TOWN OF FARMINGTON
MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 5, 2026
7:00pm
FARMINGTON TOWN HALL
N8309 County Road C, Mindoro, WI 54644

Attendees: Mike Hesse, Paul Lash, Jodi Anderson
Public Works and SD: Cindy Storandt, Wendell Pfaff and Taylor Brehmer
Minutes Prepared By: Crystal Sbraggia
Absent: Greg Kastenschmidt

Other Attendees:

CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman, Mike Hesse, called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- **Mmsp: Lash / Hesse:** Motion to approve minutes from special meetings held on April 2,2026, April 10, 2026, April 17, 2026 and the regular meeting held on April 21, 2026 meetings. **2/0/0 PASSED**

- **PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

  Gayle Monicken raised concerns regarding residential construction taking place on County Highway DE that he feels is too close to the road, the stream and may be situated on marsh land. Mike Hesse explained that La Crosse County handles the zoning permits for this type of construction within the municipality. Plus, GEC, the company that administers building permits on behalf of the municipality, would not issue a permit until after county zoning approval. If the structure required variance approval, it would have been necessary for the owner to go in front of the Farmington Plan Commission and Town Board. This was not the case, so Hesse can only assume that the construction is compliant with all zoning and building requirements.

  Additional comments have been received by the board regarding the need for additional weed control at the Mindoro Lions Club playground. The public works crew is currently short-handed, but is aware of the request and have plans to take care of that as soon as possible.

- **Operator License:** The board reviewed an operator license application and background check for Amanda Manske.

Mmsp: Hesse / Lash: Motion to grant an operator license to Amanda Manske. **2/0/0 PASSED**

- **PARK:**

Taylor Brehmer, representative for the Mel-Min Area Youth Soccer Organization, requested that the board consider allowing the group to place a storage shed, no larger than 8'x10', at the Mindoro Park on County Road D. According to Hesse, the shed is small enough not to require county permitting and is portable in nature. Taylor explained that he would remove a small tree near the parking area at the park to ensure the shed remains out of the way for visitors and other public works projects. The structure and area around the shed will be maintained and kept orderly by the group. A key will be shared with Mike Hesse and the Public Works team.

MMSP: LASH / HESSE: Motion to allow the Melrose-Mindoro Youth Soccer Organization to place a portable storage shed at the Mindoro Park on County Highway D. **2/0/0 Passed**

TRAIL SHELTER UPDATE: Hesse shared that the student boy scout recently received approval from the Boy Scout Organization to move forward with his project. He continues to work on the plan with his teacher at Mel-Min. The project is estimated to be complete by June 2027. Hesse noted that the plans should be available to share with the board soon.

SANITARY DISTRICT

Wendell Pfaff and Taylor Brehmer shared updated for the Farmington Sanitary District.

- The AquaHawk MBS Algae treatment product has been purchased and should be delivered with the next ferric shipment.
- The water main replacement bid request published deadline is May 12, 2026. A special meeting will need to be held to review the bids at 7:00pm that evening.
- Whole effluent toxicity (WET) test will be completed on May 15, 2026. Taylor plans to use the recommended courier which involves 3 Pick-Ups and costs approximately $1,050.
- Wendell and Taylor will be replacing check valves at the water plant and conduct flushing next week.
- Notice went out to residents regarding the missed sample from February. This incident will also be shared with the DNR.
- Wendell shared plans to place the generator near the mobile home park lift station this week.

Sonar Sludge Judge Project: Hesse shared a quote from TeamLab Chemical Co in the amount of $1,800. This cost includes a sonar judging report for all three ponds. Mike will be completing paperwork tomorrow in order be placed on TeamLab's July schedule.

Mmsp: Hesse / Lash: Motion to hire TeamLab Chemical Co to conduct a sonar sludge measurement on all three ponds. **2/0/0 Passed**

CEMETERY
No updates.

ROADS & EQUIPMENT

Local Small Structure Improvement Program (LSSIP)
Schultz Road Structure - No Updates
M.Olson Structure - No updates.

Mike shared the design and construction recommendations and costs as submitted by Jewell with the funding application. Mike is hopeful with 0 and 1 rating that both M.Olson Road and Schultz Road will be selected to be a recipient of this 90 / 10 grant.
The selection process is expected to take place in May and June 2026, with decisions to be announced at some point in July 2026. Hesse made it clear that even if approved for funding there will be a waiting period before construction can begin. Anything expended on the project before an official SMA (State municipal agreement) is complete will not be eligible for reimbursement.

LRIP Project Amundson Coulee Road – Holland is administering this shared grant and is currently waiting to receive the State Municipal Agreement (SMA).

ARIP Funding: Hesse continues to work on improving the narrative for the 2nd round of this funding opportunity. The next application is due in July 2026. He will be adding to the applications, photos and letters of support from legislators.

- Taylor shared concerns of the banks washing away on Syverson and Stumlin Road. The public works crew will be implementing a couple of smaller repairs that could slow down the washing, but will continue to keep a close eye on those areas.
- The ditch mower was brought to Gerdes today for final fitment.
- The Ford F550 is back. All work, including the right wheel bearing and sensor wiring, that was completed was covered under warranty.
- New tires have been purchased and placed on the existing lawn mower.
- A new pole saw with a 14” bar was purchased.
- The new mower is now working well. No more issues to note.
- The IS700 mower is ready to be put up for sale. Greg and Taylor will be meeting this week to determine other items to sell. Paul requested that a list of the items and the on-sale date be sent to him.

Clothing Allowance: Taylor, on behalf of the public works team, has requested a clothing allowance be granted to each employee to cover high-vis safety apparel. The board agreed that high-vis logo apparel would be a good addition to the list of employee benefits. Rather

than a monetary allowance, a group order will be placed. All shirts should include the TOF of logo.

Mmsp: Hesse / Lash: Motion to purchase hi-vis apparel for employees. **2/0/0 Passed**

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Despite having to reschedule, Hesse was pleased with the turnout of the First Responder Chili Dinner, noting that the group received nearly $15,000 in donations.
- The Wildfire gear grant has been distributed and reimbursement will take place soon.
- Taylor submitted required paperwork to ISO Verisk today.
- The Maintenance of Effort Report is due soon. Information due to clerk by June 15, 2026.

RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE
No updates.

TREASURER REPORT AND CHECKS
Mmsp Lash / Hesse: Motion to approve the March Treasurer Report, including receipts 673315 TO 673328. **PASSED 2/0/0**

Mmsp Lash / Hesse: Motion to approve April town checks 24799- 24805 and 24814 – 24834 and 24844 – 24850 and previously approved EFT transactions. Checks 24835 – 24843 appear on the May check list and will be approved at next month's meeting. **PASSED 2/0/0**

Mmsp: Lash / Hesse: Motion to approve February and March Fire Department checks 4880-4881 and 4883-4893. Missing Check: 4882. **2/0/0 Passed**

Mmsp: Hesse / Lash: Motion to approve SD April 2026 EFT transactions and checks numbered 6075-6082. **PASSED 2/0/0**

Other Business: The Farmington Fire Department Gun Raffle tickets are available for purchase.

Mmsp: Lash / Hesse: Motion to adjourn at 0800pm. **PASSED 3/0/0**