

TOWN OF FRANKFORT

August 4, 2026-minutes

The Town Board meeting was called to order by Chair Brad Anderson at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Kurt Manore, Joshua Manor-absent, Donna Julef-absent (arrives at 6:34)and Bryce Black. In attendance; Sally Farrar, Attorney Brian Nodolf, Greg Bechel and Cynthia Lane. Via zoom was Jenny Jahnke. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Minutes from the 7-14-2026 meeting were accepted with corrections made to spelling of names.

Financial Report was accepted as presented.

Report on Ridge Breeze Dairy Tour. Attending from the Town of Frankfort were Supervisors Kurt Manore and Bryce Black, who also serves on the Planning Commission. Maureen Manore-Planning Commission recording secretary & Town Deputy Clerk. Debra Fisher-Town Clerk and Planning Commission member and citizen Kathleen Plunkett-Black.

Supervisors & Commission members were asked to respond to 3 questions. These answers were collected and presented via email to the town board members for discussion. While no official motion was made, the consensus was to have the Planning Commission continue to research current laws and ordinances and possibly work with those in the community who are interested in a study group.

Transfer of sand mine lease. After a brief discussion that covered the following:

1. Bryce Black reviewed 2012 original non-metallic mine agreement which expires in 2032. If Haas wants to continue they will have to re-negotiate with the town. Attorney Nodolf stated that Haas was aware of that situation and timeline.

Mine operators would like contact information of the town board and immediate neighbors-a contact list to give 24 hours advance notice of operations (blasting) which is a standard practice. According to the information provided, 111 mines are in operation around the state.

Black also asked Attorney Nodolf if he was aware of Richardsons (land owner) desire to build a data center. Nodolf replied "The land owner can do what they want provided it doesn't interfere with Haas operations." Operator is responsible for liability policy and attorney fees.

Donna Julef requested that as a town, the agreement should be cleaned up and become one current document.

Bryce Black made the motion; 'To approve the transfer of the non-metallic mining operating agreement from Greg Bechel to Haas and Sons under the condition that no frac sand mining would occur without further agreement. **Second, Kurt Manore.** In a roll call vote all members present at the meeting (B. Anderson, K. Manore, D. Julef, B. Black) voted yea. Motion carried.

As the 2027 Durand Fire District Budget was unavailable in print for review, this and the agreement with the Fire district will be on the September Agenda for approval.

Road Report: Most roads have been repaired. Beaver Slide project has been completed, with seal coating happening this week on Beaver Slide and Elk Creek.

Concern over a culvert on Plum Valley road half way up the hill on the road right away was brought to the boards attention by Kurt Manore.

Citizen's Concerns: Sally Farrar expressed her concerns over the proposed 'small data center' with solar. Her research show that Midwest Solar (2019) continues to plant these small data centers that are modular and are designed for quick expansion. 'How much can they expand?'

"These (data center) are not really a permitted use in our zoning" said Bryce Black. "According to our zoning we don't have industrial businesses in the town."

Another question raised is how quickly will these data centers become obsolete?

Circling back to CAFO and manure spreading the question of where to go from here. A softer approach with a request to notify the town, number of trucks per day, at least open a dialogue and have a seat at the table for discussion.

The problem isn't just manure. It is tonnage for everyone that utilizes the town roads. How can the Town of Frankfort support Agriculture and protect the roads?

Bryce Black: "I think it would be a good idea to have the Plan Commission do a study group and pull together the current available information from NRCS and Pepin Co Land Conservation and use Maria Nelson as a resource.

Brad Anderson: Remember, there is less manure spreading than 20 years ago, when we have several small farms, each hauling and spreading on a regular basis throughout the years.

Bills Approved: Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 8th at 6:30 pm.

Debra Fisher-Clerk

Approved at the September 8, 2026 Board Meeting of the Town of Frankfort