

Village of West Salem  
Regular Meeting  
April 15, 2025

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Excused: Hennessey. Also present: Debbi Rucinski, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Engineer Joe Pingel, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

Trustee Kat Anderson arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Public Comment

Debbi Rucinski, Lewis Street, appeared before the Board to voice her concern over how the La Crosse County Farm Concept Resolution was handled. It felt rushed, like there was no public input, and it would appear that the Village is in support of the concept based upon the news articles circulating. There was also concern with the presentation before the La Crosse County Executive Committee board, that referred to Resolution 1.25 – Endorsement of County Farm Development Concept, as the Village’s “endorsement of the Country Boom project by resolution.”

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2025, regular meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims were presented for payment totaling \$72,064.71.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the payment of all claims as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Application for Temporary Class “B”/“Class B” Retailer’s License

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve the issuance of a Class “B”/“Class B” Retailer’s License to the West Salem Volunteer Fire Department for the annual dance beginning May 3 and ending May 4, 2025. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Application for Temporary Class “B”/“Class B” Retailer’s License

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the issuance of a Class “B”/“Class B” Retailer’s License to June Dairy Days beginning May 30 and ending June 1, 2025. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Special Event Application

Motion by Trustee Curtis, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approved the issuance of a Special Event Permit to the June Dairy Days Committee to host the Annual June Dairy Days Parade on May 31, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m., starting at Tilson and Leonard Streets and ending at Leonard and Elm Streets. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

### Resolution No. 2.25

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve Resolution 2.25 Fireworks Permit for June Dairy Days 2025 as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

### County Farm

President Schumacher updated the Board on the County Farm and advised that La Crosse County has decided the land is not for sale. The Village has been advised our offer-to-purchase 7.5 acres is still being considered. Trustee Leicht voiced his disappointment on how the Resolution was handled and that it makes it appear as if the Village is in favor of the "Country Boom" project. Trustee Lautz also voiced his disapproval, with Trustee Twining also in agreement.

### Resolution No. 3.25

Clerk/Treasurer Bohl advised the board that there is roughly \$36,000 remaining from the tax incremental district that will need to be distributed between all taxing entities.

Motion by Trustee Twining, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve Resolution 3.25 – Tax Incremental District Termination Resolution to Terminate Tax Incremental District #1 as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

### 2025-2026 Committee Appointments

Motion by Trustee Curtis, seconded by Trustee Lautz to approve the 2025-2026 Committee Appointments with the removal of Teresa DeLong from the Board of Review and the addition of Ashley Bohl. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

### Official Bank Depository

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz to designate Union State Bank of West Salem as the official Village depository. Roll call vote: Curtis – abstain; remainder of Board – aye. Motion approved.

### Official Newspaper

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Curtis to designate the La Crosse Tribune as the official newspaper for legal publications pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 985.02(1). Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

President Schumacher updated the Board on the Onalaska Public Transit system and that they will be sending out requests for proposals in late 2026 for a new contract in 2027.

Public Works Director Loren Schwier advised that three Public Works employees recently passed water and sewer certification tests, the water department has been flushing hydrants this week, the street sweeper has been up-and-running, sludge hauling will begin, and some excavation was required on a detention pond over by the Waterloo addition.

Village Engineer Joe Pingel reported that the drainage ditch issue is being repaired and is expected to be complete by tomorrow, and that he will be engaging Mathy Construction to begin finishing touches on Industrial Drive.

President Schumacher read the following Proclamation:

Two Lights for Tomorrow Day Proclamation

WHEREAS, on the night of April 18th, 1775, two lanterns were lit in the tower of a Boston church to signal that British troops were on the move “by sea” toward Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Paul Revere and others undertook a midnight ride on horseback, racing out to warn their fellow countrymen of the impending danger; and

WHEREAS, alerted to the threat, Americans came together and organized defenses at Lexington and Concord on April 19th in the first battles of what became the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, these courageous acts helped to secure a future for themselves, their children, and generations after; and

WHEREAS, many States, communities, and organizations nationwide, have taken steps to participate in “Two Lights for Tomorrow” events, including the Wisconsin Legislature’s passage of 2025 Assembly Joint Resolution 17, proclaiming the week of April 14, 2025, as Two Lights for Tomorrow Week; and

WHEREAS, these events are part of a broader effort to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding, to recognize our shared history, to bolster community and commitment to shared values, and to move together toward a better future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Schumacher, President of the Village of West Salem Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim April 18th, 2025, as “Two Lights for Tomorrow Day”, and encourage people to remember and honor the sacrifices that have been made for our sake, and what we can do to carry that legacy forward.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the Village of West Salem, Wisconsin, on this 15th day of April, 2025.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer