

## TOWN BOARD MEETING

JUNE 18, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of Supervisors, Town of Florence met on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Florence Community Center with Chairman Jim Gehlhoff and Supervisors Tom Tuchalski and Shane McLain present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, a motion made by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski the agenda was approved as posted. All in favor, motion carried.

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The minutes of the previous meetings, held on June 9, 2025 & June 16, 2025, were approved on a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski. All in favor, motion carried.

Amanda Mulvey and Cory Roell from Florence County EMS attended the meeting at the request of the board to give an update on the status of the Florence County EMS. Informational packets were given to the board and those in attendance. Copies of the packet will be available in the Town Office. Amanda and Cory explained the plan moving forward in regards to the buildings, maintenance and operations. They explained what the per capita amount was and why it was put into place. They gave an update on what has been spent from the tax levies collected by Florence County for EMS and explained that the money that was collected, but hasn't been spent was set aside for the building projects. It was noted that the County will mostly likely need to borrow money to complete the EMS building projects as the construction costs keep rising. The board also inquired as to whether a contract exists, and Mulvey explained that the only contract that exists is Popple River due to the fact that are out of the County. She noted that each of the Towns in Florence County have signed MOUs in place and the County's attorney stated that was good enough.

Supervisor Tuchalski gave an update regarding the Spread Eagle Fire Hall Information received from ISG. He stated that after the annual meeting he began asking questions and looking into this further. A copy of the information received from ISG was given to those in attendance. Copies are also available in the Town Office. Tuchalski stated that due to the fact that this site was a former Town dump, it would be expensive to do the testing and possible remediation before the Town would even know if the site was a viable site to use, which could cost over \$100,000.

Chairman Gehlhoff then invited those in attendance to ask questions regarding the Spread Eagle Fire Hall and Florence County EMS. Residents questioned how the former town dump site was picked, why this potential project became a topic of discussion, how it would be paid for, what the insurance cost savings would be, what the ISO requirements are, and if the board was side stepping on this project. Gehlhoff explained that the original motion was advisory to the board at the annual meeting to move forward with this project, which is what the board did when they investigated to find more information.

Those in attendance also had questions regarding the EMS including how many employees are currently hired and what licenses they had, how much employees are being paid with concern that they needed to be adequately paid for the level of responsibility that they have due to the nature of the job.

Sheriff Chrisman addressed the board and those in attendance stating she was trying to get to all the different town board meetings in Florence County to just meet the boards and let them know if they needed anything in the future, they just needed to call her. Chrisman also commended the EMS for the work that they have done stating that she believes in the future other towns and counties will be looking at Florence County as the example.

Supervisor McLain made a motion to put the Spread Eagle Fire Hall to bed. Gehlhoff stated that the board doesn't have enough information to do that at this point, and McLain states that the agenda says discussion and possible action. Tuchalski stated that for the time being he doesn't think that the board should put any more action into it given what the board has learned. One of the meeting attendees asked if it could be tabled and then a motion could be made at the next meeting, which is what Gehlhoff would like to see done. McLain stated he would like to see it done and that he had a motion on the table. Gehlhoff said yes table it that's fine. Tuchalski seconded it. Gehlhoff called for the vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to approve Resolution #06-18-2025 – Resolution Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from Proceeds of Borrowing for Florence Utility Water Tower Rehab. All in favor. Motion carried. A copy of the resolution is available in the Town Office.

On a proposal by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was approved to purchase a John Deere 650 Bulldozer from McCoy Construction and Forestry as a joint purchase with Florence Utility. All in favor. Motion carried.

On a proposal by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was approved to accept gravel crushing proposal opened at the Special Town Board Meeting on June 16 from James Peterson Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$5.07 per yard. All in favor. Motion carried.

The board discussed a capital improvement plan proposal they received from ISG. After some discussion with utility employees in the audience, the board asked for a meeting to be set with Michael from ISG so they could ask questions about what the proposal included, what input the town would have, etc. Clerk/Treasurer Klumpp will setup that meeting.

