

REGULAR MEETING
June 9, 2025
MINUTES
6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER

- 1) The Regular Board Meeting on June 9, 2025 was called to order by President Steve Buss at 6:00pm.

Board present: Steve Buss, Claudia Simpson, Christin Keeffer, Brooke Baldauf, Dean Rood, Brandon Smith, Joe Hallstrom and Nicole Callos. Not present: Brian Peight. Also Present: Tom Green, Brian Nott, Bridgette Stocks, Lindsay Buss, David Oscepinski, Louise Workinger, Cathy Clay.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

- 2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2025**
On a motion by Rood second by Smith approving the minutes from the April 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting. ALL AYE.
- 3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 12, 2025**
On a motion by Keeffer second by Baldauf to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025 Board Meeting. ALL AYE.
- 4) **APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE REPORT**
Callos explained with the introduction of Fiber in the Village there were prepaid hours to Computer Know How. On a motion by Keeffer second by Rood approving the Bills Payable Report as presented. ALL AYE.
- 5) **TREASURER’S REPORT ACCEPTANCE**
Callos presented the report for May. On a motion by Rood second by Smith to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. ALL AYE
- 6) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
Dave Oscepinski gave his concerns regarding landscaping by his home following road improvements on Center Street. Nott spoke with Helm and an evaluation of netting, left over rocks and sink holes was done on 5 addresses. Netting that has been raised has been removed. Buss asked what we can do differently in the future. It was discussed to have additions to the contract including periodic review of necessary weed control, netting and watering. The final payout has not been issued for this project. Buss explained all of these areas are vastly better than they were and everyone is working together for the same goal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, ZONING & PLANNING – NO REPORT / LISTED ON THE AGENDA

(A) **VILLAGE ENGINEER**

Nott reported the following updates: 1) Dayton Street: numbers are being finalized with Fischer. 2) Milfred Street: Fischer has began water main. Delayed by a gas main that Nicor has since resolved. 3) Camp Street: Martin & Company are planning on paving the roads and driveways in the next week. An additional inlet was added for sump pump drainage. 4) Townline & Main: Fischer has submitted their right-of-entry permit to allow for work within the railroad ROW. 5) Lena Drive Inn: Frontier has completed their relocations. Nicor should be done tomorrow. Kelsey Excavating will be starting after JULIE locates. Went to 36” pipes from 12” under the Drive Inn parking lot.

Bridgette Stocks gave the following updates: The total loan amount for the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project is \$2,692,745.70. With the full amount they are able to reimburse all design, construction, inspection and application fees. EPA awarded the Village with \$802,823.71 in principal forgiveness that will be applied/readjusted after the projects are complete on a 30 year loan at 1% interest. Public Notifications or projects will be handled by Haer Construction out of the Quad Cities. Water Main Improvement project plan is in with IEPA. IEPA has not responded regarding Storm Water Plan approval. Sanitary Sewer Wastewater Treatment Plan is on intended funding list; should have notice of whether it was approved July 1. GIGO did not reopen, section 319 opened instead; Stocks is following up on this. Stocks is joining a meeting on Tuesday for ITEP; the Village can apply every other year. The DNR Bike Path Grant can be applied for annually and is 50/50. IDOT opened a call for local projects to be submitted. Stocks submitted South Center Street replacing a 4” water main and the project that was to be for ITEP to IDOT.

(A) **ATTORNEYS REPORT**

Green reported that an ordinance is now required to maintain the Village's portion of sales tax. Green offered to draft an ordinance as he is working on them for other municipalities he represents. This would allow for the Village to maintain their 1% portion of the 6% grocery tax. Buss stated this is not to add any tax – the ordinance would keep everything the same. The ordinance would need to be passed before October 1st to be effective 1/21/26.

(A) **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Keefer reported that Brian Lamphere has started his position as Police Chief and it has been a great transition.

(A) **WATER & SEWER**

Smith reported that in early June an inspection was done on the water system by the IEPA. Smith has submitted a written plan for improvements and the IEPA is working with the Village.

NEW BUSINESS

7) **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 25-104 AMENDING THE ENTERPRISE ZONE**

On a motion by Keefer second by Smith approving resolution 25-104 amending the intergovernmental agreement for the enterprise zone. ALL AYE.

8) **APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 25-008 AMENDING THE ENTERPRISE ZONE**

On a motion by Smith second by Keefer approving Ordinance 25-008 amending the enterprise zone. ALL AYE.

9) **DISCUSS VILLAGE GRANT PROCESS**

Smith gave a recommendation to check online that the organization has a good standing with the general trust bureau and their 503c. Approvals are always at the April Board Meeting, so applications should be in 60 days prior. This will allow time to verify who and what the grants are for. An ordinance will be required to make this update.

10) **DISCUSS PERMITTING FOR UNDERGROUND FENCING**

Buss explained there is no permit required for underground fencing at this time. If a permit is required, then lot lines are established and it prevents people building or burying the fence off their own property.

11) **DISCUSS BLIGHTED HOMES**

Green stated a blighted home that is open, vacant and a hazard to the community could be eligible for a fast-track demo process that would be done with general funds. He noted the steps: notice in the paper, notice to property owners or lien-holders, post a placard on the property. Owners or lien-holders would need to file suit within the 30 days before tear-down. Costs would be paid originally by the Village, but can be a lien on the property. A new list will be made of homes to prioritize and quotes will be obtained for demolition.

WELFARE OF THE VILLAGE

*Buss reported that the F4 Fighter Jet is getting its final love and should be done this week. Sod will be used from the football field left overs.

ADJOURNMENT

12) On a motion by Smith second by Rood to adjourn the June 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting at 7:21pm. ALL AYE.

**CLAUDIA SIMPSON
VILLAGE CLERK**

**STEVE BUSS
VILLAGE PRESIDENT**