



# VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 09, 2026 at 6:00 PM

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

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## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

*President Dan Joling called the March 9, 2026 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:** *President Dan Joling, Trustee Ken Charneski, Trustee Aaron Myszka, Trustee Craig Mortensen, Trustee Sandi Sorensen, Trustee Jessica Stowell*

**STAFF:** *Public Works Director Greg Ulman, Community Development Director Peter Wegner, Finance Director John Jacobs, Fire Chief Theresa O'Brien, Police Chief Terry McHugh, Clerk Jennifer Poyer*

## 2. MOTION TO MOVE AGENDA ITEMS

*No items were moved.*

## 3. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

*No comments were made.*

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Faye Buchberger – 824 W. Nelson Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455** – *Buchberger's comment was read by the Village clerk. It is attached to the minutes.*

**Tim Shaw – 1225 Autumn Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455** – *Shaw's comment was read by the Village clerk. It is attached to the minutes.*

**Bernie Kramer – 2150 E. State Hwy. 153, Peplin, WI 54455** – *Kramer spoke against the permit for the sand mine.*

**Dan Lesniak – 816 Spring Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455** – *Lesniak introduced himself as one of the applicants seeking the vacant trustee seat. He said he previously served in the trustee role for 16 years.*

**Ken Maciaz – 3883 Martin Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455** – *Maciaz addressed the recent discussion of an ethics committee. He said he is in support of an ethics committee and said it would help the board.*

**Guy W. Fredel – 2240 Ruby Drive, Kronenwetter, WI 54455** – *Fredel addressed the Official Map of the Village. He said recent legal and political activity could affect the possibility of the Kowalski Interchange.*

## 5. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS

### C. Police Chief Report

*Police Chief Terry McHugh presented his report. He mentioned the KPD's and Kronenwetter Fire Department's involvement with the recent JD Vance detail. He answered a question regarding authorization to carry a firearm into the Municipal Center.*

### D. Fire Chief Report

*Fire Chief Theresa O'Brien presented her report. She mentioned three homes off Old Highway 51 would be used for training. The homes have been purchased by Marathon County.*

- E. Administrator Report**  
*Police Chief Terry McHugh commented on the reasoning behind not posting the animal complaint fees online.*
- 6. OLD BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
- F. RESOLUTION 2026-001 - Order Granting a Conditional Use Permit for Milestone Materials to Allow Non-Metallic Mineral Extraction in the Village of Kronenwetter**  
**Discussed omissions in conditions including time limit, amount mined per year, equipment limits**  
*Motion by Joling/Myszka to accept the Resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. 4:2. Voting yea – Joling, Myszka, Mortensen, Stowell; Voting nay – Charneski, Sorensen*  
*Members discussed Resolution 2026-001; conditions omitted from the document; Village legal fees paid by Milestone; residential nuisance; expansion of the mine from 11 to 17 acres; process shortcuts; relocation of the mine; reclamation plan; approval deadline; and new application submitted. Community Development Director Peter Wegner answered questions from the board members.*
- G. Milestone Mine Conditional Use Permit Actions Taken**  
*Motion to release the information from Municipal Law regarding Trustee Charneski's questions regarding the appeal. Motion carried by voice vote. 6:0.*  
*Discussed whether the decision from the attorney should be released.*
- 7. CONSENT AGENDA - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
- H. January 27, 2026 Special Village Board Meeting Minutes (Pulled from the Consent Agenda)**  
*Motion by Charneski/Mortensen to accept the minutes as amended. Motion carried by voice vote. 6:0.*
- I. February 23, 2026 Village Board Meeting Minutes**
- J. February 26, 2026 Village Board Meeting Minutes**  
*Motion to approve the consent agenda item of February 23 and February 26 Minutes. Motion carried by voice vote. 6:0.*
- 8. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
- K. Trustee Appointment**  
*Charneski nominated Dan Lesniak. Tied roll call vote. 3:3. Voting yea – Joling, Charneski, Sorensen; Voting nay – Myszka, Mortensen, Stowell*  
*Myszka nominated Alex Vedvik. Tied roll call vote. 3:3. Voting yea – Myszka, Mortensen, Stowell; Voting nay – Joling, Charneski, Sorensen*  
*Second roll call vote nominating Dan Lesniak - 6:0.*  
*Candidates were invited to address the board. Alex Vedvik, Rick Smith, James Wysocki, Kevin Balk, Dan Lesniak, Adam Zygarlicke and Christopher Tilton spoke to the board members and answered questions from the members.*
- L. Official Map Objectives (CLIPP)**  
*Motion by Myszka/Sorensen to leave the Official Map unchanged. Motion carried by roll call vote. 4:2. Voting yea – Myszka, Mortensen, Sorensen, Stowell; Voting nay – Joling, Charneski*  
*Trustee Ken Charneski and Community Development Director Peter Wegner gave an overview of this agenda item. Discussed why this would be beneficial. Guy Fredel was asked to speak to his information presented during the Public Comment portion of the meeting regarding the Kowalski Interchange. Board discussed possible Kowalski Interchange in the future.*
- M. RESOLUTION 2026-004 - Village of Kronenwetter 2025 MS4 Annual Report (UC)**  
*Motion by Mortensen/Myszka to approve Resolution 2026-004. Motion carried by voice vote. 6:0.*  
*Public Works Director Greg Ulman gave an overview of this item.*

