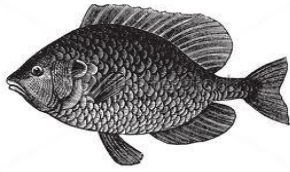


REGULAR MEETING BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday – November 12, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.

Webster Community Center
7421 Main Street West, Webster, WI



VILLAGE OF WEBSTER

CALL TO ORDER - The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, by Village President Ed Dedman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL - Village President, Ed Dedman; Trustees, Kelsey Gustafson; Jeff Roberts; Tim Maloney; Bill Summer; Matt Stuart and Sue Weis; Clerk-Treasurer, Debra Doriott-Kuhnly; Police Chief, Stephenie Wedin. Others present: Greg Marsten - Burnett County Sentinel, Charlie Weis- Burnett County Supervisor, Chad Wek – WACC, and Teresa Anderson – MSA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AGENDA, DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL - President Dedman noted one correction to item 11a - the Public Hearing for the 2026 budget would be on November 20, 2025, not November 10 as listed on the agenda. It was also noted that a Development and Annexation meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Motion by Trustee Gustafson, seconded by Trustee Summer, to approve the agenda with the noted corrections. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC INPUT/VISITOR RECOGNITION BY VILLAGE PRESIDENT, ED DEDMAN - Teresa Anderson from MSA indicated she would speak during the agenda item related to the water main replacement project.

OUTSIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Burnett County Supervisor - Charlie Weis: Charlie Weis was not present at the meeting, and President Dedman noted that Mr. Weis had nothing new to report from the County.

Chamber of Commerce – Chamber Member: Chad Wek from the Webster Chamber of Commerce reported on the successful trunk-or-treat event at the fairgrounds, which featured 29 trunks and approximately 400 children in attendance. He noted the Lions Club served hot dogs, chips, and drinks, and there were two haunted trailers along with the fire department's presence with a truck. He thanked the Village for allowing them to host the event and offered the Chamber's continued support for village activities.

Webster Rural Fire Association – Trustee, Tim Maloney: Trustee Maloney announced that the next Fire Association meeting would be held on January 21, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the fire hall.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES - President Dedman noted there was one correction to the October 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes that had been sent out via email that afternoon. Motion by Trustee Maloney, seconded by Trustee Stuart, to approve the September 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2025 Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes, September 25, 2025 Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes, October 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, October 8, 2025 Full Board Personnel Meeting Minutes, October 29, 2025 Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes, October 29, 2025 Full Board Personnel Meeting Minutes, November 5, 2025 Full Board Personnel Meeting Minutes with the noted correction. **Motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & RECEIPTS - The board reviewed vouchers and receipts for the period of October 1, 2025, through November 10, 2025. There was a question about a Ferguson Water Works expense, which was clarified as being for restocking couplers that had been used for repairs in the alley. Motion by Trustee Stuart, seconded by Trustee Gustafson, to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$115,383.41 and receipts in the amount of \$98,148.26. **Motion carried unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS - President Dedman acknowledged receipt of a thank you card from Deb Doriott-Kuhnly and her family for flowers sent by the Village Board.

REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS

JUDICIARY/REGULATORY COMMITTEE – SUE WEIS, CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Weis noted that the police department schedule was included in the board members' information packets. Chief Wedin presented the police report for the month, indicating 46 incidents.

