

**2026 BUDGET HEARING  
TOWN OF MARION, GRANT COUNTY, WI**

1. **Call to Order:** Jerrod Waterman, Chairman, called the Public Budget Hearing for 2025 to order on November 18, at 6:35 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Jerrod Waterman, Chairman; Tom Haile, Supervisor; Jonathan Knowles, Supervisor; Judi Boughton, Clerk and Laurie King, Treasurer.
3. Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Galen and Peggy Freymiller, Laurayne Fischer, Mary Kirschbaum, Cheryl Knowles.
4. **Verification of Public Notice:** The notice of meeting was published on Thursday, November 6 and Thursday, November 13, 2025, in the Boscobel Dial and posted at the town shop and on the town website on November 3, 2025. The agenda was posted November 11, 2025.
5. **Budget Review:** A copy of the proposed budget, budget summary and budget cover sheet were distributed to all who were present for review and input.
6. **Public Input:** Galen Freymiller was present at the meeting and wanted to know where on the budget is the allocation of funds for the bridge project on Town Hall Road by the Marion church. It was explained the bridge project would not be shown as a specific project on the budget but falls under the category of highway and street maintenance and would come out of that allocation. Jerrod agreed the plan is to replace the bridge in the spring of 2026 by removing the old bridge and replacing it with tubes or culvert. Galen said he had talked to Trent from Grant County Highway and he said there are all sorts of things you can get, culvert with flat bottom or pour cement in bottom to make flat so it can be used as a cattle pass. Can have ends on also for abutment already built in it. Galen said it will cost \$14,000 for the tubes and bands and another \$6,000 for the work. There is an option to get prefabbed if we want. Galen has folders with information he got from Trent and told the board they can call when they decide what option they choose to get prices. Jonathan said he had talked to Travis Kramer and Travis recommended not putting in tubes but putting in a box culvert. Travis said they need two 7-footers minimum Jonathan said. Tom added our plow truck is 12' wide and the bridge is 13'. Galen thinks we need to put money in the budget for the bridge specifically so it is approved and it gets done instead of waiting. He thinks the topics on the budget are too general.

Cheryl Knowles was present and asked where on the proposed budget are the salaries for the patrolman. Discussed patrolman salaries fall under highway maintenance. She asked what the budget is for patrolmen salaries and was provided a cash flow for what was spent this year so far on patrolmen salaries and was given last year's for comparison. For the whole year last year, \$13,000 was spent on patrolman salaries and this year so far not including November and December, we are at \$23,000 for net wages. Discussed the flooding this year may have had some impact on the wage increase. Cheryl asked the board how many hours are planned for 2026.

Cheryl asked if we had received any paperwork from the DNR regarding the salt shed. Jerrod said he did not but got a call from the DNR saying we are not in compliance with the salt shed and that

he knew Jerrod should be aware of that since he has been sitting on the board. He said his name is Joel from the Wisconsin DNR and the salt shed is being condemned in November after the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> and if anything is still in there, they will seize it and we will no longer have it. If the salt is not removed, it will be removed at the township's cost. There cannot be road material in it and if we do not remove it, we will be fined \$200 a day. If they have to come and remove it, it is at our cost to remove it and they will take down the shed and everything in it. Because it has salt, it is considered to be hazardous material. Cheryl thinks we should ask for documentation for doing something so drastic. At this point, the salt has been moved to a different location and covered with a tarp. All the plows are out of the weather and sitting inside the salt shed.

Galen asked since there is \$65,000 for new equipment in the budget, what are we going to use it for. Jerrod said we had been contemplating a new excavator and the reasoning for this was discussed. Jerrod said as for right now that money is put in there for equipment but if it is not used for equipment, we can move it to other places.

7. **Budget Adoption If Approved by the Board:** A motion was made by Tom to approve the budget. Jonathan seconded the motion.
8. **Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jonathan. Tom seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

**2026 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS  
OF THE TOWN OF MARION, GRANT COUNTY**

- 1. Call to Order:** Jerrod Waterman, Chairman, called the Special Town Meeting of Electors to approve the 2025 Town of Marion tax levy to be collected in 2026 pursuant to s. 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Stats. to order on November 18, 2025, at 7:03 p.m.
  
