— The Fall Issue 2025 ——

Town of Black Wolf



Town of Black Wolf Board Selects a New Ambulance Service Provider

By Frank Frassetto, Chairman

At its September 8 meeting, the Town Board voted to decline a one-year contract proposal from the City of Oshkosh for Fire/EMS Services and instead approved a three-year agreement with Lifestar Emergency Medical Services, LLC based in West Bend. Lifestar will serve the Town as part of the Southern Winnebago EMS District.

Lifestar currently serves 38 communities across central and southeastern Wisconsin. To evaluate their performance, the Town reached out to a sample of municipalities already served by Lifestar, some for more than 20 years, to get feedback from elected officials and a fire chief. Respondents highlighted the company's strong response times, collaboration with local fire departments, and commitment to joint training. Based on these references and Lifestar's long-standing service history, the Board is confident that Town residents will continue to receive reliable, high-quality emergency medical care.

Background and Timeline

Over the past two years, the Town has worked with the City of Oshkosh and neighboring communities to address concerns related to ambulance service costs and delivery. In August 2023, the City of Oshkosh introduced a new cost methodology for EMS services, which led to significant rate increases for surrounding municipalities. This change came without prior consultation, despite contract language requiring mutual agreement on such matters. During initial discussions, the Town inquired about alternative cost-sharing models as opposed to the per capita currently in use. This idea was

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Mon-Tues | 11:00 a.m-4:00 p.m. Thurs-Fri | 11:00 a.m.-4:00p.m.



PH: 920-688-1404
Email: info@townofblackwolf.com
Web: www.townofblackwolf.com

rejected because basing it off population was much simpler and was not pursued further.

Subsequently, a group of surrounding towns formed a working group to collaborate with the City to address a number of issues.

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Dog Licensing Information

Town ordinance allows 3 dogs per residence and licensing is governed by WI Statutes. Applications can be found on the Towns website or at the Town Hall. Licenses cannot be processed without proof of current rabies vaccination. Applications, Rabies Vaccination, and Fee may be submitted via mail or drop-box.

Fees are \$5 for Neutered/Spayed & \$10 for Intact.

NOTICE TO TOWN OF BLACK WOLF SANITARY DISTRICT NO.1 RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

Letters have been mailed to customers informing them that we will be sending out the quarterly bills in letter-form beginning with the October 1, 2025, bill. We will no longer be sending postcards. Our new billing software also gives us the option to e-mail the sewer bills. If you are interested in receiving your quarterly bill via e-mail, instead of postal mail, please fill out the form entitled "New E-Bill Option" found on the Town of Black Wolf website, and return to us by mail, e-mail, or the drop box at our district office located at 6283 County Rd R, Oshkosh.

We still accept payments of cash, check, or money order. Please keep in mind that we are not set up to accept credit or debit card payments at this time. Remember also that you can pay the full amount due at the beginning of the year to not receive quarterly bills. In addition, customers now have the option to pay their bill via automatic debit. Any questions, please contact 920-233-2901.

Sincerely,
Town of Black Wolf Sanitary District No. 1 Commissioners

Tax Bill Reminders!

Tax bills are typically mailed out the 2nd week of December, here is a reminder on accepted methods of payment until January 31st, 2026

- 1. <u>Bank First</u> 1159 N. Koeller St. Oshkosh, WI during business hours M-F 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m. & drive thru hours M-F 8:00a.m.-5:30p.m.
- 2. <u>Mail or Drop-Box</u> to Town of Black Wolf 380. E. Black Wolf Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54902 with a check made payable to "Town of Black Wolf". Payments can be made in full or the amount of the 1st installment. The drop-box is located to the left of the Town Hall front door and is available 24/7. If you would like a receipt for these methods, please include a self-addressed and stamped envelope.
- 3. <u>In Person</u> during business hours at the Town Hall M-T 11:00a.m. & Th-F 11:00a.m.-4:00p.m. There are no appointments and there may be a wait time to process and complete your payment. We encourage you to use the above options to avoid wait times.



Please note that dog licenses are only issued at the Town Hall and the application, fee, and rabies vaccination can be submitted via mail or drop-box with a self addressed & stamped envelope for the receipt and dog tag.

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Topics included cost structures and inaccuracies, contract transparency, and improving communication. One positive result of these discussions was the development of a "phase in" model to spread cost increases over four years. This approached was memorialized in a Letter of Understanding from the City.

This briefly worked as costs stayed relatively static in 2023 and then increased slightly in 2024, as it was designed to do. However, the "phase in" approach only lasted one year.

By August 2024, the City informed participating municipalities that the phase-in agreement would no longer apply. Rates would increase to \$31.20 per capita in 2025, and potentially \$33.67 per capita if a fourth ambulance were to be added (See the fall 2024 newsletter or Town Board meeting minutes from October 2024 onward for details).

Despite renewed efforts in May/June of 2025 to rebuild collaboration with the City and the municipalities' efforts to explore a unified EMS district, discussions with the City stalled. In July 2025, Oshkosh announced it would terminate its EMS contract with surrounding municipalities effective December 31, 2025 – one year earlier than the original expiration date. While the City indicated a willingness to continue talks, communication was tepid and ultimately led to a narrowed focus on solely the Town of Algoma.

