



VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Kronenwetter Municipal Center - 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Board Room (Lower Level)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Village President David Baker called the June 23, 2025 Village Board Meeting to order at 6 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance were invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

PRESENT: *President David Baker, Trustee Ken Charneski, Trustee Aaron Myszka, Trustee Craig Mortensen, Trustee Sandi Sorensen, Trustee Dan Joling, Trustee Jessica Stowell*

STAFF: *Community Development Director Peter Wegner, Public Works Director Greg Ulman, Interim Finance Director John Jacobs, Clerk Jennifer Poyer*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ariel Scheftgen, 2384 Old Highway 51, Kronenwetter, WI 54455- *Comment read by village clerk and attached to minutes.*

Carley Jones, 1525 Maple Ridge Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 - *Comment read by village clerk and attached to minutes.*

Sam Gooch, 949 Oak Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – *Comment read by village clerk and attached to minutes.*

Ken Maciaz, 3883 Martin Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – *Maciaz commented on the speed limit change agenda item. Maciaz is a resident on Martin Road. He said the speed limit should remain 45 mph due to the condition of the road; amounts of wildlife present; and the usage level by vehicles and bike riders.*

Sheldon Rouse, 2217 Setter Drive, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – *Rouse commented on the speed limit change agenda item. He said Martin Road should continue to have a 45-mph speed limit due to the road conditions. He said it is up to the discretion of the Village Board to make the determination.*

Randy Charneski, 1612 Maple Ridge Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455 – *Charneski commented on the speed limit change agenda item. He said he has lived on Maple Ridge Road for 35 years. He suggested making the speed limit 45 mph on a portion of the road but not the entire road.*

3. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS

C. Public Works Director Report

Public Works Director Greg Ulman presented his report. He gave an update on the construction on Kronenwetter Drive; lift stations; and park upgrades.

D. Community Development Director Report

Community Development Director Peter Wegner presented his report. He answered questions regarding a rezone on 3037 W. Nick Avenue and fireworks and explosives permit requirements.

E. Interim Finance Director Report

Interim Finance Director John Jacobs presented his report. He reviewed the first quarter financials of the General Fund. He answered questions received from Village Board members.

F. Village President Report - Additional Assigned Duties

President Baker presented his report. He mentioned the administrative assistant applicants; attorney RFP; and Tower wood water problem.

4. CONSENT AGENDA - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

G. June 9, 2025 Village Board Meeting Minutes

H. Operator (Bartender) Licenses

- 1) Jackie Kasten
- 2) Sheila K. Kuhnert
- 3) Kristine A. Morgan
- 4) Lindsay A. Seering
- 5) Kathleen R. Fox
- 6) Cameron J. Pflanzner
- 7) Jason W. Holmes
- 8) Amy A. Stenberg

Motion by Charneski/Myszka to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

5. OLD BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

I. 45 mph Speed Limit – Martin and Maple Ridge Roads

Motion by Mortensen/Myszka to retain the speed limit on Martin and Maple Ridge Roads, to leave them at 45 mph. Motion carried by roll call vote. 6:1. Voting yea- Baker, Myszka, Mortensen, Sorensen, Joling, Stowell; Voting nay – Charneski

Discussed the legality of the change; safety concerns; road conditions; legal opinion; possible solutions; traffic and engineering study; law enforcement's presence; traffic regulations; Wis. Stats. 496 and 349; and resident feedback. Additional residents were given an opportunity to voice their opinion on the matter.

Item 6K was discussed after 5I.

J. 51 Bar & Grill Alcohol License Renewal

Motion by Charneski/Mortensen to approve the renewal for the alcohol license for Scott Newbauer for the 51 Bar & Grill. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Discussed action to take in regard to remind Newbauer to be a responsible bar owner and police report.

6. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

K. Extension of Road Grader Lease

Motion by Charneski/Mortensen to accept the extension of the road grader lease with the annual payment of \$27,858.22. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Public Works Director Ulman and Public Works Lead Brad Jacobson presented and explained the lease extension for the road grader.

