

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Thornapple Township: September 8, 2026

Chairman Tom Zelm called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Open meeting compliance was verified with notice posted in three locations.

Roll Call

Board members present: Chair, Tom Zelm; Supervisor, Ryan Smith; Supervisor, John Rautio; Clerk, Becky Smith; Quorum verified: YES

9 citizens present

Order of Business

- 1. Reading & action on board minutes:** John made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and was seconded by Tom; the motion carried.
- 2. Treasurer's report:** Treasurer Sue Pinnow was absent from the meeting and unable to present the report.
- 3. Review & approve payment of bills due:** The month's bills were reviewed and approved to be paid. Mention was made of the Monarch paving bill for Sawdust Road, and that we'll need to be sure the money is available before sending that check. Clarifications were made on the Wisconsin Correctional Facility check and the reimbursement to Ryan Smith regarding the Cedar Corporation online account, and all was in order. A motion to approve the bills was made by Tom and seconded by Ryan; the motion carried.
- 4. Boster Land Issue:** Neither Mr. Boster nor his representative were present at the meeting. The chairman reviewed the circumstances briefly for the citizens present. The Town has approved all the documentation which he has currently submitted, and anything further will need to be submitted or resubmitted to the Town if he wishes to proceed with anything further.
- 5. Private Road/Shared Private Driveway Ordinance:** An ordinance would prevent anyone from creating a single road or driveway for multiple residences without the approval of the Town. Currently the town is unable to enforce its restrictions, and this ordinance would grant the town authority to approve or deny requests for such a road. John also mentioned we would need to withdraw our request to rezone under Rusk Country. Tom made a motion to approve the ordinance and withdraw the zoning request and was seconded by John; the motion carried.
- 6. Adoption of Citation Ordinance:** In conjunction with the driveway ordinance, this would allow the town to issue citations/penalties for unpermitted construction, be it driveway/road or structure. A fee in the amount of \$250 per day of violation was suggested, discussed, and accepted. Ryan made a motion to adopt the ordinance and was seconded by Tom; the motion carried.
- 7. Development Moratorium Discussion/Adoption:** The town can adopt a moratorium on developments for up to six months, which allows the town time to consider whether or not to enact a subdivision ordinance or other restriction. The moratorium puts a hold on development progression until either the term of the hold ends or the town reaches its decision. Tom made a motion to adopt a development moratorium on the Andrew's property on McClean near Caley Lake while the Town considers the effects, in accordance with section 66.1002. John seconded the motion and it carried.

- 8. Cedar Corporation update:** The ArcGIS account has been created and set up for the town of Thornapple. We are now simply waiting for the data from the WISTLR report to be made accessible and imported. Tom is still working on that.
- 9. Bank Update:** New accounts have been created at CCF Bank in Ladysmith. Hopefully within a few months, we will have transferred everything over from the former account at Cumberland.
- 10. Roads report:** JR reported on the roads. We have still be using the inmates as part of the labor for road repairs, etc. Tom mentioned serving a brat/hot dog meal for them as a show of appreciation.
- 11. Equipment Report:** JR reported on equipment. Everything is in decent order except the tractor/boom mower. John suggested we begin looking for a new (used) tractor for use beginning next spring. We also still need to replace the windshield on the truck.
- 12. Buildings/Town Hall/Recycling Center:** No report was given.
- 13. Board of Review Dates:** The Open Book meeting is scheduled for October 7 at 2-6 P.M. The Board of Review will be held October 15, from 4-6 P.M.
- 14. Citizens' comments:** Mostly comments pertained to the roads: the sign at the end of Thornapple is still in need of repair/replacement; the corn growing right up to the edge of the road on Sawdust is causing visibility issues; we need chip seal and crack seal on Sawdust and McClane respectively. The former habit of spraying the dirt roads for dust prevention was also mentioned, and we may looking into resuming the practice in the spring.
- 15. Adjourn meeting:** Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 P.M. and was seconded by Ryan; the motion carried.

Next month's meeting will be on: October 13 at 7:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Becky Smith, Clerk

Minutes seen and approved by:

Tom Zelm, Chairman

Ryan Smith, Supervisor

John Rautio, Supervisor