

Town Board Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of Supervisors, Town of Florence met on the 11th day of May, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Florence Utility Building with Chairman Jim Gehlhoff and Supervisors Tom Tuchalski and Shane McLain present. On a motion by Tuchalski and seconded by McLain, the agenda was approved as posted. All in favor, motion carried.

Under Communication from the floor, it was requested that the Town speak with Florence County Highway about the yard signs in the ROW and having them removed. Safety concerns regarding the watercraft traffic on Lake Ellwood were brought up. There is an unwritten understanding that the direction of travel is all in one direction (counter-clockwise), but there are so many new people to the area that are unaware of the issue. It was brought up to the Lake Ellwood Association, and they stated they don't own the public landing. The board agreed to allow assign to be created and posted.

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

- Minutes from the April 21st & 27th meetings were approved
- There were no Operator Licenses to approve
- Fire Department bills totaling \$26.98 were approved for payment May 1-11, 2026
- Monthly town bills totaling \$49,831.44 and automatic withdrawals in the amount of \$2,659.54 were approved for payment from May 1 to May 11, 2026

Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried.

The board discussed moving the meeting scheduled for Memorial Day. On a motion by McLain, and seconded by Tuchalski, it was moved to switch the May 25, 2026 meeting from Memorial Day to May 21, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. to approve Utility Financing & adopt Resolution No 05-21-26 (1) Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026A for the Refinancing of the Utility Building Debt. Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried.

Tuchalski reported that there was no update on the EMS Contract, but that the board has received a copy of the sustainability study.

The board discussed requesting proposals for hot mix paving. On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to advertise for hot mix paving proposals due on May 21 to be opened at the May 21 meeting. Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried.

The board discussed a proposal received for repurposing the Lake Ellwood Rd old dump site for a Spread Eagle Recreational Facility. It would include shuffle board courts in the Town Park in front of the Community Center and at the site plus development of the site to also include pickle ball courts, a half basketball court, a dog park, small soccer field and parking. Financially it is expected to cost \$60,000 or less especially if the Town is willing to do the prep work. Someone asked how it would be insured. It was noted that the board would need to talk to Florence County Zoning, the DNR, and the Towns insurance to understand what could and could not be done on the property. It was also noted that the public bidding process may need to be followed if work was being completed on behalf of the Town. The board tabled this item until they could learn more information.

Also brought up for discussion was the possibility of using the same site for composting back on the old dump which is behind the proposed park area. It was mentioned that had been open for leaves and brush in the past, but it was used for dumping more than that, which is why the gate is currently locked to the site. In addition, there are 7 ground monitoring wells to be in compliance with the DNR. The possibility of burning the brush periodically came up. This was also tabled until the board could learn more information.

The board received a new proposal from Cascade for 250 garbage cans at around \$68 per can, with shipping. Prices were checked with other companies with prices coming in at \$99 to \$129 per can without shipping. After discussion the board was concerned about purchased 250 cans. It was tabled to see if there is a neighboring town interested in sharing or if we can get a lesser amount of cans.

The board discussed possible changes to the Stop and Yield Sign Ordinance for the Town specifically looking at the intersection of In Com Dr/Montgomery Lake Rd/Olive Ave. Florence County Sheriff Chrisman had reached out to the town via e-mail with concerns regarding this intersection. Chief Deputy, Terry Peterson was in attendance to share statistics regarding incidents at that intersection, which included 5 accidents, one of which was more serious, 100s of vehicles that have run the stop sign some with vehicles going 45-50 mph through the intersection. It was mentioned that the board had tabled looking at this intersection until the trees were removed. After more discussion with Peterson and Town Highway Foreman Steber, Tuchalski made a motion to make that intersection a 4-way stop and revisit it again in a year. It was seconded by McLain. All in favor, motion carried. The update of the ordinance will be on the next agenda to be approved and signed. Stop ahead signs will be placed on Olive Ave & Montgomery Lake Rd. Spinners will be added to the top of the stop signs.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was decided to close Cyclops Street from Central Ave to Florence Ave on Saturday, June 27, 2026 for the Tavern on Central Street Dance. All in favor, motion carried.

The board continued their previous discussion regarding the selling of Town property parcel 10-1749-1 on Olive Ave. It was noted that Supervisor McLain recused himself from this discussion. Klumpp shared that the lawyer will create a sales agreement. Gehlhoff shared they are looking for a price for selling the property noting that most of the property is swamp and is unusable space. He indicated that the legal fees will need to be paid by the purchaser. It was tabled until the board could do more research into the value of the property.

The board revisited their discussion regarding Nuisance Violations that were sent. It was noted that a violation continues to exist at 632 Central Ave. The owner has not contacted the Town and the state of the property continues to deteriorate. On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to have the owner at 632 Central Ave served with a citation for violating the nuisance ordinance. Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried. The board also discussed the violation at 332 Lake Ave, which continues to exist. The property owner is no longer responding to the board and has not corrected the violation. On a motion by Gehlhoff and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to have the owner of 332 Lake Ave served with a citation for \$100 plus court costs. Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried. Tuchalski updated the board on the violation at 508 Lake Ave stating that the owner is working on cleaning the property up and is keeping him in the loop as it progresses. A final nuisance was brought up at 633 Olive Ave. It appears as though the garage has a collapsed roof. A notice will be sent to that property owner.

The board looked at information from the Wisconsin Towns Association regarding their Clerk College Program. Gehlhoff commented about the large amount of information, rules, etc. that the Clerk has to be aware of not to mention the changes that are constantly coming through, make training important for the position. Clerk/Treasurer Klumpp mentioned that she had gone to a training last June and would be attending another one later in the week from the WTA as well. A lot of information is shared as well as processes, contacts and the networking that is done. On a motion by Gehlhoff and seconded by Tuchalski, it was moved to approve enrollment for Wisconsin Towns Association Clerk college participation for Clerk/Treasurer Klumpp. Called for the vote. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Tuchalski gave the board an update on the Material Drop-Off Site requirements from attending the Town of Commonwealth Board meeting. He stated there has been a large amount of outside townships using the site, which is why they are going to require those using the site to show something saying they are in Florence or Commonwealth – a WI Driver's License, a property tax bill, etc. They are going to start implementing it in July, but it will be fully enforced next year. The property owner will receive a sticker after they have been verified or they will need to show that proof each time they come.

Under the clerk/treasurer report, Clerk/Treasurer Jessica Klumpp shared with the board that one of the part-time Utility employees has been cleaning the Community Center.

There were not comments under board member concerns.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss employee compensation pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 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. Call for the vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Entered closes session at 6:58 p.m.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski it was moved to adjourn closed session. Call for the vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Adjourned closed session and reconvened into Open Session at 7:25 p.m.

On a motion by Tuchalski and seconded by Gehlhoff it was moved to approve the decisions made in closed session in regard to Wisconsin Statute 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. Call for the vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, it was moved by McLain and seconded by Tuchalski to adjourn the meeting until Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. at the Florence Utilities Board Room. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jessica Klumpp
Clerk/Treasurer