L. May 2025 Vouchers and ACH Transactions

Interim Finance Director Jacobs answered questions regarding the vouchers and ACH transactions.

M. Village Board Member Budget Training Attendance

Motion by Myszka/Mortensen to approved the meeting attendance of the budget training for members Sorensen, Joling and Stowell for a cost of \$225.

Motion carried by roll call vote. 4:0. Voting yea- Baker, Charneski, Mortensen, Myszka, Mortensen; Abstaining - Sorensen, Joling, Stowell

Discussed trustees reporting on training and approval process.

N. RESOLUTION NO.: 2025-007 Approving the Village's 2024 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report

Motion by Mortensen/Charneski to approve the 2024 CMAR Packet. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

No discussion.

O. Zoning Change Request and CSM Chad Bleibaum (PC)

Motion by Charneski/Joling to approve the zoning change request for Chad Bleibaum, 4192 Martin Road. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7:0.

No discussion.

P. Consideration of Village President David Baker to Serve as Interim Village Administrator

Motion by Mortensen/Myszka to postpone until next Village Board meeting. Motion failed by roll call vote. 3:3. Voting yea- Mortensen, Myszka, Stowell; Voting nay – Charneski, Sorensen, Joling; Abstaining – Baker

Motion by Sorensen/Joling to offer interim position to David Baker with a cap of \$14,750 at a rate of \$30 per hour or until we hire an administrator, whichever comes first starting June 24, 2025.

Motion failed by roll call vote. 3:1. Voting yea- Sorensen, Joling, Charneski; Voting nay – Myszka; Abstaining – Baker, Stowell, Mortensen

Discussed legal opinions from the League of WI Municipalities and Village attorney; administrator hiring process; administrator duties needed; Baker's hours spent working on administrative duties versus Village president duties; contractor versus employee status; possible cap or end date; and pay.

7. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Q. March 17, 2025 Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

R. March 31, 2025 Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

S. April 21, 2025 Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

T. January 7, 2025 Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

U. April 8, 2025 Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

V. May 6, 2025 Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

W. May 15, 2025 Administrative Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Board members commented on missing attribution on Utility Committee meeting minutes.

8. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Von Briesen Report

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Charneski/Stowell to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Jennifer Poyer

From: Jennifer Poyer
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 7:15 AM
To: David M. Baker; Ken Charneski; Craig Mortensen; Aaron Myszka; Jessica Stowell; Sandi Sorensen; Dan Joling
Subject: FW: [External] Public comment

Please see the public comment for tonight's Village Board meeting.(below)



Jennifer Poyer
Village of Kronenwetter
Village Clerk

Phone: 715-693-4200 ext. 1722
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From: a s <atootiem@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2025 11:07 PM
To: Jennifer Poyer <jpayer@kronenwetter.gov>
Subject: [External] Public comment

Hi there!

"This is Ariel Scheftgen currently at 2384 Old Highway 51 Kronenwetter WI. Our update for the county purchasing our property is that it has passed in the infrastructure and HR/finance committees on the county level. I think it has yet to pass at the entire County Board level. We still have not secured a new(new to us) home. We appreciate your support and will continue to update as we know more. "

Jennifer Poyer

From: Carley Jones <carleyejones@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2025 4:01 PM
To: Jennifer Poyer
Cc: David M. Baker
Subject: [External] Maple Ridge Road Speed Limit Public Comment - 6/23/2025

Jennifer: Please include this public comment at the Village Board Meeting on 6/23/2025.

Village Board:

My name is Carley Jones and I live at 1525 Maple Ridge Road. I am a municipal engineer practicing for 10 years that spends every day advising municipalities around the state. I unfortunately will not be at the Village Board meeting as my 1-year-old son is having surgery in Milwaukee today with a minimum of a one-night mandatory overnight stay.

