

Town of Sand Lake
Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, February 10th, 2025

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairwoman Melanie Connor Johnson.
- Roll Call of Officers – All present.
- Public Notice of the meeting was made on February 9th in both physical locations (Town Hall & Town Shop) and on February 8th on the website.
- Approval of Agenda Order – Motion to approve the agenda by Supervisor Ken Pardun, second by Supervisor Karolyn Kroll. All in favor, motion carried.
- Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting on 01/13/2025 & Caucus on 01/18/2025 – Motion to approve both sets of minutes by Supervisor Kroll, second by Supervisor Pardun. All in favor, motion carried.
- Public Comments – Sand Lake residents who wish to make a public comment need to state their comment to an agenda item, state their name and address so it can be recorded in the minutes, and use a maximum of three minutes.

None.

- Chair Report – On 01/13 the Short-Term Rental Meeting was held, and they provided Town with a list of properties and owners currently operating Short-Term Rentals, will be receiving a compliancy letter from the County. She shares the list with the Board. On 01/14 she received a phone call from a property owner, Tom Steele, who was interested in converting his property currently 2/40 acre parcels to smaller 2.5 acre parcels. His property is located within the boundaries of shoreland zoning, he had already talked to Jason Towne, but the answer he got was not what he wanted, so he thought the town could influence the county if we approved of smaller lots. She directed him back to the Land Use and Zoning Office and reached out to Jason Towne with a summary of my conversation with Mr. Steele. On 01/15, she was contacted by De Anna Westphal requesting Mosaic Technologies, request to be added to the Agenda for tonight in consideration of their WI BEAD Application. On 01/21, Beth Esser provided her with an update on the Viola Lake Solar Project. They have completed an environmental assessment that will be published in the Burnett County Sentinel soon. Construction is scheduled to begin later this year. The WTA Meeting was held on 01/23. There was a lot of conversation about the LRIP Program and the changes to how the program is decided. To be eligible for an award we need to identify a project, publish the RFP with that language included, and collect traffic count data. The County is offering chainsaw safety classes, forwarded that information to Brad. Safety training is important not only for the wellbeing of our workers, but to protect the town from insurance challenges if an accident happens. Ambulance Report: 2024 Qtr 4 Sand Lake 8 Calls for Service average response time was 12:50 Minutes. On 01/27, Waste Management sent a letter requesting a Road Ban exemption letter, question are there any roads that would not be included in the exemption, any roads that would be closed to garbage trucks? If none, she will reply granting permission Waste Management collection on all Sand Lake Roads during spring road bans. None per Brad. On 02/05, Cedar Corp Bridge Inspection Report released to Town, no major changes to the condition of Town's three Bridges. Some minor fixits that Brad and his crew can tackle in the spring. Emerson's spall repair is still noted as need for repair – no change for 10+ years. This is

an expensive \$300k+ repair. The safety rating of the bridges has not changed. No weight limits or closures recommended.

- Clerk Report – Email from Summit Locations re: zoning regulations or ordinances as it relates to signs and the construction of signs. Email from Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) for a survey on regional broadband in unserved or underserved communities, specifically asking if the building has an open public Wi-Fi internet connection. Our Town Hall does not. Regular book work. Preparing for Form CT Report due in May.
- Deputy Clerk Report – Spring Primary Election on 02/18/2025. Testing for the equipment was done at Tolbert home due to temperatures in Town Hall. Asks Roads Supervisor Brad Huser to turn heat on in Town Hall on 02/17/2025.
- Treasurer Report – The Equipment Fund account balance as of 01/31/2025 was \$26,138.24. The General Fund account balance as of 01/31/2025 was \$769,452.70, with total additions of \$610,951.24 and total subtractions of \$140,598.69. A summary of additions/credits include \$29,294.81 in quarterly General Transportation Aid from the State of Wisconsin, taxes in the amounts of \$65,214.37, \$16,794.38, \$69,016.45, \$88,099.52, \$110,062.00, \$57,092.60, \$88,721.45, \$86,636.12, and interest of \$9.36. Total tax deposits for January were \$610,931.70. As of 02/10, \$876,814.00 has been collected, which is about 73%. Tax checkout process completed at Burnett County today 02/10. Motion to approve the report by Supervisor Pardun, second by Supervisor Kroll. All in favor, motion carried.
- Supervisors Reports – Supervisor Pardun got a phone call from Roger Tollander on 01/22 about his parcels. Crystal Houman referred Vickie Tollander to the County’s Register of Deeds. Supervisor Pardun introduces Matt Richards as the new road worker, helps greatly with road items and plowing. Matt is interested in getting a CDL, Supervisor Pardun wants the Board to consider funding the CDL courses for Matt. Chairwoman Johnson agrees, asks Brad to look at courses and costs and bring back an estimate. Hotsy information from Chairwoman Johnson to Supervisor Pardun and Brad, Brad will call the guy. Supervisor Kroll has nothing to report.
- Planning Commission Report – Nothing to report.
- Road Report – Plowing snow. Matt has been operating on the grader. Andy is on light duty, using a plow for the front-end loader (right/left angle plow). About two loads of salt remain, will have to make an order. Maintenance of equipment. Red truck needs to go into the shop for a starting issue. LRIP Program Changes, question from Chairwoman Johnson on how the program is operating. She feels the Town’s Association does not understand who to contact for the LRIP Program. They did say any project proposed for Fall reimbursement would have to be published as an LRIP Program in the newspaper. We may have to re-bid part of the project awarded to Monarch. Jeremy Burton wants to be informed at the County about possible projects, Brad states he will touch base with him this week about options. Brad asks if Town can do an LRIP project in another area and keep the Monarch bid already approved? Chairwoman Johnson feels we need to have been understanding of the program.
- Matters for Discussion and Possible Action
 1. Mosaic Technologies Presentation – Presentation from Mosaic about the BEAD Program. Broadband Equity Access and Deployment. \$1 billion total Wisconsin BEAD Funding is available to provide every Wisconsinite with access to reliable, affordable, high-speed

internet. Mosaic is requesting a letter of support from the Town of Sand Lake. This area will be provided with internet access from someone, but Mosaic is hopeful the Town will consider working with them. This will be fiber optic internet. \$80,000.00 per mile estimated cost. Round 1 applications end on 02/25/2025. Round 2 and 3 to follow, target completion of all awards by June 30, 2025. Complicated process. Mosaic was recently awarded a grant to Evergreen Township, bordering the Sand Lake Township. Makes sense to continue into Sand Lake. Endorsement costs zero dollars, no match required, Mosaic will self-fund the rest of a project not covered by the grant. Webster School District has signed a letter of support. Mosaic has requested one from St. Croix Tribe. Letters of support give two extra points to an application. Chairwoman Johnson discusses potential hangups with federal funding making its way to States in the new administration. A lot of smaller providers are not applying for BEAD program due to complexities. She has drafted a letter of support for Mosaic if the Town Board chooses, but she wants to make sure Town residents know this is likely a 2026 and beyond project. Mosaic folder (distributed by presenter) includes internet prices. Chairwoman Johnson reads the letter of support. Motion to submit the letter of support to Mosaic Technologies by Supervisor Pardun, second by Supervisor Kroll. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Spring Primary Election – February 18, 2025

- Pay Bills – \$43,630.94 in bills. The Board will be signing extra checks for the February settlements. Motion to pay the bills by Supervisor Pardun, second by Supervisor Kroll. All in favor, motion carried.
- Adjournment at 6:39 p.m. by Supervisor Pardun, second by Supervisor Kroll. All in favor, motion carried. The next Town Board Meeting will be on March 10th, 2025.