TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
8306 School Loop Rd, Presque Isle, WI 54557
October 15, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chair at approximately 6:00 PM. Supervisors Logan Weber and Wolter were present along with Clerk Lori Thomas. Several members of the public were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes
The Board reviewed the minutes from the October 1 and October 8 meetings. After brief discussion, no corrections were noted.
• Supervisor Logan Weber made the **Motion to** approve the minutes of October 1 and October 8. Chair Eschenbauch **seconded** and carried by all.

OLD BUSINESS:
1. Cemetery Ordinance
The Board reviewed the proposed amendment to the existing cemetery ordinance, which adds clear restrictions prohibiting mausoleums and other above-ground burial structures. Members confirmed that traditional monuments and headstones remain permitted, and that existing lawful structures would be grandfathered.
Chair Eschenbauch made the **Motion to** approve the amendment to the Cemetery Ordinance as presented and adding updated date on the bottom.
Supervisor Logan Weber **seconded** the motion and carried by all.

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2. Personnel Handbook
The Personnel Handbook continues to undergo revision with assistance from Northern Waters Library representatives. Board members discussed clarifying supervisory roles, updating pay period language, and removing references to a Town Administrator position. Additional adjustments are needed before final approval, including clearer employee classifications and consideration of poll worker/volunteer language. (No motion taken.)

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3. Annabelle Lake Buoy Ordinance
The Board reviewed the revised ordinance after the DNR recommended adding one additional buoy to close another channel that should be part of the slow-no-wake area. The added placement would limit boats from entering the narrow channel at speed, reducing shoreline impact and improving safety for nearby residents. With this change incorporated by the Ordinance Committee, the Board agreed the ordinance was ready for adoption.
Chair Eschenbauch made a **Motion** to approve the revised Annabelle Lake Slow-No-Wake Buoy Ordinance. Supervisor Logan Weber **seconded** the motion carried by all.

4. Muskrat Trapping – Pipke Park

A report from the trapper outlined active muskrat populations in both ponds, with the South Pond having significant activity and the North Pond holding smaller family groups. Board discussion noted that muskrat activity is an ongoing maintenance issue that may require annual management. While one supervisor expressed preference for allowing natural predators to control the population, a majority supported continuing trapping for this season.
Supervisor Wolter made the **Motion to** approve muskrat trapping for October 27–31 at the quoted cost of $495.
Chair Eschenbauch **seconded** the motion carried 2–1. Supervisor Logan Weber voted with a nay

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5. 2027 Budget Summary
The Board reviewed the final 2027 budget developed during Finance Committee workshops. A minor revision was made earlier in the week to remove the previously considered room tax increase. Otherwise, the budget remained consistent with prior discussions and was deemed ready to present at the annual Budget Hearing.
Chair Eschenbauch made the **Motion** to Present the 2027 Budget Summary to the public at the Budget Hearing. Supervisor Wolter **seconded** the carried by all.

NEW BUSINESS 1. Room Tax Ordinance Discussion
Board members discussed feedback received during the special October 13 meeting regarding possible room tax increases. Public comments suggested that such changes warranted wider notice and deeper discussion, and revenue impact was found to be limited. The Board agreed there was no immediate need to proceed and determined the matter could return if conditions change. (No motion taken.)

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2. High Lake Ordinance
The three-town High Lake Ordinance prohibiting the production enhance wakes cannot advance until Land-O-Lakes, Boulder Junction and Presque Isle all pass identical ordinances. Boulder Junction is on record to not act on their ordinance until after January 1, 2027. Presque Isle will wait until then also. The board also acknowledged the need to respond to the DNR clarifying that a previously signed draft has not been formally approved.

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3. Town Attorney Search
The Board reviewed progress in contacting potential municipal attorneys following notice that the current attorney will retire at year-end. Several outreach attempts remain unanswered, though one firm expressed willingness to serve without a retainer requirement. The Board will continue evaluating options until a suitable candidate is selected. (No motion taken.)

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4. DNR Land Swap Discussion
The Board examined the concept of supporting the Northwoods EMS District by participating in a land swap with the DNR to secure the preferred EMS station site along Highway M. Three possible parcels of town land contiguous with DNR property were identified as swap candidates. The Board agreed the concept had merit and authorized continued exploration with participating municipalities.
Chair Eschenbauch made a **Motion** to indicate Town support for exploring a land swap concept with details to be determined.
Supervisor Logan Weber **seconded** the Motion and carried by all.

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5. Surface Water Planning Grant – Resolution 2026-06
The Board reviewed the proposal from the Lakes Committee to submit a surface water planning grant application. This year's study will likely include two or three lakes in coordination with UW-Whitewater. The Finance Committee has already incorporated the project into the budget.
Supervisor Logan Weber made a **Motion** to approve Resolution 2026-06 supporting the Surface Water Planning Grant application.
Supervisor Wolter **seconded** the motion carried by all.

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6. Budget Hearing & Electors Meeting Scheduling
The Board discussed posting requirements and appropriate scheduling for the Budget Hearing, Special Electors Meeting, and Regular TB Meeting. Board members agreed that starting the Budget Hearing at 5:00 PM and running the three meetings consecutively would be best. The clerk will publish the notice in the newspaper as a courtesy and post in out three legal spots.
Chair Eschenbauch made the **Motion to** Schedule the Budget Hearing, Electors Meeting, and Regular TB Meeting for November 5, 2026, starting at 5:00 PM.
Supervisor Wolter **seconded** the Motion and carried by all.

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7. Fire Department Ordinance Update
The Fire Department Ordinance requires updating because it references a former state agency that no longer exists. The Fire Chief and staff have been working to align ordinance language with current state structure. Additional review is needed prior to Board action. (No motion taken.)

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8. Fire Department Roof Loan Authorization
The roof replacement project for the fire station is proceeding, with contracts accepted. Although the engineering estimate may come in slightly lower than projected, the Board agreed to set an upper borrowing limit to avoid delays. Funds will be borrowed when appropriate to support project timing.
Chair Eschenbauch made the **Motion to** Authorize obtaining a loan from Headwater State Bank of up to $105,000 for the Fire Department roof replacement.
Supervisor Wolter **seconded** the Motion and carried by all.

Future Agenda Items
Items identified for future discussion included: 2027 fireworks contracting, VFIS pension investment update, UDC inspection rate adjustment, Maple Lane survey approval, diesel fuel vendor bids, personnel handbook revisions, attorney selection, zoning matters, and signage needs. These items will be placed on upcoming agendas as appropriate.

Public Comment
A resident provided an update on recently adjusted school bus routes following community concern about long travel distances into Winchester. New stops were added at Harris Lake Road and at the intersection of O and W, improving convenience for Presque Isle families. Additional comments addressed speeding concerns entering town and the need to repair the non-functioning flashing speed sign.

Voucher Approval
Supervisor Wolter made the **Motion to** approve vouchers #39049–39078. Supervisor Logan Weber **seconded** the Motion and carried by all.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 PM.

Drafted by Lori Thomas, Town Clerk