**N. Kronenwetter Parcel 14527071220029 Sale**

*Motion by Sorensen/Stowell to not consider buying this. Motion carried by roll call vote. 6:0. Community Development Director Peter Wegner provided an overview of this item. Finance Director John Jacobs presented the possible cost of the property.*

**O. Engagement with von Briesen & Roper, s.c. for Legal Services**

*No action taken. President Joling was tasked with discussing an approximate cost of the investigation with the attorneys. Joling mentioned a possible special meeting.*

**9. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

*No items were considered.*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Stowell/Myszka to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. 6:0.*

*Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.*

DRAFT

Faye Buchberger  
824 W Nelson Road  
Kronenwetter

Trustees:

When the Wisconsin Election Commission released its decision on the four complaints filed by Kronenwetter residents, it was determined that our old Clerk, Bobbi Birk-LaBarge, violated Wisconsin law at many stages in her tenure here. Three of the four cases were upheld, and a fourth was dismissed, but largely addressed among the other three cases. Should you wish information on this, please reach out to me.

I requested a conference call with President Joling and Administrator Davel to discuss the matter. When I expressed my opinion on the significance of this determination on the upcoming election, President Joling was respectful and professional. Administrator Davel ....well, I wasn't clear what to think. I heard anger, frustration and a general lack of respect for my concerns.

FLAGS went up!

I asked staff members their impression of the call. They stated they noticed a lot of yelling and anger, during the meeting and after the meeting, through the walls of the office.....

MORE FLAGS went up!

Then there was a closed session about an employee concern. Closed session. But there were squealing tires, yelling and cussing, and threats made against employees and trustees. Since then Administrator Davel has been 'working from home'.

Many Flags now!!

With an open records request, I find an email that tells the recipients that there is an investigation into Administrator Davel's behavior. We are not privy to what transpired, as it is confidential, but Von Brisen law firm (yes, the same law firm that handled the Bobbi-Ken matter) has been retained to complete this investigation.

Holy Cow! We need more negative publicity!!

I cannot understand WHY anyone accused of misbehavior resulting in a unanimous decision to hire Von Brisen would be placed on 'Work at home' status. For the defendant's sake and all employees, trustees and others, this person needs to be placed on Administrative Leave!!! There is no explanation that should allow for an accused to be 'taking staff aside' and questioning them. NONE.

We cannot afford to mishandle this investigation like the investigation regarding Bobbi and Ken.

Yes, the Bobbi vs Ken matter was mishandled. There was continuing interaction between the parties that escalated the issue. We waited too long to address concerns and both Bobbi and Ken's rights were violated. President Voll did not act, and he allowed Ludi to take control without any board approval to do so. Please recall, or listen to the board meeting, where President Baker stated that Von Briesen apologized for the work on the Bobbi-Ken mess. They stated that it took way too long, was way too expensive and did not adequately investigate the situation. Given this, attempts to use the von Briesen report as a template should be avoided. Since both attorneys responsible for the contents of the report have left Von Briesen, they offer a fair investigation into the current matter.

Lastly, we have a history of 'manipulating the law' for our advantage. Our previous attorney Tournie actually recommended it in a board meeting! He justified the Von Briesen report based upon this assertion. But we seem to not have learned our lesson: we MUST follow the law or be held accountable.

Now we have a situation where it appears that the planning commission decision was overturned by the board. There are specific state statutes that govern an appeal hearing. An appeal hearing can ONLY address the materials and decisions made at the PC hearing. A determination of 'we uphold' or 'we do not uphold' the decision are the only two options. In the case of a reversal, every member MUST present their reasoning for overturning the previous decision. ONLY things presented in the original application and PC hearing can be considered. If anything else, like a 'letter of interest' is introduced, it must be accomplished through a new application. Not an appeal.

Thank you. Please place Administrator Davel on Administrative Leave immediately while this investigation proceeds. Please do not sign the Resolution in front of you. Instead, direct Milestone materials to file a new application and make sure this is done according to the law.

Dear Board of Trustees,

I have learned that the Village is proposing to hire the Von Briesen & Roper law firm for some type of HR/labor investigation. Quite frankly, I am surprised that the village is willing to do business with von Briesen.

I want to caution the Village on hiring that firm based on their past performance for the Village when they hired the Von Briesen firm to do something very similar. The report they produced for the Village was far from an independent unbiased investigation. As a Trustee at the time they were hired, I had personal knowledge of at least two of the Village staff not telling the truth in comments they made regarding the issue being investigated. I petitioned the Von Briesen law firm, our village president Chris Voll and our village attorney, at the time, requesting to be interviewed by the person performing the investigation, because of the knowledge I had obtained. In addition, it appeared to me that the Village clerk and our attorney were directing the firm in their investigation, which further biased the report.

In short, the Village hired the Von Briesen & Roper firm in the past and they did not produce an unbiased report since the evaluator relied on false information from at least 2 village employees and failed to interview all parties that had very relevant information. It is my firm, and substantiated, opinion that the report they generated for the Village previously, is very biased and essentially worthless. I caution the Village in hiring them to perform yet another investigation, because they have proven that they will not do what the Village wants, and it could result in a big liability for the Village.

Thanks for taking the time to read and consider my public input.

Tim Shaw

1225 Autumn Rd.

Kronenwetter, WI 54455

