

**Village of Holmen
Board Proceedings
February 12, 2026**

President Barlow called the Holmen Village Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm on February 12, 2026, at the Holmen Village Hall.

Board members present: Patrick Barlow, Sam Kube, Doug Jorstad, Micah Wyss, Rich Anderson, Dawn Kulcinski and Travis Elam. Also present were Mike Lavery, Troy Brindle, Zach Schneeberger, Caden Douglas, Administrator Heinig, Director of Operations & Finance/Clerk/Treasurer Hornberg, Captain Spears, Public Works Director/Engineer Dahl, Park & Recreation Director Geary and Attorney Weber.

Public Comment

Mike Lavery thanked the Board for allowing the Holmen Area Fire Department to utilize 406 Main Street South for fire training exercises.

Minutes

Travis Elam/Doug Jorstad motioned to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2026 Board Meeting as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

Planning Commission

Informational items only.

Park, Recreation and Library Committee

Micah Wyss/Dawn Kulcinski motioned to approve the purchase of a Ford F-250 from Ewald Automotive Group in the amount of \$46,021.00. The motion carried 7-0.

Micah Wyss/Dawn Kulcinski motioned to approve the purchase of a new plow from Universal Truck Equipment in the amount of \$10,020.00. The motion carried 7-0.

Micah Wyss/Doug Jorstad motioned to approve the purchase of a new Bobcat UTV from Bobcat of the Coulee Region in the amount of \$32,403.00. Wyss noted that the department's old UTV will be transferred to the Public Works department. The motion carried 7-0.

Law Enforcement Committee

Travis Elam/Doug Jorstad motioned to approve the payment for the third year of a five-year license contract with Axon. The motion carried 7-0.

Travis Elam/Dawn Kulcinski motioned to approve the purchase of Magnet Forensics software at a total cost of \$18,400.00. Elam noted that this software will replace the current Cellebrite platform due to its enhanced capabilities and that the State will grant the department \$10,000.00 towards the cost. The motion carried 7-0.

Public Works Committee

Rich Anderson/Doug Jorstad motioned to approve 2026 Street Reconstruction project bid with Mathy Construction in the amount of \$733,039.03. The motion carried 7-0.

Rich Anderson/Travis Elam motioned to approve purchase of Seven Bridges Lift Station backup generator from Kish & Sons Electric in the amount of \$41,330.00. The motion carried 7-0.

Rich Anderson/Travis Elam motioned to approve the purchase of a vibratory roller from Bobcat of the Coulee Region in the amount of \$12,541.00. The motion carried 7-0.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Doug Jorstad/Micah Wyss motioned to approve payment of the claims as presented for the amount of \$5,279,167.32. The motion carried 7-0.

Doug Jorstad/Rich Anderson motioned to approve Development Agreement for King's Bluff Estates First Addition as presented. Administrator Heinig specified that the agreement is a renewal from the agreement that was originally approved in April 2024. The agreement is standard and does not include any type of subsidy from the Village. The motion carried 7-0.

Shared Ride Committee

Trustee Kube remarked that the group plans to review an updated contract at the next quarterly meeting to take effect in 2027 and replace the 2021 contract. He reported that the Town of Onalaska has asked to join the shared ride group, stating that the group will review the request to ensure there would be no negative impacts on current residents before moving forward. Kube reported that ridership among Village of Holmen residents continues to increase. President Barlow asked Kube to ensure the group proceeds with caution to avoid any negative impacts on the current arrangement with the addition of new participants. Administrator Heinig pointed out the Town of Onalaska's has historically not desired partnerships that require financial contributions, thus any changes should be discussed cautiously to ensure fairness. Trustee Anderson requested additional information from Running, Inc. prior to approving a contract renewal.

Municipal Court Update

Administrator Heinig commented that at the January meeting, the 2025 financial statements were reviewed and Amanda Jackson provided an update on the City of La Crosse's desire to align court schedules with the Joint Municipal Court.

Fire Board Report

Trustee Elam reported on the department's 2025 financial status and recent equipment purchases. He noted that black mold has been identified in the current fire station and that plans to remediate the issue are forthcoming. Elam also stated that the department recently received a donation that will be used to purchase a cardiac monitor. He commented that calls for 2025 reached a record high of 1,370.

President Barlow further remarked on the mold remediation status and asked Administrator Heinig to update the Board on recent discussions regarding collaborative fire department efforts.

Heinig informed the Committee that the Town of Onalaska has withdrawn its financial support for the previously agreed-upon joint study toward a unified fire department involving the City of Onalaska, Town of Holland, and the Village of Holmen. Heinig reported that he suggested the group continue moving forward with a joint fire study and consider the situation as a potential merger of two fire departments rather than multiple separate communities.

Bluffland Coalition Report

Trustee Kube stated that the annual report outlining conservation and recreation efforts by the Bluffland Coalition is available on the organization's website and encouraged all to review it.

County Supervisor's Report

President Barlow asked Administrator Heinig to update the Board on recent ATV/UTV discussions with the County. Heinig shared that he met and worked with Supervisor Joe Kovacevich to provide guidance to County leadership regarding a failed ATV/UTV ordinance amendment that was not initially in legal compliance. He assisted in outlining appropriate routes and clarifying necessary details, ensuring that all required signage would be installed at the County's expense. He stated that the revisions will ensure urban areas are excluded from ATV/UTV routes where desired and that the Sheriff's Department will continue to enforce local ordinances and issue citations to riders operating in unapproved areas.

President's Report

President Barlow reviewed his written report for the month.

Dawn Kulcinski/Rich Anderson motioned to approve the Barlow's appointment of John Zimmerman to the vacant position on the Police Commission. Barlow noted that Zimmerman had a long career in law enforcement, is highly recommended and is eager to serve on the Commission. The motion carried 7-0.

Other Items before the Board

Trustee Kube thanked staff for keeping the community safe and running smoothly.

President Barlow remarked on that long-time employee Rhonda Hesselberg retired on Friday and reported that new employee Jody Wickler began on Monday.

Closed Session

At 7:52 pm, Doug Jorstad/Travis Elam motioned to convene into closed session per Wisconsin State Statute:

Authority: §19.85(1) (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session

Purpose: Fire Department Discussions
Purchase of Land

Authority: §19.85(1) (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

Purpose: Developer Agreement Conditions
Rural Water Association Class Action
Claim Settlement Update

Authority: §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.

Purpose: Update of Personnel Injury

The motion carried 7-0.

At 8:57 pm, Micah Wyss/Doug Jorstad motioned to reconvene into open session per Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(2). The motion carried 7-0.

Travis Elam/Rich Anderson motioned to amend the King's Bluff Developer Agreement conditions to allow for the holding of existing reimbursements as insured protection in response to issues encountered during infrastructure installation. The motion carried 7-0.

Doug Jorstad/Travis Elam motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. The motion carried 7-0.

Angela A. Hornberg
Director of Operations & Finance/Clerk/Treasurer