

TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 27, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of Supervisors, Town of Florence met on the 27th day of October, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Florence Community Center with Chairman Jim Gehlhoff and Supervisors Tom Tuchalski and Shane McLain present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, a motion made by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski the agenda was approved as posted. All in favor, motion carried.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski a motion was made to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on October 13, 2025
- Operator Licenses for Ashley Kurtz and Desiree Guiliani for Krist Oil
- Fire Department bills totaling \$282.98 were approved for payment from October 14-31, 2025

All in favor, motion carried.

Tony Ochs and Al Michaud from GFL were in attendance to talk about roads traveled and larger central location pick-up containers. Ochs explained that the larger containers are lockable and have a bar that flips up on the front, which can prevent animals from getting into them. Ochs requested a list of public roads that that GFL is currently not traveling so he can look into the reasoning. Clerk/Treasurer, Jessica Klumpp, will provide him with that information.

The board looked at a draft of an Ordinance for Garbage and Recycling Rules and Regulations. The board decided at this point that an ordinance would not be put in place. A notice will be placed in the tax bills with the request they can be placed the day before pick-up and removed the day after pick-up. It would also be noted that if this isn't followed, and ordinance will be implemented and fines will be given for those who don't follow the rules.

The board continued discussing the possibility of adding two additional board supervisor positions resulting the in the creation of a five-person town board. Gehlhoff cited reasons for adding additional positions including the ability of two board members to have discussions outside of a meeting, and it would allow the board to have more continuity due to being able to stagger when supervisors are elected. Supervisor Tuchalski stated although it would be good to stagger the board terms for consistency, he is not in favor of the option. Tuchalski talked to many people about the change, and none of those people were in favor of it. He also stated that being able to talk about items outside of a meeting could be a positive change, he could see where it could potentially cause issues as well. Supervisor McLain stated he understands the reasoning of both Gehlhoff and Tuchalski, but McLain feels that making the clerk/treasurer position an appointed position is more important. No motion was made, but Chairman Gehlhoff asked what the supervisors wanted, McLain and Tuchalski both stated "no" while Gehlhoff said "yes." No action was taken.

The board discussed the possibility of creating an ordinance calling for the referendum question to be placed on the ballot to switch the clerk/treasurer position from an elected position to an appointed position. It was noted that the reasoning behind this switch would be to help the Town with consistency in order to keep moving forward. McLain stated there were other townships in Florence County that created a lot of issues when they had a clerk who didn't have the background and experience to do the job. On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski, it was approved to prepare an ordinance calling for a referendum question to be placed on the April Spring Election ballot to switch from an elected to an appointed clerk/treasurer for the Town of Florence. All in favor, motion carried.

Discussion continued between Gehlhoff and Tuchalski regarding the legal opinion received from Town Attorney, Kim Coggins, regarding the use of the Town property (10-1749-1) on Olive Avenue near the former Town garage. Before the discussion began, Supervisor McLain recused himself from the conversation, left the board table, and sat by his brother Shawn for the conversation. Gehlhoff read aloud letter from the Florence Utility Commission stating they were not opposed to the sale of the land as long as there is forever utility easement legally in the deed of sale. Gehlhoff also read aloud a letter from Florence County Zoning that shared the setbacks on the property with the wetlands, current road,

and property lines make it virtually unbuildable except by McLains. Tuchalski and Gehlhoff continued the conversation and stated that if they wanted to sell, a storm sewer easement would also have to be added. Gehlhoff asked Shawn McLain what he would like to happen with that property. Shawn stated he would like to purchase the property. Tuchalski stated that would be logical to sell it if we were not going to be able to use it. Tuchalski also stated the board would need to get elector approval to sell the property. Discussion continued about the property and if a survey would need to be done, and the expenses the Town could occur in the process. It was stated that those items would need to be covered by the purchaser. A motion was made by Gehlhoff, and seconded by Tuchalski to go forward with getting permission from the electors at the November Special Town Meeting after the budget hearing to sell the property. All in favor, motion carried.

Monthly town bills totaling \$38,608.78 and automatic withdrawals in the amount of \$17,406.52 were approved on a motion by Tuchalski and seconded by McLain. All in favor, motion carried.

Under Clerk/Treasurers report, Klumpp stated that the board viewed and initialed reconciliation reports.

It was moved to go into closed session McLain, and seconded by Tuchalski for the purpose of discussion legal options for a current BOR court case pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85(1)(a) Deliberating concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body and Employee Compensation pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. A roll call vote was taken: McLain – yes, Tuchalski – yes, Gehlhoff – yes. Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 6:46 p.m.

It was moved to adjourn closed session back into open session with a roll call vote at 7:22 p.m. McLain – yes, Tuchalski – yes, Gehlhoff – yes.

McLain made a motion, seconded by Tuchalski to continue to use Town Attorney, Kim Coggins to represent the Town of Florence in the BOR court case and approve the 2025 Employee Wages, cell phone allowance and vacation payout. All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business it was moved by Tuchalski and seconded by McLain to adjourn until October 29, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. for the Board of Review and Monday, November 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. for the Budget Hearing with Town Meeting, Special Board Meeting, and regular November board meeting to follow at the Florence Community Center. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jessica Klumpp
Clerk/Treasurer