

Town of St. Joseph - St. Croix County, WI
Minutes for Town Board Meeting
St. Joseph Town Hall
January 8, 2026

Call to Order by Chair Theresa Johnson at 6:03 pm

Statement of Public Notice read by Clerk

Roll Call: Chair Theresa Johnson, Dan Gavin, Chris Marshall, Richard Hailey, Andrew Olson-Engineer, James VanDerBergh-Attorney; Online: Justin Kruse

Adoption of Agenda: **MOTION** to approve the agenda as presented (Marshall/Gavin). **Motion carried.**

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Public Comment: None

Justin Kruse present at 6:05 pm

Business discussion and possible action on:

1. Introduction of new engineer – Bolton-Menk – Andrew Olson: The Town Chair introduced the new engineering firm, Bolton and Menk, and specifically Andrew Olson, the new Town Engineer.
2. Update on solar farm in St Croix County and power lines through the Town: The Town Chair stated that there are no new updates at this time, the project should be filed in 2026.
 - a. Resolution 2026-02 – No to solar farm: The Town Chair read the proposed Resolution. The Town cannot become an intervenor to the power line project until it is filed. It has not yet been filed. Discussion followed. **MOTION** to approve 2026-02 regarding the solar project as written (Johnson/Marshall). Roll Call: Chris Marshall-Aye, Dan Gavin-Aye, Richard Hailey-Aye, Justin Kruse-Aye, Theresa Johnson-Aye. **Motion carried.** Dan Gavin will take the lead on this project.
3. Town Hall Building update
 - a. Pay Request #18 for building \$: We have not received a Pay Request for the project at the time of this meeting.
 - b. St Croix Electric rebates: Justin Kruse has left voicemails several times regarding this issue, no response has been received.
 - c. Possible Change orders: No change orders at this time.
 - d. Projected timeline for generator install and cost of tariff: The generator will be installed on January 20th; the installer has been coordinating with the contractor and the electricians. The Clerk will inform the Board when the generator has been installed. We will then need to change the occupancy on the building.
 - e. Projected expenditures and available funds and timeline for construction: Reviewed the updated financial spreadsheet.
4. Fire Department: Zac stated they will be testing the fire hydrant either tomorrow or this coming weekend.
 - a. Update on door locks: Zac stated all the door locks are working well. There is now a keypad on the door into the bay area.
 - b. Sale of 2001 Kenworth Pumper: Rush City has put in an offer for \$40,099.00, which was accepted by the Fire Department. The expected transfer is in approximately two weeks.

5. Public Works
 - a. Review of Willow River Company-Eric Shimon (7:00 pm): Eric Shimon was present and stated he likes working with the Town. Chris Marshall stated he likes their response time and their professionalism and is happy to continue working with them. Richard Hailey asked if the pricing will remain same in the next contract. Eric stated it will increase minimally due to cost of living. Eric will bring an updated price sheet to the March meeting.
 - b. Guard rail at 1470 50th Street: The owner of 1470 50th Street wants to start building a home on the lot, but the guard rail does not have an opening for the driveway. Discussed receiving pricing from the County and other companies.
6. Plan Commission
 - a. Junkyards and other chronic nuisances and enforcement issues: Mr. Michaud was present. We have seen a picture of his front yard, and it appears to be cleaned up. Jay Kimble has another junkyard that he is reviewing. The substantial and continual dumping of tires in the Town was also discussed.
7. Parks, Trails and Recreation: Nothing new to report at this time.
8. Public Records Requests – progress and costs: Nothing new to report at this time.
9. Kennel Licenses: **MOTION** to approve the kennel license for Garth and Jennifer Vandervorst, 1383 31st Street and also approve the kennel license for Mary Tyson and John Ringhofer, 376 117th Ave. upon receipt of kennel inspections (Marshall/Kruse). **Motion carried.**
10. Approval of hourly rate for Stantec 2026: **MOTION** to approve the hourly rate based off of the December 9th information from Stantec for 2026 (Marshall/Kruse). Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**
11. Approval of Town Board minutes – December 4 and December 11: **MOTION** to approve the Town Board Minutes for December 4th and December 11th (Marshall/Hailey). **Motion carried.**

MOTION to take a short recess (Kruse/Marshall). **Motion carried.**

12. Resolution 2026-01 – Line-Item Transfers **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2026-01 with corrections stated (Kruse/Marshall). Roll Call: Richard Hailey-Aye, Theresa Johnson, Dan Gavin, Chris Marshall, Justin Kruse-Aye. **Motion carried.**
13. Budget, Invoices, checks and bank balances: **MOTION** to approve all the bills and ACHs for withholding starting with Check Nos. 26487 through 26589 (Johnson/Kruse). **Motion carried.**
14. Jason Kjeseth – St Croix County Community Development: Jason Kjeseth was present.
 - a. Eckert Blufflands Park, roadways, timelines: Jason discussed updates to the Park and the addition of a parking lot. Discussed the Town needing the survey information on the cul-de-sac as well.
 - b. Extension of bike trail into Town: Discussed Phase 2 of the project. Also discussed the different alternatives to crossing County Road V. Discussed the Park having off-road trails and Phase 2 is a road trail. Jason will return in February to discuss this further.
 - i. Trail land owned by Town along Hwy 35 and County Rd V
 - c. New processes for subdivisions: Discussed the new checklist received the Town received from Jason.
15. **MOTION** to go into Closed Session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c)(e) and (g) (Kruse/Marshall). Roll Call: Richard Hailey-Aye, Theresa Johnson-Aye, Chris Marshall-Aye, Justin Kruse-Aye, Dan Gavin-Not present for vote. **Motion carried.**
Closed Session:
 - a. Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c) for considering employment promotion, compensation or performance—Zoning Administrator annual review and compensation review.

- b. Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(g) – Conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.
 - i. Michaud junk yard
 - ii. Nik’s Joint
 - iii. Cox – unpermitted dwelling
 - c. Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(e) and (1)(g) - Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session / Conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved;
 - i. Stantec Resolution regarding Well and Fire Suppression System
16. **MOTION** to go into Open Session (Johnson/Kruse). Roll Call: Dan Gavin-Aye, Justin Kruse-Aye, Theresa Johnson-Aye, Chris Marshall-Aye, Richard Hailey-Aye. **Motion carried.** Move into Open Session.
17. Motions regarding any decision from closed session: None at this time.
18. Items for the next Town Board Agenda or committee agendas: Trash enclosure
19. Adjournment: **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:26 pm (Marshall/Kruse). **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by Teri Kelly