



TOWN OF BLACK WOLF

380 E. Black Wolf Ave. Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902

Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2025

Supervisor I Mike Pollack called the regular monthly Town Board meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Members Present:** Chairman Frank Frassetto (remotely) and Supervisor II Beth Oswald. **Others Present:** Clerk Alex Snyder, Treasurer John McDermott, and Zoning Administrator Tom Verstegen.

MOTION (Oswald/Frassetto) to approve Town Board Minutes of August 11th, 2025. **CARRIED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- **MOTION (Frassetto/Oswald)** to approve August Treasurer's Report. **CARRIED**

CLERK'S REPORT:

- Clerk Snyder requests to schedule the 2026 budget workshops in October of 2025. Treasurer McDermott proposes Saturday October 11, 2025 at 8:00a.m. with a second date of Saturday October 25, 2025 at 8a.m. All Board Members and Clerk Snyder agreed.
- Clerk Snyder proposes the addition of an additional credit card for maintenance/highway employees as currently they are using the Clerks credit card for refueling and miscellaneous purchases. The Board agrees that another credit card can be ordered for maintenance/highway purchases.
- Clerk Snyder requests a motion to remove previous Supervisor II as an authorized Bank First signer and add Supervisor I Mike Pollack. **MOTION (Oswald/Frassetto). CARRIED.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Becker, Van Dyne Fire Department Chief, read a statement on behalf of the Van Dyne Fire Department regarding their opposition to Black Wolf Board voting to join neighboring communities for new EMS Services. Chief Becker expresses concerns regarding the distance between the confirmed Lifestar staffing location in the City of Omro paired with the second location still undetermined and how that may affect the emergency call response times in the Town. Chief Becker continued to vocalize support for the services provided by the City of Oshkosh, emphasizing the good response times and established relationships with the Van Dyne Fire Departments first responders. The Fire Department feels that there are remaining unanswered questions that warrant a pause on voting on this matter. Chief Becker then reviews the 116 Black Wolf emergency calls for the last fiscal year.

Barb G, County Rd Z, would like clarification on the per capita difference between the City of Oshkosh and the proposed EMS Services with LifeStar. Supervisor II Mike Pollack responds that he cannot provide that information as the Board has not been given definitive numbers from the City of Oshkosh as of the Board Meeting.

Dave G, County Rd Z, questions why there has not been more information released regarding potential changes with the EMS services.

Emily V, County Rd R, explains that her child has medical needs that require attention from emergency services/first responders. Expresses her concerns are that there are unanswered questions that she believes should be answered before the Board should vote on EMS Services.

Carson B, Van Dyne Fire Dept., expresses concern for response time as the VDFD may not always have a first responder available for a call and the good response times currently from the City of Oshkosh play a role in the patient care experience. He later asks how these changes with the per capita differences will impact the Town financially.

Carol W, Howlett Rd, asks if the cost of the ambulance service can be added to the tax bill. Supervisor II Mike Pollack confirms that is currently how the ambulance services are funded. She wonders what the per capita is expected to be and if the good services provided by the City of Oshkosh justifies the per capita rate.

Meg S, S US HWY 45, mentions that Lifestar services were used in the Town she lived in previously and they were responsible for a number of medical transports that she is concerned could affect response times here. Supervisor Pollack confirms that the new contract does not allow for transports with ambulances serving the Town.

Mike K, Lifestar Ambulance, wanted to address concerns expressed by residents. He mentions that until recently it was unknown what communities were definitively part of the agreement/contract which prevented them from deciding on a second location until this point. Mike states Lifestar is looking at multiple locations for a potential 2nd location including: Planeview Dr., Fisk & HWY 45, and the Town of Black Wolf Town Hall. He agrees with the concerns of Lifestar only coming from Omro to Black Wolf, but he confirms there will be a 2nd location within a close proximity to Black Wolf, it is just undecided where the actual location will be. He echoes Supervisor Pollack that the ambulances would be dedicated to the EMS calls and will not be doing transports per the contract. He addresses the timing of the discussions between the participating communities and Lifestar have been relatively recent due to the recent changes with the City of Oshkosh services. He also confirms he has had conversations with the Oshkosh Fire Department regarding assisting each other for Emergency Services. He believes the communities and Lifestar intend for this contract to be a long term agreement and that the contract clearly outlines the next 3 years of services whereas Oshkosh's agreement is for 1 year of services.

Crystal K, County Rd R, states her concern is if there is a minimum of 2 ambulances guaranteed, where will additional ambulances come from if there is a need as well as how potential staffing issues will be addressed.

