



www.shutterstock.com - 83736145

VILLAGE OF WEBSTER

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday–July 8, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

Webster Community Center
7421 Main Street West, Webster, WI

CALL TO ORDER - President Ed Dedman called the meeting to order 6:06 PM.

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

ROLL CALL - President, Ed Dedman; Trustees, Tom Armstrong; Kelsey Gustafson; Tim Maloney; Jeff Roberts; Bill Summer and Sue Weis. Others present: Public Works Director, Pete Denn; Police Chief, Stephenie Wedin ; Clerk/Treasurer, Debra Doriott-Kuhnly; Greg Marsten - Burnett County Sentinel; Teresa Anderson-MSA; Russ Burford; Joanie McKeown-WACC; Sherill Summer; Maureen Wilson and Vick Prock-Friends of the Library. Absent: None.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AGENDA, DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL - Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Trustee, Roberts and seconded by Trustee, Weis, **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC INPUT/VISITOR RECOGNITION BY PRESIDENT, ED DEDMAN - Maureen Wilson, President of the Friends of the Library, addressed the Board on behalf of three representatives from the Friends of the Library. She explained that the organization is planning a chili feed fundraiser on October 3rd, featuring a guest author, and requested a reduction in the Community Center rental fee. She noted that proceeds from the event support early childhood literacy and other library programming for the community. She further noted that a portion of the savings would be used to purchase gift certificates from local businesses for event raffles, thereby reinvesting funds back into the community. The Board discussed the rental fee structure. The standard rate was confirmed at \$600 for a full day. The prior year's arrangement was referenced, in which the Village reduced the fee to \$300 - Webster Cog and Sprocket contributed \$100, resulting in the Friends paying \$200. Bill Summer, as owner of Webster Cog and Sprocket, offered to cover \$300 —the difference between the reduced rate of \$300 and the full rate—so that the Friends of the Library would only be responsible for the Village's reduced half-rate amount of \$300. Motion to reduce the Community Center rental fee to \$300 for the Friends of the Library's October 3rd Chili Feed event and remaining \$300 paid by Webster Cog and Sprocket was made by Trustee Maloney and seconded by Trustee Summer. **Motion carried unanimously.**

OUTSIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Burnett County Supervisor - Charlie Weis. Not in attendance.

Chamber of Commerce – Chamber Member. Joanie McKeown, Secretary of the Webster Area Chamber of Commerce, provided the following updates:

Fireworks: The Chamber sold beer at the July 4th fireworks event. Despite weather-related limitations on how many fireworks could be set off, the event went reasonably well. McKeown expressed the Chamber's tentative interest in participating again the following year, pending board approval. She encouraged the Village to consider relighting the remaining fireworks on a future weekend, noting that the upcoming Gandy Dancer Days weekend would be a suitable occasion. Clerk-Treasurer Doriott-Kuhnly reported that, per a conversation with the fireworks operator, Paul, the remaining fireworks were likely undamaged—only the wicks got wet—and would be ready to fire after one to two weeks of drying time. The operator indicated storage requirements of approximately a 4-by-4 pallet, six feet high, and suggested the fireworks could be used either for Gandy

Dancer Days or saved for next year's show. The Board noted that storage space in the village garage should be sufficient.

Gandy Dancer Days: The event is scheduled for Friday, August 7th and Saturday, August 8th. This year's format will shift most activities back toward Main Street rather than the fairgrounds. Planned activities include arts and crafts by the American Legion near the Community Center, sidewalk sales along Main Street, and a bike rodeo near the Gandy Dancer Trail. A street closure application for that event was submitted and appeared later on the agenda.

Oktoberfest: Planning is underway for the annual Oktoberfest event at the fairgrounds, expected to be similar in format to the prior year. A (temporary) liquor license permit has already been submitted.