- 9. Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Jerrod Waterman, Chairman; Tom Haile, Supervisor; Jonathan Knowles, Supervisor; Judi Boughton, Clerk and Laurie King, Treasurer.
  
- 10.** Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Galen and Peggy Freymiller, Laurayne Fischer, Mary Kirschbaum, Cheryl Knowles.
  
- 11. Verification of Public Notice:** The notice of meeting was published on Thursday, November 6 and Thursday, November 13, 2025, in the Boscobel Dial and posted at the town shop and on the town website on November 3, 2025. The agenda was posted November 11, 2025.
  
- 2. Presentation of the 2025 Tax Levy for the Town of Marion:** The proposed 2025 tax levy is \$170,656.00 and is the allowable tax levy on the 2025 Municipal Levy Limit Worksheet.
  
- 3. Vote of Electors to approve the 2025 town tax levy to be collected in 2026 pursuant to s. 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Stats.** A vote was taken of the electors of the Town of Marion to adopt the town tax levy for 2025 to be collected in 2026 in the amount of \$170,656.00. Ten electors were present. There were 10 electors voting aye, 0 nay and 0 abstaining.
  
- 4. Procedural Motions:** Jonathan made a motion to adopt the 2025 town tax levy in the amount of \$170,656.00. Tom seconded the motion.
  
- 5. Reading and Approval of the Vote Resolution:** Jerrod read Resolution No. 2025-001 – Resolution for Electors to Adopt the Town Tax Levy at Special Town Meeting of the Electors out loud publicly and both Jerrod and Judi signed the resolution in the spaces provided adopting the town tax levy in the amount of \$170,656. This will be posted at the town shop and on the town web site.
  
- 6. Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Tom. Jonathan seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF MARION  
NOVEMBER 19, 2024**

**7. Call to Order:** Jerrod Waterman, Chairman, called the regular Board meeting for the month of November to order at 7:14 p.m.

**12. Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Jerrod Waterman, Chairman; Tom Haile, Supervisor; Jonathan Knowles, Supervisor; Judi Boughton, Clerk; Laurie King, Treasurer.

Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Galen and Peggy Freymiller, Laurayne Fischer, Mary Kirschbaum, Cheryl Knowles.

**13. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Jonathan to leave the agenda items in the order posted. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**14. Proof of Publication of Meeting Notice:** Notice of the November 18, 2025, board meeting was published in the Boscobel Dial on Thursday, November 6 and Thursday, November 13, 2025 and posted at the town shop and the town website on November 3, 2025. The November board meeting and agenda were posted at the town shop and on the town website on November 11, 2025.

**15. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the October 6, 2025, board meeting were distributed to all who were present and, after everyone had a chance to review the minutes, a motion was made by Jonathan to approve them. The motion was seconded by Tom. Motion carried.

**16. Treasurer’s Report:** The Treasurer’s report was prepared by Laurie King and read by Laurie as follows:

**People’s State Bank Accounts:**

Checking	\$	28,341.50
Equipment fund savings		101.88
Red school house restoration		470.71
People’s Money Market		<u>84,098.22</u>
Total People’s State Bank Accounts:	\$	113,012.31

**Local Government Investment Pool Account:**

General	\$	11,687.18
LGIP Equipment		656.45
LGIP Red School		5,043.06
LGIP Building		<u>26.51</u>
LGIP Accounts Total	\$	17,413.20

**Total Monetary Assets** **\$ 130,425.51**

Laurie stated the shared revenue is included in the above balance. There are deposits included in the Red School House fund amounting to \$64.90 that Randy Dombeck donated for the Red School House fund for metal he had taken to J&J.

