
Town of Lorain Board Meeting

Call to order

The Town of Lorain Board met on Thursday, February 12th, 2026 at the town hall at 7:29 pm. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roger Owens. The Town Clerk Kathy Hudson verified that the meeting was properly noticed both at the hall and on the town website.

Roll Call:

Chairman: Roger Owens. Supervisors: Steven Larson & Duane Truehart. Clerk: Kathy Hudson. Treasurer: Sam Tietz.

Attendees:

Annette Schallenberger.

Minutes:

Duane Truehart made a motion to approve meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Steven Larson. The motion carried.

Duane Truehart made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous month's meeting and the minutes of the January Emergency meeting. The motion was seconded by Steven Larson. The motion carried.

Sam Tietz presented the Treasurer's financial report. Steven Larson made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Duane Truehart. The motion carried.

Duane Truehart made a motion to pay bills. The motion was seconded by Steven Larson. The motion carried.

Public Input:

None

Old Business:

-None

New Business:

-The board reviewed the town hall rental agreement. Steven Larson made a motion to approve the agreement with the amendment of adding the rule "A designated adult must be on premise for all youth events scheduled." to the form. The motion was seconded by Duane Truehart. The motion carried.

-The board requested that the Town Clerk conduct research on a records request policy and tabled further discussion until the next board meeting.

-Board discussed options of converting remaining 25th Street project Line of credit balance into a regular bank loan. Board tabled a final decision until the next month's board meeting.

-The board reviewed the 3 new Operator's License applications for an Autumn Ricci, Stephanie Kanke, and Rose Houtari. Duane Truehart made a motion to approve the three new Operator's Licenses. The motion was seconded by Steve Larson. The motion carried.

-The board reviewed the Poll worker pay for towns in Polk County and determined that the Poll worker's pay for the Town of Lorain was similar to that of other towns in Polk County. No further action was taken.

-The board reviewed the quote for upgrading the Town Hall's security system. It was determined that if the upgrade was done the landline for the town hall could be shut down saving the town about \$100 per month. Duane Truehart made a motion to approve the upgrade. The motion was seconded by Steve Larson. The motion carried.

-The board discussed the retirement of the current Hall cleaner. It was determined that a newspaper ad should be placed, as well as a posting on the town's website requesting bids from interested companies. The matter was tabled until the March board meeting so that bids could be reviewed.

-The board discussed installing a delivery box at the town hall. It was determined that further information was needed and the matter was tabled until the next month's meeting.

-The board discussed the new Polk County Shoreland Ordinance changes and the possibility of joining other municipalities in exploring legal action to stop the proposed changes. It was determined that the board members would participate in a joint municipality phone conversation with an attorney to determine next steps, if any, to take. The matter was tabled until the next month's meeting, after the joint conversation was held.

Reports:

Town Supervisor Steve Larson presented the Comprehensive Planning Committee report. He stated that currently there was nothing to report but that the next committee meeting was scheduled for the last Tuesday in March at 7:30pm at the Town Hall.

No Fire Department report was given. Duane Truehart reported that the Annual DNR training was scheduled for Monday night.

Chairman Roger Owens presented the Ambulance Service Report. He reported that the new ambulance purchased by the Ambulance service was scheduled for delivery in March. He reported that the annual Ambulance service Smelt fry fundraiser was scheduled for April 11th. He reported that the Executive Ambulance Committee was scheduled to meet in February.

Chairman Roger Owens presented the Cemetery Report. He stated that there was nothing new to report.

Chairman Roger Owens reported that the new town hall furnace had been installed. He reported that it had taken about 3 hours to remove the old furnace and install the new one.

Announcements:

-None

Agenda Items for next meeting:

-Discuss formal policy for records requests with possible action

-Discuss hiring of new town hall cleaner with possible action

-Discuss bank loan options for 25th street project line of credit with possible action.

-Discuss installation of a delivery box at town hall with possible action.

-Schedule annual meeting and reschedule of regular board meeting for April with possible action.

-Discuss new Polk county Shoreland zoning and option of joining a coalition of towns to hire legal representation with possible legal action.

Adjournment

Steven Larson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Duane Truehart. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:07 PM.

Kathy Hudson-Town Clerk