I have spoken to you previously on my concerns of the legality of the Board's ability to change the speed limit on Maple Ridge Road. Based on my review of the lawyer's report, he is giving the Village the ability to keep the speed limit at 45 MPH ONLY IF the change was based on the content of the traffic report.

In my opinion, the reasons previously stated for changing the speed limit are NOT based on the traffic report. I will briefly outline why below. The reasons I have seen stated for the traffic change are as follows:

- **General Safety of the Road with potential for accidents:** According to the report, there has been 10 accidents in the last 5 years. This is much lower than I would have expected if the road was not safe. 5 of the accidents were related to deer, 3 were property damage accidents, 2 accidents from impaired drivers. In my opinion this would not provide a conclusion that the road is unsafe. Assuming 192,000 trips on the road per year, only 0.001% of those trips result in an accident.
- **Concerns about stopping distance for driveways near the hill between Spring and Oak:** This was not analyzed in the report and cannot be used as a reason according to the Lawyer's review. I would recommend either conducting a review of the vertical curves and stopping distance or to install road signs to inform drivers of the existing condition such as "hidden driveway" or "hills block views".
- **Not having a shoulder on the road:** It is unclear in the report if this was analyzed. Based on personal experience, there is a gravel shoulder on the road that seems to be compliance with the typical section for a local road with the average daily trips and a speed limit of 55 MPH according to the DOT guidance.
- **Condition of the Road:** This was not analyzed in the report and cannot be used as a reason according to the Lawyer's review.
- **Speeding Drivers:** Max Speed and Minimum Speed was noted in the report. But, DOT notes in their FAQ's about speed limits that lowering the speed limit will not fix this issue and that an increase in law enforcement presence is the best approach to this problem.
- **Average Speed in the Report was 52 MPH:** While this may seem to intuitively make sense to set a speed limit. It is actually not the generally accepted data point to use when choosing a speed limit. It is more generally the 85th percentile speed limit when conducting a traffic study. It is noted in the guidance attached to the agenda packet that the general practice for the DOT to "approve speed limits which fall within 5 mph of the measured 85th percentile speed and no more than 2 mph below the measured average speed". I had a conversation with

the Police Chief, and the 85th percentile on the Maple Ridge Road study (from November) was actually 58 MPH. So a more generally accepted speed limit would be anything from 55 MPH to 60MPH.

At risk of the village being subject to future litigation per the Lawyer's report, I highly recommend that the Board reverse the previous approval from January that lowered the speed limit to 45 MPH as there is not any content within the report that would conclude that a speed reduction was necessary.

Thanks,
Carley Jones

Sam Gooch

949 Oak Rd

Public Comment for Village Board Meeting

Dear Village Board Members,

I am submitting this comment regarding the agenda item on speed limits for Maple Ridge Road and Martin Road. I would like to express my support for maintaining a 55 mph speed limit, particularly on Maple Ridge Road.

Maple Ridge is a rural road, very similar to other county roads in the area that are posted at 55 mph. It also serves as an important access route to the highway, where efficient travel is important for many residents. According to the village engineer's report, a reduction in speed to 45 mph is not warranted based on road conditions and traffic data.

I understand and empathize with the concerns of residents regarding speeding. However, I do not believe lowering the speed limit is the right solution. If speeding is occurring, increased enforcement would likely be more effective. The speed study data shows that many drivers were already significantly exceeding the 55 mph limit—indicating that the problem lies with enforcement, not the posted speed limit itself.

Additionally, a reduced speed limit may unintentionally introduce new safety concerns. A 45 mph limit could increase the variation in driving speeds along the road, potentially leading to tailgating, unsafe passing, and general driver frustration—all of which can increase the risk of crashes.

I would suggest reinstalling a radar speed sign at the current 45 mph limit and comparing that data with the earlier report from when the limit was 55. This would give the board more complete information when making a decision.

Lastly, I encourage the board to consider the input of engineers and traffic experts. Public safety matters, and a reasoned, evidence-based approach will best serve the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sam Gooch