Scott K, Stonewood Dr, expresses his concerns with entering into a contract with unknown questions still remaining including per capita numbers.

Larry M, Stonefield Dr. and a member of the VDFD, asks if the Board will consider the victimization of the first responders and fire fighters that may happen because of how response times may be affected. He emphasizes how the established relationships between the VDFD and City of Oshkosh First Responders impacts the quality of care within the Town and hopes the Board will consider that during their decision.

Skip M, Fisk Ave, expresses that residents may have heard more information regarding the EMS Discussions if they attended Board Meetings within the past year and also read local news outlets. He expresses his support with continuing the relationship with the City of Oshkosh Ambulance Services.

Jackie A, Stonewood Dr, expresses concerns with the timeline she feels is rushed and the existing questions. She expresses concerns that there is an Elementary School within our Town and how this may affect the students. Jackie also adds she feels there was not enough information to the residents from the Town regarding the EMS decisions. Supervisor Pollack notes that this has been an ongoing topic of conversation that has been on many Board Meeting Agendas and the Board Members have invested a significant amount of time into researching this topic.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chairman Frassetto provides an update on the swale just to the south of the former Pitz property. Frassetto will be meeting with the property owners as they determine what alternative they would like to further pursue.
- Frassetto discusses a request from a resident regarding the speed limit on US HWY 45 from 45mph to 35mph on the stretch that starts south of Lakeside School and goes to Fisk Ave. This will require action from the Town Board in the future but is on the agenda for discussion this evening. The Town makes a request to the DOT to review and it is determined by DOT whether there is a change in the speed limit. The Town does not have jurisdiction to change the speed limit. Frassetto agrees to draft the request and present to the Board for review.
- Discussion/Action on EMS Service: Frassetto clarifies every year in August the City of Oshkosh provides the Towns with an estimate of what the services will cost. In August of 2023 the City raised the cost by a significant amount which prompted these conversations. Frassetto explains there was not much information to share because things were changing at a rapid pace and at the risk of sharing inaccurate information he chose not to send anything out as it was a recurring agenda item on the monthly Board meetings. Included in the Board packet is an email communication with the Fire Chief in Waupun who had positive things to say regarding the services provided over the past approx. 15 years. He later mentions the only concern raised by the Fire Chief in Waupun was the topic of medical transports but Frassetto clarifies that the IGA contract does not allow for transports with the ambulances in our district. Frassetto highlights that the biggest unknown is the cost for services with the City of Oshkosh. Black Wolf is aware that the Town of Nekimi has chosen not to move forward with the City's proposal which will ultimately change the estimates provided to Black Wolf because the population of Nekimi is included in the cost per capita. Frassetto mentions it was requested to the city manager that Black Wolf be charged actual costs but the Attorney for the City advised they remain using estimates. Supervisor Oswald references the contract between the City and Black Wolf and mentions that the City requested a decision by the end of August 2025 but the Town responded that an extension was needed because the Board was not meeting until September 8th 2025. Frassetto also addressed the financial concerns raised by members of the public by stating part of the financial resources are built in to the per capita rate, there are also ongoing conversations about coming up with numbers within the intergovernmental agreement (IGA). The intentions are that costs for a 2nd location/structure added to the Black Wolf/Nekimi area will be split among the members of the IGA in the most cost effective way possible. Due to Budget decisions and meetings typically beginning in October, the Town and the City need a decision from the Town of Black Wolf. Supervisor Pollack comments that all who serve on the Town Board are residents of the Town and also have parents, children, and other family members who will be affected by this decision. Pollack reiterates the Board has not taken this decision lightly but does need to take into consideration a limited budget in addition to quality emergency services to make the best decision possible. He continues that he personally did a lot of research and thought into how this will affect the town long term and emphasized there are no grudges or ill feelings towards the emergency responders with the City of Oshkosh, this is simply a decision about what is best for the Town. Frassetto recalls when the Town received the letter from the City notifying the surrounding communities that services will be terminated a year early, with the exception of the Town of Black Wolf, Town of Nekimi and Town of Algoma. Black Wolf, Nekimi, and Algoma were given a proposal to extend services for 1 year because they wanted to spend additional time through 2026 to create potential plans of regional fire/ems services. Frassetto adds he is unclear on the long-term plan to provide services regionally as that information was requested but was not provided. Due to the recent challenges with the City and unclear long-term plans, Frassetto is more inclined to move forward with Lifestars three year contracted services. Frassetto continues to say that the positive feedback about the medical staff with the City of Oshkosh does not imply that Lifestar's staff is not just as good and highlights the long-term relationships held between Lifestar and other communities. Supervisor Oswald says her concerns are that the city cut the services to the Towns due to issues with staffing firefighters and responders because the call

