

MINUTES

JOINT MEETING of the PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE and TOWN BOARD

Town of St. Joseph - St. Croix County, Hudson WI

March 25, 4:00 PM

Meeting ID: 885 7464 6736 **Passcode:** 875046

CALL TO ORDER: By Janet Lindstrom at 4:01 PM

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE: (yes)

ROLL CALL: Janet Lindstrom (Remote), Nina Boonacker, Kyle Lindstrom (Remote), Pat Tuma, Tammie Kass, Town Supervisor: Dan Gavin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (yes)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: N. Boonacker 1st, T. D. Gavin 2nd^t, passed.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES: February 18, 2026 minutes approved by D. Gavin 1st, J. Lindstrom 2nd, passed.

Public Comment:

The Annual town meeting is set for April 1.

The Houlton School will be closing at the end of the 25-26 school year. A special event is being planned for families, friends, alumni, teachers and support staff on Sunday, May 30 from 2 pm-6 pm. The event will include a look back at the wonderful years we all enjoyed at Houlton School. There will be a program, food, games, shared memories and a chance to meet up with your friends.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS:

- 1. Committee Meeting updates:** None
- 2. Ball Field Reports:** No news from the Hudson Area Boosters.
- 3. Review of Budget:** The 2026 budget was approved as recommended by the PTR Committee. There was \$72.98 listed under Perch Lake Parking Lot. The committee was wondering what that was for.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of PTR 2026 Budget

An invitation will be extended to the new engineering firm to join us at a Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee Meeting.

Review and Discussion of ToSJ park properties, site inspections:

Town Hall Park and Prairie Area:

As a result of building the New Town Hall there are concerns that the public may walk off the edge of the picnic shelter into the rock drainage ditch on the east side of the town hall.

Suggestions to correct the problem include: A bridge, planting bushes, to reroute foot traffic or fencing the area west of the pavilion. Volunteers will be needed to update the signs at the kiosk and maintain the trails at the preserve. Buckthorn bids from last year will need to be sent out for 2026. There was discussion about the best time of year to address the Buckthorn concern, spring vs fall.

Nature Preserve

Changes are being made to new signage. Suggestions for the signage included adding mileage, trail color and descriptions. Laminated signs displaying local ordinances should be posted at the Preserve. Saw Whet Owls have been identified in the Nature Preserve. Several residents have come forward offering to provide nesting boxes for the owls. Three nesting boxes have been put up at the Preserve. The committee would like to invite John to the PTR meeting to talk about the Saw Whet Owls.

Perch Lake Boat Launch Area and Parking Lot:

Spring volunteer projects will include: Trash pickup, maintaining steps at boat launch and removing weeds along the stairways, boat launch and parking lot. Towing company should be able to provide signage so patrons know where their cars are being towed if they park illegally. Poles are needed for Perch lake parking lot.

Thelen Cemetery:

Volunteers are needed to address Buckthorn removal and clean up trails as needed. There may be possible damage and fallen tree branches from storms during the winter.

Hwy 35 Rest Area:

With the purchase of a new town tractor the area will be able to be mowed by the Town of St. Joseph. Area should be mowed three times: beginning of summer, midsummer and a fall clean up.

2. **Grant Information:** Dates are needed for the next grant cycle.

3. **Discuss appointment/renew of members and roles for April Meeting.**

Janet Lindstrom and Mark Vanasse will be retiring from the Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee. We would like to thank them for their years of dedicated service and hard work. Further discussion will take place at the March meeting.

4. **Volunteer Packet Information:**

- a. Each volunteer needs a volunteer information packet.
- b. Volunteers need to fill out the last page. It needs to be turned into the Town Hall office prior to volunteering. Volunteers keep the rest of the information.
- c. Volunteers should keep track of hours worked and at what site they are working. This information is valuable for grant writing.
- d. Each volunteer should be under the supervision of a PTR committee member. Committee members do not need to be onsite but should be in contact with volunteer if there are questions.
- e. All purchases need prior approval and receipts for reimbursement.

5. **Next Regular Meeting:** April 15, 2026 4:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn N. Boonacker 1st, D. Gavin 2nd, passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Tuma