President Dedman asked about the status of hiring another police officer. Chief Wedin reported that she has two candidates and one is certified, with the second candidate still in process. President Dedman also inquired about the status of the new police squad vehicle, which Chief Wedin indicated is currently being equipped and should be ready before Thanksgiving.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – JEFF ROBERTS, CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Roberts presented the employee wage and benefit packages for 2026 for board approval. Motion by Trustee Summer, seconded by Trustee Stuart, to approve the employee wage and benefit packages for 2026. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE – BILL SUMMER, CHAIRPERSON: Teresa Anderson from MSA presented the professional service agreement for the State Highway 35 water main replacement project. She reported that MSA would use drone capabilities to collect topographic data the following week before winter weather arrives. Ms. Anderson noted that soil borings would be needed along the route to determine soil conditions for the directional drilling project. She estimated the cost for soil borings would be approximately \$5,000 (plus or minus a couple thousand dollars) and explained that the village would contract directly with a geotechnical firm to save on insurance costs. The agreement with MSA for their work on the project is for \$70,500. Motion by Trustee Summer, seconded by Trustee Stuart, to approve the professional service agreement with MSA for the STH 35 water main replacement project. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Trustee Summer presented a proposal to increase sewer rates, noting that the village had not raised rates since the beginning of 2020 (almost six years). He initially proposed a 50% increase to the base rate (from \$41.64 to \$62.46) and an increase in the per-thousand-gallon rate from \$1.96 to \$3.00.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the appropriate level of increase. Trustee Summer explained that the village accountant, Jonathan, had recommended an increase of 30-35%, but Trustee Summer felt a larger increase was warranted given the six-year gap in rate adjustments and anticipated future expenses for the sewer system. Several trustees expressed concern about the size of the proposed increase and suggested a more incremental approach. Trustee Maloney suggested putting more of the increase on usage rates rather than the base rate to reduce the impact on those with fixed incomes.

An initial motion by Trustee Summer; seconded by Trustee Weis for the 50% increase was defeated in a roll call vote. Gustafson nay; Maloney nay; Roberts nay; Summer aye; Stuart aye; Weis nay; Dedman nay (**2 ayes, 5 nays**). Motion by Trustee Gustafson, seconded by Trustee Weis, to approve a 35% increase in the sewer base rate and to increase the per-thousand-gallon rate from \$1.96 to \$3.00, effective January 1, 2026. **Motion carried with one dissenting vote.** The board indicated they would review sewer rates again in the future after evaluating the impact of this increase.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – MATT STUART, CHAIRPERSON: Nothing new to report.

There was discussion about contacting Ehlers Investment regarding funding sources for upcoming major water projects including Smith Pines expansion and fairgrounds development. Trustee Stuart agreed to reach out to Ehlers to arrange a meeting with the board.

PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE – TIMOTHY MALONEY, CHAIRPERSON: Nothing new to report.

Trustee Maloney requested to schedule a Public Property Committee meeting to review rental agreements for the upcoming year. The committee meeting was scheduled for December 1, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Village office.

STREET COMMITTEE – KELSEY GUSTAFSON, CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Gustafson presented the snow removal bid for Main Street at \$140 per hour with a \$100 minimum, noting this was a \$5 increase from the previous year's rate of \$135 per hour. Motion by Trustee Gustafson, seconded by Trustee Stuart, to approve the 2025-2026 Main Street snow removal bid at \$140 per hour with a \$100 minimum. **Motion carried unanimously.**

President Dedman reported that he and Trustee Gustafson had completed the MSILT grant application to secure the village's entitlement portion of approximately \$6,000. This cycle, Siren and Webster are eligible for application submittal. The application was submitted ahead of the Saturday deadline.

DEVELOPMENT AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE – ED DEDMAN, CHAIRPERSON: President Dedman reported that a meeting with a developer interested in building in the village had been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 6:00 PM, pending confirmation from the developer.

He also mentioned that a person from Danbury had expressed interest in some property at the industrial park, and more information might be available by the December 1st Public Property Committee meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Development & Annexation Committee Meeting: November 19, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Village Office
- Public Hearing for 2026 Budget: November 20, 2025, at 5:00 PM at the Village Office
- Public Property Committee Meeting: December 1, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Village Office
- Regular Board Meeting: December 10, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Webster Community Center

ADJOURN - Motion by Trustee Stuart, seconded by Trustee Summer, to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Doriott-Kuhnly
Clerk-Treasurer
November 12, 2025

***These minutes are subject to approval at next month's Regular Meeting.

Village President, Ed Dedman

Trustee, Kelsey Gustafson

Trustee, Tim Maloney

Trustee, Jeff Roberts

Trustee, Matt Stuart

Trustee, Bill Summer

Trustee, Sue Weis

Attest: _____
Clerk-Treasurer