Sturgeon Fest: A new event, Sturgeon Fest, is planned for the first weekend in September (Saturday, September 5th), timed to coincide with September being the only month in Northern Wisconsin when sturgeon fishing is permitted. Representatives from Sturgeon Nationals have committed to participate at Sturgeon Park. President Dedman noted that the third annual Buff and Brag Car Show will be held the same day across the road.

Vibrant Spaces Grant: McKeown reported that the grant is progressing well, with two-thirds of the funds already reimbursed to the Village. She noted, however, that the Chamber is approximately \$10,000 short of pledged matching funds due to some businesses backing out amid economic pressures. The Chamber is developing a plan to raise those funds and will discuss it at their upcoming board meeting. No Village assistance was requested at this time.

Webster Rural Fire Association – Trustee, Tim Maloney: Trustee Maloney reported that the next quarterly meeting of the Webster Rural Fire Association is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22nd at 7:00 PM at the Fire Hall.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & RECEIPTS - The board reviewed vouchers and receipts for the period of June 6, 2026, through July 6, 2026. Motion to approve the Vouchers in the of amount \$95,456.02 and Receipts in the amount of \$20,010.32 was made by Trustee Roberts and seconded by Trustee Maloney. **Motion carried unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS – None.

REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS

JUDICIARY/REGULATORY COMMITTEE – SUE WEIS, CHAIRPERSON: The police department schedule was previously presented. Chief Wedin read the police report. A total of 43 incidents were reported for the month.

Chairperson Weis presented the street use application from the Webster Area Chamber of Commerce for Gandy Dancer Days on August 8th. The application requests closure of Pike Avenue north of Main Street for a bike rodeo near the Gandy Dancer Trail. McKeown clarified that the arts and crafts portion of the event will be held on the grass near the Community Center and will not require street closure. No fee is charged for this type of street use application. Motion to approve the street use application for the Webster Area Chamber of Commerce for August 8th, closing Pike Avenue north of Main Street for the Gandy Dancer Days bike rodeo, was made by Trustee, Maloney and seconded by Trustee, Summer. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairperson Weis presented a street use application from the Webster Volunteer Fire Department for their annual banquet on August 15th. The application requests closure of Muskey Avenue from Main Street to Elm Street from August 14th through August 16th to allow setup and takedown of a tent. Motion to approve the street use application for the Webster Volunteer Fire Department for August 14–16 on Muskey Avenue was made by Trustee, Roberts and seconded Trustee, Weis. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The Board discussed the status of the Webster Mobile Home Park. President Dedman provided context, noting that at the June meeting the Board denied the license renewal for the park pending a formal written notice to

the owner. Now that inspection reports and photographs from the Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector have been received, the Village is prepared to move forward with drafting the official notice.