**17. Citizen Input:** None.

**18. Old Business:**

- **Update on Bridge by Marion Church:** Jerrod commented that as far as we know, the bridge project is still set for spring. The township is planning on hiring the county to do the project. Galen said electric and telephone are both in the way and will need to be notified, suggests talking to them now. Jerrod doesn't think anything is buried there, but there is a post there. Jerrod believes there is a telephone wire running across bridge.
- **Camera Update:** Jerrod said someone tried to steal the 2<sup>nd</sup> camera by the upper shed and they have tightened it up.
- **Update on Excavator:** This will be tabled to later on at another meeting.
- **Update on Mower:** This will be tabled to another meeting.
- **Salt Shed Update:** Jerrod had a bid from Cleary Building for a salt shed. Jerrod wanted to know if the board is opposed to having the Amish build the roof. The sides and floor would be cement. Jonathan said Brad Bay is too busy to do cement walls this year. Table to spring. Put on agenda for February. Judi will call DNR and ask for Joel to see if he can send a written letter regarding the salt shed being condemned and the specifics since the board has no letter.
- **Town Hall/Shop Update:** Board discussed timeline on this and if we should keep this on the agenda. Jonathan said we will need a referendum for town shop. Discussed if we would want to look at the April or November election for putting the building projects up for a referendum. This will be put on the agenda for December and discussed as it is getting tight to try to do a referendum with the timeline required and would have to have a more specific plan. Cheryl brought up the USDA website and being able to apply for loans or grants. This will be discussed further in December.
- **Line of Credit Update:** Jerrod said he doesn't think we need to worry about needing a line of credit this year.
- **Update on Sand Hill Tubes and Road Repair.** McCabe Construction is pouring the wing walls on bridge. Judi said he needs to send a certificate of insurance to her for worker's comp coverage.
- **Update on Pine Knob Tube and Road Repair:** We also need a certificate of insurance from Jordan Mulrooney. Pine Knob tube is done (above Brad Wetter's driveway).
- **Update on Dry Hollow Tubes and Road Repair.** Jerrod thought Jordan Mulrooney will be getting back to work this week or, if not, we may end up taking the tubes back to shed and waiting until next year to get them installed.
- **Update on FEMA WDF:** FEMA will not be covering the August 2025 flood damage. We are still waiting to hear on whether there will be help from the Wisconsin Disaster Funds from Jason at the Emergency Management office in Lancaster. Jerrod said we are the only township in grant county that turned anything in.

**2. New Business:**

- **Winter Road Mix Update:** Bob Frey had ½ load of salt he wanted to sell back. The Town of Milville bought a full load of salt and then Bob asked if we wanted to buy half of it. Jerrod said we will go ahead and take the half load and then get one full load ourselves. Bob will mix it

with chips and then we will haul it out of the quarry with the town truck. Waiting for them to crush again, which they are doing now.

- **Command Central Election Hardware Maintenance Agreement January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026:** A motion was made by Jonathan to sign the hardware maintenance agreement with Command Central. The motion was seconded by Tom. Jerrod signed the agreement as chairman.
- **Approve Newsletter for Tax Bills:** The newsletter was prepared by Laurie and discussed. Judi noted individuals are depositing aluminum cans in the general recycling at the town shop and thinks they are not aware there is a separate spot for aluminum can donations for the Red School House and recommended inserting something in the newsletter clarifying this.
- **Approve Town of Marion 2026 Calendar:** Motion by Tom to accept the 2026 calendar as prepared by Judi. Jonathan seconded the motion.
- **WISLR Local Road Certification/Pavement Ratings:** Discussed map from WISLR was originally sent out and discovered by DOT to have the incorrect mileage of the township. Judi was sent a link and went ahead and certified the mileage as being 39.92 miles. Jerrod and Judi will complete the pavement ratings material and get mailed in by the December 15 deadline.

**19. Future Agenda Items:** Building update, certificates of insurance for Mulrooney and McCabe, Dry Hollow Road tubes, WDF, appoint election workers for next 2 years.

**20. Patrolman's Report:** Tom said they are continuing to fill in along the edges of the roads where the flood washed spots out. Changed oil in both trucks for winter. Putting things back on trucks, new tires on. Big truck has new batteries. Digging out where salt shed will go. New snow plow and cutting edge on plow truck. Cheryl said you need to vote on things before purchasing them and can't make those types of purchases without being discussed at a board meeting. Discussed having documentation where the board will allow emergency purchases within limits.

**21. Correspondence:** Letter from Grant County Clerk regarding Kjos tree cutting. Letter from DOR regarding event venue alcohol beverage law changes and workshop available. WTA increase in membership letter.

**22. Approval of Invoices:** A motion was made by Tom to approve the invoices. Jonathan seconded the motion.

Additional checks written out after the November 2025 board meeting and before the December 2025 board meeting are:

- None.

**23. Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jonathan. Tom seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m. The December board meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith A. Boughton, Clerk