Black Wolf remained open to negotiation and requested inclusion in further discussions. On August 15, 2025, the Town received the City's proposed one-year EMS contract, with a response deadline at the end of the month. After careful review and comparison with the Southern Winnebago EMS District proposal, the Town Board voted on September 8 to decline the City's proposed one-year ambulance service agreement and chose to remain with the Southern Winnebago EMS District. As a result, ambulance services will be provided by Lifestar through the District contract beginning January 1, 2026.

Moving Forward

The Town of Black Wolf made this decision after an extensive evaluation of all available options, taking into account service quality, cost stability, long-term viability, and local control. Under Wisconsin Statutes 256.12(2) and 60.0301, the Town is responsible for ensuring adequate emergency medical service, and the new agreement with Lifestar reflects that responsibility.

We remain committed to providing professional, responsive, and cost-effective ambulance service for our residents and appreciate the community's support as we move in this new phase.





Agriculture & Household Hazardous Material Clean Sweep

Registration closes at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, October 27th!

Saturday, November 1, 2025

Village of Fox Crossing from 8-11:00 a.m.

Town of Black Wolf from 1-3:00 p.m.

Bring your unwanted:

Pesticides Gasoline

Herbicides Toxic Cleaners
Poisons Degreasers

Mercury Brake/Starter

Spray Paint Fluids

Solvents Lead & Oil-Based Misc. Chemicals Paints & Stains

For farmers, residents, and qualified businesses of Winnebago County.

Scan the QR code or call 920-232-1800 to schedule!







OTHER IMPORTANT DATES!

Oct 6 - P&Z Meeting 6p.m.

Oct 11 - Budget Workshop 8a.m.

Oct 13 - Board Meeting 7p.m.

Oct 25 - Budget Meeting 8a.m.

Nov 1 - Clean Sweep 1p.m.-3p.m.

Nov 3 - P&Z Meeting 6p.m.

Nov 10 - Board Meeting 7p.m.

Nov 27 & 28 - Office Closed, Thanksgiving

Dec 1 - P&Z Meeting 6p.m.

Dec 8 - Board Meeting 7p.m.

Dec 24 & 25 - Office Closed, Christmas

Building & Permits: Quick FAQ for Black Wolf Residents

We get lots of questions about permits and inspections — here's a quick rundown to help clear things up!

Q: What's the difference between a building registration form and a building permit?

A: In the Town of Black Wolf, a building permit (through DSPS) is only required for new residential construction. For everything else — like remodels, siding, or putting up a pole shed — you'll need a building registration form instead.



Q: How much does a building registration form cost?

A: Good news — it's free! You can grab one on the Town website or stop by the office to pick one up.

Q: If I don't need a building permit, do I still need other permits?

A: Possibly! You may still need a zoning permit, road access permit, erosion control, or others. Check the building registration form — it lists who to contact to confirm what applies to your specific project.

Q: I'm remodeling and need an inspection. Do I call the Town?

A: Nope — you can hire any qualified inspector you'd like. The Town only handles inspections for new residential builds through our contracted inspector.

Need more info or have a specific question? Reach out to the Town Office or visit our website: www.townofblackwolf.com

Tombstone Restoration

Submitted by: Mona Schultz

On Father's Day we visited the New Elm Cemetery (old section) where my late husband, Harry, is buried. We noticed many tombstones were covered with mold, moss and lichen and inscriptions were unreadable. Randy, Jason and I decided to embark on the project of cleaning every tombstone. There are 13 rows and we have finished four of them so far. The extremely hot weather slowed our progress, but we hope to resume our Sunday afternoon restoration work. If anyone would like to join us, send an email to the town at

in fo@town of black wolf. com.







TOWN OF BLACK WOLF

380 E. Black Wolf Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54902 M-T 11-4, Th-F 11-4

www.townofblackwolf.com

PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID Oshkosh, WI Permit no. 122

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Black Wolf Sanitary District

(920) 233-2901

GFL

(920) 685-0771

Bowmar Appraisal Specialist

(920) 733-5369

Diggers Hotline

800-242-8511 or 811

DNR (local office)

(920) 424-3050

Land & Water Conservation

(920) 232-1950

Oshkosh Humane Society

(920) 424-2128

Van Dyne Post Office

(920) 688-5566

Winnebago County Clerk

(920) 232-3430

Winnebago County Health Dept

(920) 232-3020

Winnebago County Treasurer

(920) 232-3420

Winnebago County Zoning

(920) 232-3340

Wisconsin Public Service

800-450-7260

Register to Vote! www.myvotewi.gov

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

Held the 2nd Monday of each month at the town hall. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Agendas and minutes are posted on the website. Minutes are not posted until approved the following month.

PLANNING & ZONING MEETINGS

Held the 1st Monday of each month at the town hall. Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. Agendas and minutes are posted on the website.

STORMWATER UTILITY DISTRICT

Held the 3rd Monday, bimonthly at 6:00 p.m.