Dedman stated the intent is to have Village Attorney Nick Vivian draft and send the letter via certified mail to the operator, Olena Investments, to document proof of delivery. The letter will communicate that the park is currently operating without a license and that reinstatement of the license is contingent upon correction of all documented violations within a specified timeframe. The Board discussed the appropriate timeframe for compliance. Trustees Summer and Weis both advocated for 90 days, citing the urgency of resolving electrical and structural hazards before cold weather arrives. Trustee Roberts echoed this, noting that despite years of ongoing conversations with the park owners, compliance has never been achieved. Village Ordinance 192-5(e) was referenced, which requires written notice to the license holder specifying a reasonable period for correction, after which the license shall be suspended if violations remain. The Board also discussed the question of individual mobile home ownership versus operator ownership. Clerk-Treasurer Doriott-Kuhnly clarified that while tax statements are directed to the mobile home operator, the assessor's records do identify individual units by owner. It was ultimately affirmed that, per village ordinance, the onus for maintaining the park rests with the operator, and the letter will be directed accordingly to Olena Investments. Trustee Maloney suggested initiating a formal condemnation process for at least one unit that has been stripped of plumbing and electrical systems and is visibly deteriorating. Dedman indicated this could be incorporated into the attorney's letter. The Board also discussed including a bill for inspection and attorney costs in the letter, with the understanding that unpaid costs could be placed on the property's tax bill. Trustee Armstrong raised the concern of giving advance notice to county assistance programs so that residents would not be left without resources should units be condemned. The Board agreed that while the primary goal is correction of violations—not displacement of residents—it was worth exploring how to connect residents with county support in a way appropriate for the Village to facilitate. Trustee Roberts suggested 60 days for compliance and the rest of the board agreed due to urgency of resolving hazards before the winter. No new motion was required, as the authorization to engage the village attorney was established at the June meeting. This item was treated as an informational update confirming the Village is ready to proceed with the letter.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – JEFF ROBERTS, CHAIRPERSON: Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE – BILL SUMMER, CHAIRPERSON: Nothing new to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – TOM ARMSTRONG, CHAIRPERSON: Chairperson Armstrong presented a recommendation from the Finance Committee to authorize borrowing from Community Bank in Siren. He outlined the key terms: up to \$300,000 borrowed, over 36 months, with interest-only payments for the first 12 months, followed by principal and interest payments in years two and three, a potential balloon payment at maturity, and a loan fee of 1% of the loan amount. The fee would be reimbursed if a Village operating account is opened with Community Bank within six months. A new designated public depository account would be established at Community Bank to manage the loan funds, with the President and Village Clerk-Treasurer as authorized signers. Trustee Summer noted for the record that the interest rate would be between 4.15% and 4.40% depending on when documents are signed and confirmed there is no penalty for early repayment. Dedman reiterated that the recommendation came from the Finance Committee meeting earlier and clarified that the motion authorizes borrowing up to \$300,000 and does not commit the Village to the full amount. Motion to approve borrowing up to \$300,000 from Community Bank in Siren under the terms as presented was made by Chairperson Armstrong and seconded by Trustee Summer. A roll call vote was conducted: Armstrong – Aye; Gustafson – Aye; Maloney – Yes; Roberts – Aye; Summer – Aye; Weis – Aye; Dedman – Aye. The motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE – TIMOTHY MALONEY, CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Maloney deferred to President Dedman, who provided an update on the recently installed caboose at the village's railroad park. The caboose was donated by CPKC Railroad, including transportation from Iowa, with installation assistance from Mainline Services, NewGen Transportation and Anderson Towing. Dedman credited the Burnett County Sentinel for its coverage of the installation event. He noted that the caboose has

already generated significant community interest, including attention from railroad enthusiasts online who identified its history and expressed interest in visiting Webster. Future plans for the park include placing a donations box on the caboose. The interior remains sealed and the exterior is accessible to the public, with children already observed playing on it.

STREET COMMITTEE – KELSEY GUSTAFSON, CHAIRPERSON: Nothing new to report.

DEVELOPMENT AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE – ED DEDMAN, CHAIRPERSON:

President Dedman reiterated the update on developer Cole Newman, noting that Newman confirmed interest in continuing negotiations under the condition that the Village requires upfront cash assistance to cover the first couple years of payments. Newman has requested the conversation be delayed until mid-July due to commitments in Minnesota. Trustee Roberts noted that pushing to fall would not be a major issue, though Trustee Maloney cautioned that a negative response from Newman would leave little time before the Joint Review Board application deadline of October 31st for the TID.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Plan Commission Meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2026 at 3:00 PM
- The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM.
- A Finance Committee meeting is a possibility before the next regular board meeting; notice will be provided.

ADJOURN - Motion by Trustee Summer, seconded by Trustee Armstrong, to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Doriott-Kuhnly
Clerk-Treasurer
July 8, 2026

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

President, Ed Dedman

Trustee, Tom Armstrong

Trustee, Kelsey Gustafson

Trustee, Tim Maloney

Trustee, Jeff Roberts

Trustee, Bill Summer

Trustee, Sue Weis

Attest: _____
Clerk-Treasurer