Steltenpohl – fix on 95th street – Synagro will receive a bill. Charging for cold pack, labor, grader, and $720 for work completed. Will also send a separate bill for fixing the whole road. The left side of the road is beat up where the load was hauled in. The east side is good, and the west side is bad. Steve, Leo, and Doug looked at it and created estimate and anticipates $4190 to complete 95th street and $1,155 for 87th Street. Schwab will write a cover letter and will include estimate to finish and overlay Lomma wonders why the permits were issued. Schwab provides instructions they are supposed to adhere to. Schwab notes the recent work has been bad. Lomma is curious why they were issued a permit for a road they previously disrupted. Lomma not sure if they will pass that cost on to Todd Eberhardt, the landowner receiving the Synagro material. The Board agrees it would be the last permit Synagro would receive if they passed the cost to Eberhardt. Lomma adds she is unsure how they would recoup the cost. For that field, CTH FF could be utilized. Steltenpohl notes Synagro is traveling off the road to access the driveway which is causing damage to the road. Provost adds the road is not made for that kind of hauling.

f. Estimate to repair service truck 22 and/or to consider purchasing replacement
Leo Kruger explains he completed an inspection on Truck 22. The largest problem is there is nothing left for a hinge to raise the box. Could potentially flip truck and harm someone. Transmission doesn't want to shift from second to third gear. Provost asks the cost of a new transmission. Wing support and framework that holds the wing – huge holes. Sander is rotted out but spinner and motor are probably good. Turn lever of the plow has an issue. When you turn right it turns left, then won't turn back right. Must manually push into a tree to get it to turn the right direction. Replaced an air regulator before completing an inspection – approx. $80. Hakala asks if a truck is needed for the winter. Kruger notes the vehicle is no longer WisDOT legal. Hakala found a 2010 truck with 80,000 miles. Had looked at a 2016 with 30,000 miles. Did not have sander on it. Was $85,000. Had a 2012 for $47,000. Hakala recommends not exceeding $80,000 for the cost of a new truck. Provost notes we have until November to put gravel down. Steltenpohl recalls $85,900 was the cost of a nice truck he had looked at previously. Hakala approves $100,000 or less for a truck.

MOTION (Schwab, Provost) to approve $100,000 or less to find a new truck. Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.

g. Request to replace failed culvert on Timm Avenue (100th St S - termini)
Provost notes the previous culvert was removed and never replaced. In the spring the property owners along Timm Ave would get flooded out. If a culvert was there, water could flow to the south or to the North, thanks to culvert repairs from Leo and Garry. Provost notes that the culvert should never have been taken out. Could put a

24” culvert, approximately $1000 expense. Labor would be in house. 24” plastic culvert. Since the culvert would be less than $1000, no motion is required. The board agrees.

h. Estimate to overlay short section of 90th Street south of CTH W following culvert replacement
Schwab to get estimates.

5. Liquor License & Operator Licenses: Mickey’s Tip-Up

Schlapa notes the sale of Mickey’s Tip Up is slated for October 1st, 2026. New owners Andrew and Samantha Siegler have provided all required documentation and payment. Schlapa received a letter of conditional surrender from Robert McDonald for the liquor license. Background checks show no concern. Schlapa recommends the Board approves the liquor license for the date October 1st, 2026.

MOTION (Schwab, Provost) to approve as presented. Unanimous Ayes, Motion carries.

Schlapa received operator license applications, serv safe certificates, payment, and completed background checks for operators Samantha Siegler and Michael Willman. Schlapa recommends approving the two operator licenses beginning October 1st, 2026.

MOTION (Steltenpohl, Provost) to approve operator licenses as presented. Unanimous Ayes. Motion carries.

6. Purchasing Policy – requested revision (pending) – postponed.

7. Transfer Station:

a. Anti-freeze recycling (update) Schwab showed Garry the bins for anti-freeze disposal. Provost asks when the vault should be scheduled for delivery. Schwab – what needs to be moved? Expects to place vault next to existing oil disposal. Can take metal off old one for roof and cover both disposal areas. Provost explains an experienced carpenter is also working for the Town (Leo!). Probably enough metal on a pallet that was leftover that could likely be utilized. Lids are here.

b. Demonstration prairie (scheduled Fall 2026) – Leo to disk swale at transfer station, south of two metal containers. Provost noted the area is damp and curious about the seed. Provost suggests visiting Grant Elementary School prairie to collect seed.

8. Utility Solar Projects: Public Service Commission re: Portage Solar & Vista Sands Solar

Schwab notes quarterly report from Portage Solar received.

9. Safety Report:

Cases with days away from work: 0

Cases with job transfer or restriction: 0

10. Public Participation:

Diana Luecht: What can be done with the microphones? Sometimes they are used, sometimes not. Half the time nobody uses them. Doesn’t like them. A reminder for board members to use microphones and hold them close to mouth. Steltenpohl reminder to recycle aluminum cans to save on Transfer Fee Special Charge. Kitty Gross suggests revising recycling brochure.

11. Future Meetings/Events:

a. September 14 5pm - Updating T. Grant Local Emergency Response Guide

b. September 28 6pm Wisconsin Towns Association Unit Meeting – Ryders Roadhouse Banquet Hall

c. TBA – WISLR updates (annual requirement)

12. **Adjourn*:*** **MOTION (Provost, Schwab) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:51PM.**

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk Stefanie Schlapa

Stefanie Schlapa

Approved: October 14th, 2026