



VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Kronenwetter Municipal Center - 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Board Room (Lower Level)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Village President David Baker called the April 28, 2025 Village Board Meeting to order at 6 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance were invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

PRESENT: Village President David Baker, Trustee Ken Charneski, Trustee Aaron Myszka, Trustee Craig Mortensen, Trustee Sandi Sorensen, Trustee Dan Joling, Trustee Jessica Stowell

STAFF: Community Development Director Peter Wegner, Public Works Director Greg Ulman, Interim Finance Director John Jacobs and Clerk Jennifer Poyer

GUESTS: Marathon County Supervisor Rick Seefeldt

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jordan Wadle-Leff, 882 W. Nelson Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – Clerk Poyer read a public comment submitted by Wadle-Leff. She commented on her Administrative Policy Committee membership and the action taken to remove her from the committee. Comment attached to minutes.

Monte Sorensen, 1946 Deerwood Trail, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – Sorensen commented on his dismay with the Marathon County's intention to build a highway facility in Kronenwetter. He said there has been no communication to Kronenwetter leaders or residents regarding their intentions. He also spoke regarding agenda item 5I. Committee, Commission, and Board Appointments. He said there should be new members on the committees offering a fresh outlook. He does not support putting a former trustee on a committee.

Bernie Kramer, 2150 Highway 153, Peplin, WI 54455 – Kramer spoke regarding the recent budget adjustments. He said he would like to see the consequences of moving the money around to make up the budget shortfall for debt payments. He said there needs to be a plan of how the changes will affect the future.

Ariel Scheftgen, 2384 Old Highway 51, Kronenwetter, WI 54455– Scheftgen said her house is up for purchase by Marathon County due to their intent to build a highway facility. She said the county did not look at the counter offer they provided but offered to buy her home at fair market value. She said they are planning to build a fence around her house instead of purchasing.

3. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS

C. Interim Finance Director Report

Interim Finance Director John Jacobs explained his report to the Village Board. He said he was close to having the 2024 Village Budget completed. Changes to the makeup of his future reports were suggested by trustees.

D. Public Works Director Report

Public Works Director Greg Ulman presented his report. He mentioned the May 6, 2025 Public Information Meeting regarding the construction project on Kronenwetter Drive. He said he finished the recycling report. He explained a CMAR report to board members inquiring.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Poyer.

Approved on

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E. Community Development Director Report

Community Development Director Peter Wegner presented his report. He answered questions regarding Denyon Home's interest in Village property and their future subdivision plan.

F. Village President Report- Additional Assigned Duties

Village President David Baker presented his report. He added he signed a contract with VanderWaal Law and accepted the resignation of former attorney, Lee Turonie. He said he had a meeting scheduled with Marathon County Administrator Lance Leonhard.

4. OLD BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

G. Assignment of Functions and Duties of Administrator During Absence of an Administrator

Motion by Mortensen/Sorensen to extend the duties of the administrator for six more weeks (June 9, 2025) and send the following items to the Administrative Policy Committee for discussion and recommendation:

- *Hiring and internal transfers within the Village staff*
- *Village president attending meetings*

Motion carried by roll call vote. 7:0.

Discussed the current situation, past hiring practices and duties needed to be completed in an administrator role.

5. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

H. Update on Proposed County Highway Facility by Marathon County Board Supervisors

No action taken.

Marathon County Supervisor Rick Seefeldt explained how he learned of the Marathon County proposed highway facility in Kronenwetter. He explained the county's committee and voting process of the matter. He answered questions from board members. Board members questioned why there was no communication between the county and village officials and residents. There was discussion of the effect on the Village's resources including roads and utilities.

I. Committee, Commissions, and Board Appointments

Motion by Charneski/Sorensen to adopt Resolution 2025-006 A Resolution Appointing Citizen Members and Trustees to Various Committees, Commission and Boards. Motion carried by roll call vote. 5:2.

Voting yea- Baker, Charneski, Mortensen, Sorensen, Joling; Voting nay-Myszka, Stowell.

Bakers said he spent about 30 hours speaking with citizens, committee members and trustees regarding the appointments. He said he tried to make appointments that represented the entire Village and create committees with good chemistry.

