

TOWN OF MISHICOT MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
MISHICOT TOWN HALL
710 NORTH STATE STREET, MISHICOT, WI

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Anhalt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the board were Dean Anhalt, Gordon Augustine, Lee Stefaniak, Tammy Thielbar, Connie Tesarik, and Dean LeCaptain.

GUESTS

See attached listing of guests.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Anhalt led the board and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 1, 2025 BOARD MEETING; AND THE DECEMBER 8 AND DECEMBER 9 SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

The minutes of the December 1, 2025, Board Meeting and the December 8 and 9 Special Board meetings were reviewed by the board upon e-mailed receipt.

Supervisor Augustine moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2025, board meeting, and the minutes of the December 8 and December 9 Special Board Meetings. Supervisor Stefaniak seconded the motion. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRINTED

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to approve the January 5, 2026, monthly meeting agenda. Supervisor Augustine seconded the motion. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk presented a WTA District Meeting Agenda for several district meetings across the state. The nearest meeting for our area will be on Saturday, March 14, at the Farm Discovery Center in Newton. The clerk also presented a well testing report from Lemmenes Hydrometric Services for the wells at the former dump site. There were no significant changes to report. The Manitowoc County Sheriffs & Constables Association monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

DISCUSSION ON AI CENTER AND SOLAR DEVELOPERS IN THE AREA (No Developers Present)

Chairman Anhalt stated that he had spoken to a procurement specialist from Cloverleaf regarding the potential AI center development in this area. The representative has said that Cloverleaf is not ready to make any presentations at this time. The board discussed cooling systems, noise and end-of-life issues of the plant. One citizen asked what the impact might be on local dairy herds. There is a center coming to Port Washington, but it is not operational yet. Fox Conn in Mount Pleasant is currently operational. The town board is interested in speaking with the municipal boards from these communities. Chairman Anhalt said he would like to have the AI center on the agenda when the developers plan to attend the meeting.

ARIP CONSTRUCTION COSTS AND POSSIBLE PROJECTS

Chairman Anhalt spoke of the ARIP grants that may be available to the town. December 15 was the last deadline for application; however, a new round is coming that is \$30 million for agricultural roads and small bridges such as Assman Road. The ARIP grant would be paid 90% by the state and 10% by the town. A \$1.5 million-dollar project would equate to \$150,000 in a town loan. It would take an initial investment to make the project a reality. Mr. Anhalt spoke with Rich Sneider of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL). The BCPL has been the main source of borrowing by the Town of Mishicot. Mr. Anhalt's thought is to borrow the money to get the project done and then pay the State portion of the money back with the loan proceeds, which are paid out at the end of a project. Mr. Sneider said the BCPL would be able to assist with funding. Chairman Anhalt said, with the lag time between BCPL borrowing and the first required payment, the project could possibly be done before we would need to begin paying the BCPL loan. To qualify for an ARIP grant, the project must be for agricultural use and have early weight limits posted. Mr. Anhalt wants weight limits posted for one month this spring on Benzinger Road and Saxonburg Road from Assman north to Tapawingo Road, and Assman Road from Highway B to Dean Pekarek on Clay. These roads are used to connect between farms in the area. Additionally, the "T" by Senovich on Assman and Saxonburg could be called a dangerous intersection. It might be possible to include the bridge on Assman Road in an ARIP grant. Estimates for the Assman Road bridge range from \$260,000 to \$360,000. The Town of Two Creeks paved 6,000 feet of Nero Road with 4" of material at a cost of \$1.3 million. Chairman Anhalt estimates that Assman Road is at least 6,000 feet and, with the bridge costing \$350,000, the project could total as much as \$1.7 million. The asphalt to pave one mile, 4" thick and 22' wide, on Samz Road cost just under \$300,000. Two miles might cost \$1 million, \$700,000 just for paving. The cost to pulverize one mile of a road would cost approximately \$25,000.

Mr. Anhalt said he does not see any other way to fix the town roads. If the town takes out a loan, it does not have to seek approval of the citizens. He asked the board members to let him know if

they want to go ahead with his proposed plan or if they would rather push it off until 2027 or 2028. Mr. Anhalt added that he spoke to JT Engineering about Cherney Road to CTH Q; however, he does not think that it would qualify for ARIP.

These above-mentioned projects would be between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. Borrowing for any of these projects would be \$100,000 to \$150,000. If the town did not get the grant, the most it would be out would be the cost of engineering. The town would do the leg work to show road usage. We would not want to come up short when coming up with a grant application. Supervisor Stefaniak suggested trying Benzinger Road. It was noted that these projected costs do not include culverts. Nero Road in Two Creeks might be a comparable project.

STEINERS CORNERS ROAD CULVERT V-36-081

During an inspection, it was noted that Steiners Corners Culvert V-36-081 is rusting through at the waterline. Brian Glaeser is a sales person for Subsurface, Inc., a company that lines culverts with multi-layered fiberglass. The board will need to view this culvert in spring.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TOWN HALL COPY MACHINE/PRINTER PURCHASE

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to allow the clerk to purchase a new copier/printer for the hall when the timing and cost are right. Supervisor Augustine seconded the motion. All votes in favor. Motion carried. Supervisor Stefaniak moved to amend the motion to include the purchase of a 3-year warranty. Motion seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-1 TO SET WAGES FOR 2026

