

REGULAR MEETING
February 10, 2025
MINUTES
6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER

- 1) The Regular Board Meeting on February 10, 2025 was called to order by President Steve Buss at 6:00pm.

Board present: Steve Buss, Claudia Simpson, Christin Keeffer, Brian Peight, Dean Rood, Brandon Smith, and Nicole Callos.
Not present: Cathy Stevens, Brooke Baldauf. Also Present: Brian Nott, Tom Green, Dan Stevens, Kory Polhill, Lindsay Buss, Robin Walton, Tillie Coomber

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 13, 2025**
On a motion by Rood second by Peight to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2025 Board Meeting. ALL AYE.
- 3) **APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE REPORT**
On a motion by Keeffer second by Peight approving the Bills Payable Report as presented. ALL AYE.
- 4) **TREASURER'S REPORT ACCEPTANCE**
Callos presented the report for January. On a motion by Keeffer second by Rood to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. ALL AYE
- 5) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
There was no public participation at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, WATER & SEWER – NO REPORT

(A) **VILLAGE ENGINEER**

Nott reported the following updates: 1) Milfred Street construction plans have been approved by IDOT.. 2) Camp, Townline and Main Street improvements are to be combined for bid dates: February 14 out to bid, bid opening at the end of February. 3) Street Patching for 2025: Nott has received list from Brandt Esling to be reviewed and assessed for cost. 4) IEPA storm project: Bridget has been researching this project and has been in contact with the IEPA. 5) Lena Drive Inn: Plans have been received by the County Highway. Peight stated the County wants to set up a meeting to go over plans. 6) Water Main Plans: List has been received. Meeting set up in next two weeks.

(A) **ATTORNEY'S REPORT / ZONING & PLANNING**

Green stated he will be putting together an insert for building codes for the Village Ordinance. He hoped to have this drafted for the March Board Meeting to be adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

6) **DISCUSS BUDGET**

Callos presented the spreadsheet for the Village Budget for the Board to review. The following were mentioned: Revenues are based loosely off of last years numbers and the tax levy. The street improvement loan has not been pulled from yet. Sales Tax Referendum money has been used so far. Milfred Street will use MFT funds for HMA. Water funds will be used for water work. Lena Drive Inn is out of storm drain funds. CD is up in April, Callos stated it may be a good time to cash it in to use toward projects. Police wanted to budget for a new roof, a new vehicle and coinciding equipment. Ipads for the Board would fall under the administrative budget. Buss stated Streets will no longer be needing some equipment. TIF has ended. The IEPA Loan will be under revenue this coming year. The goal is to pay off in 13 years rather than 20. The loan percentage will be confirmed.

7) **DISCUSS/APPROVE SPYDES TO CREATE A NEW ADA COMPLIANT WEBSITE**

The Board reviewed a proposal from local company, Spydes, in the amount of a one time fee of \$4,750 to redesign and update the Village website and \$550 annually. The current company would charge \$3,500 only to update the website to be ADA compliant. On a motion by Keeffer second by Peight approving Spydes to create a new ADA compliant website for the Village of Lena. ALL AYE.

8) **DISCUSS CEMETERY UPDATES**

Buss stated the Cemetery will be going to a three person board. It is an arm of the Village with taxes, receiving approximately \$10-\$12,000 annually. It was discussed that the cemetery would require a referendum to raise their tax levy, and how the Village could assist in doing this in April of 2026. This has not been adjusted in 75 years. Buss stated as an example, on a \$3,000 tax bill, it would raise it \$2.50 for the resident. Buss stated the Cemetery Board has done an amazing job keeping the Burial Ground a beautiful place over the years and Lena is very fortunate.

9) **DISCUSS COMED LED LIGHT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

Buss stated that he has found out that Crescent electric has a rebate program that they work with that covers the bill immediately rather than doing a reimbursement. ComEd ran out of money for the program before the Village could take advantage this last time; employees have put together a list of all quantities and locations of bulbs to be ready for the next replacement to be eligible for the rebate. This is important for energy efficiency as well as cost.

10) **DISCUSS 118 E Railroad**

Buss reported that the Village Fire Chief submitted their report to the State Fire Marshall.

11) **DISCUSS/APPROVE AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE 25-002**

On a motion by Keeffer second by Smith approving the Authorizing Ordinance #25-002 for the IEPA Loan. ALL AYE.

12) **DISCUSS/APPROVE ORDINANCE 25-003 UPDATING VILLAGE GRANT APPLICATIONS**

On a motion by Peight second by Keeffer approving Ordinance 25-003 to update the requirements for grant applications submitted to the Village. ALL AYE.

13) **DISCUSS/APPROVE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT DESIGN PROPOSAL**

Nott explained this is available for reimbursement/loan forgiveness. Funding Nomination Forms are to be submitted at the end of March, and should be the end of July with a decision on award. This will be factored on the budget for this fiscal year. On a motion by Keeffer second by Rood to approve the Waste Water Treatment Plant Design Proposal in the amount of \$278,500. ALL AYE.

14) **DISCUSS 2025 STREET PATCHING IMPROVEMENTS**

Nott gave the update in his report.

Executive Session - *Pursuant to the exception set forth in Section 2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meeting Act concerning personnel. *On a motion by Keeffer second by Peight to adjourn to Executive Session. ALL AYE.

WELFARE OF THE VILLAGE

*Buss stated the removal of a sand filter that never worked is complete, and there is extra temperature controlled space at the water department now.

ADJOURNMENT

15) On a motion by Smith second by Rood to adjourn the February 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting at 7:36pm. ALL AYE.

**CLAUDIA SIMPSON
VILLAGE CLERK**

**STEVE BUSS
VILLAGE PRESIDENT**