Jordan Wadle-Leff's removal from APC was questioned and discussed. Alex Vedvik's placement on the Utility Committee was called into question because citizens voiced concerns to board members. Board members discussed the positive aspects of his appointment.

Trustees were encouraged to pass the resolution as a package deal or cut it apart and vote on it in sections.

J. Procedure for First Committee Meetings

Motion by Sorensen/Charneski to add the following items to the May 15, 2025 Administrative Policy Agenda:

- *Finance Director Report*
- *Attorney service RFP*
- *Update and review of employee handbook*
- *Close session regarding administrator applicants*

Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Motion by Mortensen/Charneski to allow the committee clerk to create the agenda with assistance from staff members, Village president, Village trustees, committee members and previous meeting items for the first committee meetings in May 2025. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Poyer.

Approved on

Discussed past practices regarding building the first committee agendas.

Motion by Sorensen/Joling to approve the clerk conduct the first committee meetings until the chairperson is nominated and approved. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed past practices regarding the first committee meetings.

Motion by Joling/Charneski to approve that the duties of the Administrative Policy Committee, CLIPP Committee and Utility Committee will be verbally detailed and reviewed by the committee by the Village clerk or Village president per Village Ordinances 14.20 (F), 14.21(F), 14.22(F). Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed the information found in the named ordinance.

K. Open Book and Board of Review Date and Training

Motion by Mortensen/Stowell to approve the proposed Board of Review dates and designate Trustee Stowell to complete the Board of Review training per Wis. Stats 73.03(55). Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed the timeline for the Board of Review and assessor's request to move it back due to new CAMA system, etc. Discussed the need for a member to complete the training to meet state statute requirements.

L. Possible Date Change for May 26, 2025 Village Board Meeting

Motion by Myszka/Mortensen to change the regular Village Board meeting date from Monday, May 26, 2025 to Thursday, May 29, 2025 due to the holiday. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed what dates would work best for board members.

6. CONSENT AGENDA - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

M. Operator "Bartender" License – Tina M. Sitko

N. Revised March 24, 2025 Village Board Minutes

O. April 14, 2025 Village Board Meeting Minutes

P. April 17, 2025 Special Village Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve agenda items M,O and P. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed further revisions to Item N. Revised March 24, 2025 Village Board Minutes.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Discussion of attorney change in a possible closed session

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Charneski/Myszka to adjourn the April 28, 2025 Village Board Meeting. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Public Comment to the Village Board Meeting - 4/28/25

Good evening,

Jordyn Wadle-Leff, 882 W Neslon Rd. - I have been a proud and active member of this village since moving here in 2018. From the moment I arrived, I sought ways to contribute meaningfully to our community. Over the years, I have served on the CLIPP and RDA Committees, then the Administrative Planning Committee (APC), and most recently, I joined our Fire Department as a first responder and firefighter. My commitment has always been to support the village to the best of my ability.

I am providing public comment tonight to share my concerns regarding recent actions taken by President Baker. President Baker recently called me and requested my resignation from the APC. I was provided no reason for this request, other than a suggestion that it would create a more positive perception if I resigned rather than being removed.

Had President Baker asked about my recent attendance at APC meetings, he would have learned that from January through April 2025, I have been attending the Firefighter Certification Course at NTC — a significant time commitment directly benefiting the village. In preparation for this, I had communicated with President Voll about my schedule and it was agreed that my APC attendance would be excused while I completed the course, recognizing its value to the community. My attendance to APC will not be an issue going forward.

Additionally, I respectfully disagree with President Baker's restructuring of the APC, specifically the removal of myself and Terry. I voiced my concerns to him directly, noting that these changes were premature and overlooked the strong, balanced makeup of the committee. With Terry's expertise as a finance professional, Mary's legal expertise as an attorney, and my background in human resources, the committee was well-equipped to tackle some of the village's most pressing financial challenges.

However, our effectiveness has been severely limited. In over a year, the committee has not been provided a budget or financial statements. If the expectation is for the APC to function at its fullest potential, then we must be given the appropriate information and resources to do so.

In closing, my intent has always been — and remains — to serve this village with integrity and dedication. I hope that moving forward, decisions will be made with transparency, respect, and a genuine commitment to leveraging the talents and experiences of those willing to volunteer their time and skills for the betterment of our community.

Thank you for your time.