

# Town of Calumet - Town Board Meeting

February 4, 2026

Chairman Don Breth called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll call: Chairman Don Breth, Supervisors Ben Burlingham and Tom Bartel present. Treasurer Jody Roffers was also present.

Chairman Breth confirmed that the meeting was noticed on the website, at the Town Hall on 2/2/2026.

Motion by Tom Bartel, seconded by Ben Burlingham, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

Breth announced that there are two candidates, James Sippel and Dennis Stenz (incumbent) running for Fond du Lac County Board Supervisor for District 12 in this Spring's election on April 7, 2026. Breth invited both to introduce themselves to this meeting's attendees to give them an opportunity to meet the candidates. Each candidate took a turn to explain why they are running for the position and comment on the major challenges that they see on the horizon for Fond du Lac County. Concerns regarding the County Jail's current building conditions, limited capacity and the cost and benefits of refurbishing and expanding the current site, or building a new jail at a new location, were among the top of each candidate's concerns. A listening session with time for questions and answers was at the conclusion of each candidate's presentation.

Tom Bartel reported that the Plan Commission met in January to work on drafting a revised Adult Oriented Establishments ordinance. They will be using language that exists in neighboring townships for consistency in this general area.

Dan Casper reported that the Fire Department has raffle tickets available and the drawing will be in March. Casper also recommended that people should stay off the ice on lakes due to the recent warm temperatures and rain we have seen.

Don Breth reported that The Town of Calumet received the grant money for the Weber Road project was ~\$690,000. The entire amount will be paid against the principle of the loan taken for the project.

Jeff Secord reported that the third winter-hours day off was on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. Jan 24<sup>th</sup> was very cold but safety measures were put in place to open the recycling center without putting the employees in undo risk rather than close for a second week in a row. A suggestion was made to use the website more to communicate when the recycling center will be closed.

Bartel announced that the County should have plans drawn up for the next ARTS project next month. More projects are in the works.

**New Business** – Breth announced that County Supervisor Sam Kaufman has offered to allow adding an ATV/UTV connector by allowing ATV/UTV to use County Highway W from Highway 151 to Kiel Road. Breth mentioned that Board members will touch base with the ATV/UTV club to identify what their interest is in having this additional corridor made available.

**Old Business** – Breth shared detail regarding the difference in cost to the Town of Calumet for the two scenarios that include paying off the final four years of the existing loan for the fire truck that was purchased a couple years ago, or by rolling the balance of that loan into the new loan for the tender truck that is currently being built. The key takeaways that make rolling the balance of the current loan into the new loan include:

1. To be debt-free 7 months sooner, the Town pays an additional \$291,51 in total interest while gaining 7 additional months of flexibility.
2. Monthly payments of \$6,981.25 are often easier to “bake into” a monthly operating budget than trying to ensure \$70,000 is available for a single annual payment.
3. In September 2029 (month 42), the Town has \$6,981.25 in “new” monthly capital available for other needs (repairs, fuel, staffing). In the 3.5% scenario, that money is technically “owed” to the bank until the final annual payment in March 2030.

Bartel commented that a draft of the Town of Calumet Expense Policy is still being worked on. The draft will be posted on the Town of Calumet Website for the public to review. The policy will be reviewed at the next monthly meeting.

There were no reports on meetings attended by Board members since the last monthly meeting of 12/22/2025.

The next Town Board Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 7 pm.**

Motion by Bartel, seconded by Burlingham, to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Secord, Town of Calumet Interim Clerk