

Town of Rock Elm

Elmwood, Pierce County, Wisconsin

Town Board Meeting MINUTES Tuesday, August 18, 2026

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chairman Tim Bates.

Others present: Matt Holcomb, Supervisor; Adam Carson, Supervisor; Dave Bechel, Patrolman; Dawn Churchill, Clerk; Pam Reitz, Treasurer; and 1 resident and 1 non-resident.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Matt Holcomb, second by Adam Carson, motion carried.

ARIP Engineering

A representative from SEH was present for questions on the agreement for the 450th Ave. ARIP project. After discussion and a few questions, there are no outstanding concerns with the agreement at this time. However, it was reiterated that once the project starts, the board members would like to be informed of any problems or unexpected changes or charges as soon as possible, if they arise. Open communication is key, based on issues with a past project. SEH understood and all agreed this is important. SEH plans on starting surveying soon.

Motion made by Adam Carson to approve the Agreement for Professional Services with SEH as presented, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the July 14, 2026, meeting were read.

Motion to approve with one correction made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Financial Report

Dawn gave the financial report. Balance at the end of the month before bills are paid was \$96,415.85. This month's bills presented and discussed holding payment to Cedar Corp until we get clarification of the bill; this will be held. Total of bills to pay amended to \$23,625.96. There is the expected income from the August settlement of \$154,059.57.

Motion made to pay bills as discussed made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

- **Tax Refund Interception Program (TRIP)**

This program is through the Wisconsin Department of Revenue to collect unpaid debt to municipalities.

Discussed the program and qualifications of debt for this program and Dawn will initiate the process so we can possibly get payment for unpaid bills.

- **Insurance Audit complete**

The Rural Mutual annual audit has been submitted. There may be a change in premium based on information submitted; we will wait and see.

Tractor and mower

- **Loan**
Documents were reviewed and signed.
- **Sale of old equipment on surplus auction**
Discussed putting this equipment on auction as soon as we know the new equipment is in at Tractor Central. Dave will complete description form and Dawn will take pictures and be ready to put online when the new equipment arrives.

Operator's License approval

One application was received and reviewed.

Motion to approve made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Open Book and Board of Review Dates

The assessor has set the Open Book date for October 21, 2026, from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. Board of Review will be October 28, 2026, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Shop door repair/replacement

It is agreed that the door needs replacement, but the cost needs to be brought down. It will be brought up again at the September meeting.

Comp Plan

Information presented on guidance for updating a comprehensive plan. Suggested tabling this until the October meeting.

Solar Farm Ordinance

Information presented on comparisons of the Hartland document and the Baldwin document; each have good things that we may want to look at incorporating into our document. Committee members should review and bring back next month.

Highway report

Presented by Dave Bechel, Patrolman

- Been mowing ditches, should be done by the end of the week.
- Been working on 570th Ave., has been pulverized, graded, and next week will be gravel lift, then Pierce County will finish grade.
- 08/04/26 Tim and Dave met with George Callow with fenceline cleaning and his right-of-way.
- 0/04/26 Tim and Dave went to check out concern with well placement on 510th Ave. The surveyor will be coming to make sure the well is not in the township right-of-way.
- Pierce County Highway Department got the box culvert installed on 430th Ave.
- Mowed for the Village of Elmwood on 07/16/26; bill to be sent for 3.5hrs.
- 08/17/26 Tim and Dave went to Ellsworth to the surveying department and zoning office.

There was a barn that was taken down and the foundation was used as fill on Bell Hill.

Tim has been getting complaints about the horse manure on the roads; research has been done and there is not much that can be done about it.

Presented and discussed the Bridge Petition for the 430th Ave. culvert/bridge in the amount of \$204,818. Rock Elm will be reimbursed for 50% of this through Pierce County.

Motion to accept the Bridge Petition as presented for \$204,818 made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

There is work that is needed on 130th and 170th; this will be tabled at this time due to other road projects being done.

There was a culvert installed on 190th Street this spring due to washout; Matt will look into getting a Bridge Petition so we may be partially reimbursed through Pierce County.

Public Input

Thank you to the board members and the work that they do.

Correspondence

Reviewed

Set date and time for next monthly board meeting

The next meeting will be September 8, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Tim Bates, second by Adam Carson, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Churchill, Clerk