The board discussed the possibility of ordering dust control for Town of Florence roads from Florence County Highway. Gehlhoff explained that it is expensive at \$1.99 a gallon and a full tanker is 4200 gallons. Highway Foreman Steber asked the board to wait until after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to purchase noting that it does stay in the ground for awhile after it has been applied, so the roads currently aren't bad. He stated that it was supposed to rain off and on for the next couple of weeks, and they were hoping to grade the roads after the 4<sup>th</sup> and then if it didn't rain it would be dusty.

There were no new operator licenses to approve.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to approve the renewal of following Liquor License Applications for the term 07-01-25 to 06-30-26. All in favor, motion carried.

Class A Liquor Licenses: Copper Lining of WI, LLC – dba Pat's Foods; Family Dollar Stores of WI, LLC – dba Family Dollar Store #31010; Krist Oil Co., Inc – dba Krist Food Mart #63; Madi, LLC – dba Bigfoot Liquor.

Class B Liquor Licenses: Audra's Corp – dba The Chuckwagon; Chamfered Center, LLC – dba Encore on Central; Chamfered Center, LLC – dba Maxsells Suites & Celebrations; Crafters on Central, LLC – dba Crafters on Central; DE Clarkson Enterprises, Inc. – dba Gold Nugget; El Capitan Supper Club; Headquarters Bar, Inc – dba JR's Pub & Grill; Lakeside B&B, LLC – dba Lakeside Bed & Breakfast; Millar & Huth, LLC – dba The Mine Shaft Bar & Grill; Saloon No 2 of Spread Eagle, WI – dba Saloon No 2; Spread Eagle Golf Course, Inc – dba Spread Eagle Golf Course; SSA Restaurants – dba Ash's Restaurant; Trace Holdings, LLC – dba The Filling Station; Villa's Lakeside Market, LLC – dba Villa's Lakeside Market; Village Pub of Silver Lake, Inc – dba Tavern on Central.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to approve the following new/original Class "A" Beer Applications for the term 07-01-25 to 06-30-26 for ACR Wisconsin, LLC – dba ACR Wisconsin, LLC. All in favor, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Klumpp reported to that due to the fact that this meeting date was changed, the vouchers were not available to be approved since the bills that come in the second part of the month have not come in yet. Klumpp stated that the list would be sent to the chairman to approve next week just like what was done in May when the second meeting was canceled. Klumpp also provided the board with a handout and information that was setup to have residence sign-up to received SMS text messages and e-mail messages from the Town with Constant Contact. The board inquired as to how to let the public know that they could sign up for this service. Klumpp indicated that it was on the website and could be added to the Facebook page. She also stated that they could approach the utility about putting something in the monthly utility bills stating that it wouldn't cover everyone, but it would be a good start. It could also be added as an insert when the tax bills are sent out in December.

Under board concerns one of the meeting attendees brought up the Spread Eagle Fire Hall again stating that by tabling it that it then needs to be added as an agenda item. There was discussion with the board members on what their understanding was of the motion that was voted on. Tuchalski stated that for clarification he wanted to state that it's been 10 years and the Spread Eagle Fire Hall project is done. There's nothing more the town can do right now.

Another meeting attendee brought up the fact that since a large group of the public left/were in the process of leaving after communication from the floor ended that she wasn't sure the public realized the motion that was on the table to end this project. There was more discussion with the board. Chairman Gehlhoff asked Clerk/Treasurer Klumpp for clarification, and she stated that McLain made the motion and Tuchalski seconded it. Gehlhoff then stated "so be it." There was more discussion by the board after which the reporter from the Mining News stated that to be clear that it was not voted to be tabled it was voted to be done at that site. Gehlhoff confirmed, yes at that site.

There was more discussion by the board. It was noted that if a Capital Improvement Plan is done by the Town that can include the Fire Department as well to determine what they have and what they need in the future.

There being no further business it was moved by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. until July 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Florence Community Center.

Submitted by:

Jessica Klumpp  
Clerk Treasurer