volume was heavier than what staffing allowed. When services for Black Wolf, Nekimi, and Algoma were proposed for 2026, it was with a caveat that there would be a feasibility study to look into other options, but her primary concerns are not with the quality of services provided, but that in 1 year from now the city leadership could choose to send the notice terminating services, similar to what the other surrounding communities received this year. Not only concerned about the termination of services, she also expresses concerns about the unknown surrounding the costs with the City. She highlights that signing into a contract with Lifestar will guarantee services for 3 years and an ambulance located near the Town, possibly within the Town, is important to consider when the long-term plan with the City is unknown. Pollack agrees he is concerned by those points as well and expresses his support for this opportunity the Town has with Lifestar.

- **MOTION (Frassetto/Oswald)** to not accept the proposed 2026 Contract with the City of Oshkosh. Unanimously approved. **CARRIED.**

SUPERVISOR I REPORT:

- CSM 004-0345 & 004-0346 (East Side of County Rd R) was recommended by Planning & Zoning Committee for approval by the Town Board. Zoning Administrator Verstegen reviews access points to all proposed lots as presented. Frassetto requests clarification on the creation of the easements and Surveyor (CRL Surveying) was present and added that once the CSM is submitted the easements will also be recorded. All easements were permitted by the county contingent on approval of the presented CSM by the Town Board. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve CSM as presented. **CARRIED.**
 - This CSM has an associated Rezone Request for Lot 1 to rezone from Agriculture (A2) to Residential (R1). **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve rezone request for Lot 1 to be rezoned to Residential (R1). **CARRIED.**
- CSM 004-0332 & 004-0337-01 (West Side of County Rd R) was recommended by Planning & Zoning Committee for approval by the Town Board. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve CSM as presented. **CARRIED.**
 - This CSM has an associated Rezone Request for Lots 2 & 3 to be rezoned from Agriculture (A2) to residential (R1). Zoning Administrator Verstegen adds that these lots do not have sufficient road frontage to be zoned A2 and acknowledges these are larger lots than typical for Residential but this is an atypical situation due to the location of the railroad tracks. Pollack requests clarification of the access point for Lot 3 on the north side of the lot and CRL confirms that was confirmed with the County. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve rezone requests for Lots 2 & 3 to be rezoned to Residential (R1). **CARRIED.**
- CSM 004-0547 & 004-0547-01 (Kossel Property) located on Howlett Road & County Road Z. Pollack reviews the lots on the CSM and adds these have been reviewed previously and that it has been recommended by Planning & Zoning Committee for approval by the Town Board. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve CSM as presented. **CARRIED.**
- CSM 004-0413 (V&E Investments LLC/Dahl) located on Howlett Road. Verstegen reviews the CSM and adds this CSM has been recommended by Planning & Zoning committee for approval by the Town Board. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve CSM as presented. **CARRIED.**
- CSM 004-0490, 004-0490-04, 004-0490-01, 004-0490-02-01 (combining into 1 lot) (Henke) located on Country Club Road & County Road Z. Verstegen adds that one of the parcels is land-locked, so the proposed CSM would resolve that issue. This CSM was recommended by Planning & Zoning Committee for approval by the Town Board. **Motion (Pollack/Oswald)** to approve CSM as presented. **CARRIED.**

SUPERVISOR II REPORT:

- Supervisor Oswald confirms she confirmed the locations for the culverts on the 3 Vienola Properties LLC properties on Nekimi Ave.
- Supervisor Oswald received communications from the County Highway Dept that Nekimi approached the County regarding shoulder work on Old Oregon Rd. and half of the work is within the Town of Black Wolf and requested approval. County quoted around \$3000.00 to complete the work and Supervisor Oswald gave approval to the County.

- Supervisor Oswald adds that Ross Tyrivier with the County mentioned they have received inquiries for sight concerns on the Fisk/HWY 45 intersection. Oswald adds the Town Maintenance employee will trim back those trees and will reassess once repaving project is completed.

SANITARY DISTRICT REPORT:

STORMWATER UTILITY DISTRICT REPORT:

CONSTABLE'S REPORT:

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion (Frassetto/Oswald) to approve bills. Carried

ADJOURNMENT - Next Town Board Meeting: October 6th, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Town Clerk at (920) 688-1404. A quorum of the Sanitary District or other committees may attend, but no official action will be taken by them. Notice was posted at www.townofblackwolf.com, Town of Black Wolf Municipal Building, Condon Oil and Lakeshore Mart.