Chairman Anhalt reviewed the Compensation Schedule for 2026 Salaries and Wages (Attachment A to the resolution). **Supervisor Augustine moved to adopt Resolution 2026-1 accepting the Compensation Schedule for 2026 with amendments to the Clerk's and Treasurer's salaries to \$12,799 and \$7,680 respectively. Motion seconded by Supervisor Stefaniak as amended. All votes in favor. Motion carried.**

BUDGET RESOLUTION 2025-3 FINAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2025 BUDGET

The clerk presented Budget Resolution 2025-3 making final amendments to the 2025 budget. **Supervisor Stefaniak moved to adopt Budget Resolution 2025-3. Motion seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.**

APPROVE 2026 MANITOWOC COUNTY JOINT DISPATCH AGREEMENT

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to approve the 2026 Manitowoc County Joint Dispatch Agreement. Motion seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVE THE 2026-2028 BUILDING INSPECTOR CONTRACT AND FEES WITH SCOTT BEINING

Noting the slight increases to the inspection fees, Supervisor Stefaniak moved to approve the January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028 contract for building inspection services with Scott Beining. Motion seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

PREMIUM ONLY PLAN FOR QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE PRE-TAX HEALTH PREMIUMS

The clerk presented a Section 125 plan quote offered by Employee Benefits Corporation to allow employees qualified to receive health insurance the opportunity to pay their health premiums on a pre-tax basis. The cost of the plan is \$400 for the first year, which includes first-time plan setup, and \$275 each following year. There is a required 60-day notice to terminate the plan.

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to approve the Premium Only Plan with Employee Benefits Corporation offering qualified employees payment of pre-tax health premiums. Motion seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

NEW MOBILE HOME ON THE 2026 ASSESSMENT ROLL

Chairman Anhalt said there will be a new mobile home on the 2026 assessment roll. He contacted Kathryn Soto-Moreno of the Department of Revenue to ask who is going to tell the owner about the county's BFI document. Ms. Soto-Moreno said they are working on clarifications. Attorney Joe Ruth of the WTA is asking input regarding Senate Bill 813. Chairman Anhalt spoke with Joe Ruth and asked him to testify against this bill. Attorney Ruth says this bill takes power away from the assessor. There is still the possibility that former personal property could still end up on the real estate roll. Attorney Ruth will try to kill Senate Bill 813 on January 6.

FIRE CONTRACTS 2026-2027

Chairman Anhalt was looking for board input on the matter of sending a letter to the fire departments about reducing the amount we are paying. The village was given a freeze from 2025, otherwise theirs would have gone up 15%. Chairman Anhalt reviewed the fire contracts since 2020. He would like to send a letter to the departments showing how our levy increases do not keep up with the increases in the fire contracts and would like to talk with them about accepting less. The board is in favor of sending a letter asking the departments to meet with the board for discussion.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING WORK WEEK HOURS DURING THE SNOW SEASON

The board discussed work week hours with Mr. LeCaptain. The board would like regular hours but would like to see the work week modified without banking hours. Mr. Anhalt suggested that if the first four days of the week had 40 hours of work, he may take Friday off if there is no snow

coming. An oral agreement was made to give Mr. LeCaptain the option of taking Friday off if a full work-week has already been met, provided there is not snowstorm coming.

ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION FOR ST. ISIDORE THE FARMER FELLOWSHIP SOCIETY - FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Supervisor Stefaniak approved a Temporary Class B License 2026-01P for St. Isidore the Farmer Fellowship Society Valentines Dance on February 1, 2026. Motion seconded by Supervisor Gordon Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN REVIEW

Tabled.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES

The new tires on 354 have made a big difference according to Mr. Garber. Truck 352 has a hole in the exhaust. EGR valve was plugged. The board also discussed the salt inventory and when more salt should be ordered. Ordering crackfilling materials for spring was discussed. We will need to know how much to order. Six pallets were ordered last year.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD CONNIE, TAMMY, DANNY, DEAN L., GORDON, AND LEE

There was no constable's report for December. The clerk mentioned the Federal qualified overtime credit from the beginning of 2025. There will be no place to report this on 2025 W-2's, but the clerk will make an effort to calculate the number for those employees affected by the new law. The clerk also mentioned that as of January 1, 2026, 2023 Act 73 will take effect regarding intoxicating liquor sold at event venues and wedding barns. The treasurer explained Positive Pay being offered by Bank First National. It is a security measure offered to protect against check writing fraud. The town would electronically provide the bank with our check writing information, and the bank would verify the accuracy of the checks as they clear the bank. This is no cost to the town. The board asked that Positive Pay be added to the February agenda for further consideration. Ms. Thielbar also mentioned that she received a notice of General Transportation Aid payment, which will include an increase. The treasurer said tax collection is going well. She is just waiting for the December settlement on January 15. Supervisor Stefaniak had received a call concerning the recycling center cardboard box being overfull over the holiday. Nothing further to report from Mr. Anhalt or Mr. Augustine.

APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to approve the financial report as presented by the clerk. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Supervisor Augustine moved to pay claims as presented by the clerk. Motion seconded by Supervisor Stefaniak. All votes in favor. Motion carried. Claims were approved as presented and checks were signed.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

ARIP and other road grants; AI Center discussion; WTA District Meeting in Newton on Saturday, February 28; Fire Department Contracts; Weight limits in spring; Positive Pay with Bank First National

ADJOURN

Supervisor Stefaniak moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Augustine. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the town board will be on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

These minutes were taken at the January 5, 2026, monthly town board meeting and recorded here on January 24, 2026. These minutes will be board approved at the next regularly scheduled town board meeting.

Connie Tesarik - Clerk