



Board Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2026

Present: Chad Walden, Ray Wilson, Nancy Black, Taryn Cross, Cheryl West, Megan Lopez

Absent: Brent Beyer

Guests: Vernon Myers

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

The pledge of allegiance was said by all present.

All board members present reviewed the July 2026 meeting minutes and voted to approve the minutes with two changes.

Taryn Cross made a motion to approve the minutes; Ray Wilson seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ray Wilson, Nancy Black, Taryn Cross, Cheryl West

Nays: None

Public Comment

Vernon Myers asked about a white wire that is above ground in his alley and what to do about it. Chad suggested that he contact Frontier.

Review Judicocracy suit and proposed resolution/ FOIA requests

Chad reviewed with the board where the village is at with the Judicocracy suit. The village will request payment to settle the suit as soon as they are informed by Jay Greening of Miller Hall & Trigg that he has finalized all documentation.

Chad informed the board that he went and met with State Representative Regan Deering at her office in Decatur to discuss current FOIA legislation. Chad stated that he shared information regarding the number of FOIA requests the village has already received this year and how it is negatively affecting the villages' ability to manage day to day administration and operations. Chad stated that it was a positive meeting and that Representative Deering had already made contact with other state elected officials to determine if there were any bills being considered to address this issue.

Finance

Chad Walden provided the board with all account balances due to Brent Beyer's absence in the CIBM and Illinois Funds accounts for the month of July 2026. The monthly financial report for July was provided to the board members in advance for their review.

Chad stated that he will meet with Matt Morgan to complete the 2025/2026 audit on Wednesday September 16th. Megan and Andrea Thompson will provide all of the annual data requested by Feller and Associates prior to that date.

Property and Grounds

CC roof surface update: The owner of C & C Construction informed Taryn Cross that he had come looked at the roof and determined that they would need to recoat some areas of the roof where the coating had failed. Taryn stated that he had informed them that this work needed to be done sooner than later. When the repairs are complete, Taryn and Chad will inspect the entire roof and the repaired areas.

Taryn Cross stated that he felt the fiberglass housing over the FS bulk fill/meter area could be repaired without the need to replace the entire cover. He will look into what it will take for materials to make this repair before winter.

Chad stated that the installation of the two rooms of carpeting should be done by the end of September. He will schedule a time for the installation as soon as the carpet is received by the vendor. A discussion was had around painting the office before the new carpet was put down. Nancy and Taryn will work together to obtain the needed materials and have this done.

Water/Garbage and Recycling

Chad Walden had not yet received the monthly revenue report for July 2026 for water and garbage collections.

Chad informed the board that both pumps are now able to be used at the treatment plant. Chad stated that it appears that the VFD on pump one (1) had a problem which created additional issues across the system. A backup VFD has been installed and Chad is awaiting information from Heartland Electric regarding any warranty that may have been still remaining on that piece of equipment. He also stated that he has asked for pricing for an additional VFD to keep as a spare should this happen again.

Sewer grant status: Fehr Graham engineering is working on developing 3 different designs for a sewer system for the village. Matt Johnson informed Chad that he hoped to have the designs completed for the village board to review by the end of August. If they are not available by the September meeting then a special meeting will be scheduled to review and discuss the designs.

Ordinance Processes and Enforcement

Golf cart ordinance enforcement: Chad stated that he had received a call with a complaint about a golf cart that was being driven by a minor and had several minors in the cart. The cart was being driven on Main Street and at a high rate of speed for what is allowed. Village ordinance states that drivers of golf carts must be 18 years of age and follow all rules of the road. Golf carts are also only allowed to cross

Main Street to reach the other side of a village street and are not to be driven down Main Street. Ray Wilson stated that he would address the carts owner and discuss the ordinance violations.

Officer Dingler of the Downs Police Department would like to host a fraud seminar at the community center sometime this fall. A tentative date that the board members decided on is September 17th at 7pm. Chad will follow up with Chief Dingler to determine if this date will work for him.

Streets/Alleys and Drainage:

2026 Streets program: Quality Spot Control has been contacted to perform spray patch again this year and a chip and seal program will likely be delayed until next year.

GBH Fiber informed Chad that the County Highway Department has reissued their permit and that they will begin working to install fiber from Saybrook to Arrowsmith as soon as possible. They are hoping to have a connection to their fiber infrastructure in town by the end of September. If there are not any other delays they could begin providing service to homes by October.

Community Relations/Website Information:

Community Center rentals and information:

There are currently rental reservations on

Aug 15th, Aug 16th 12-4pm, Aug. 22nd 12-4pm, Aug 29th 12:30-4:30pm

September 3- 6th,

November 2- 3rd (election day) 7th (Veteran's breakfast), 13th, 22nd, 26th

December 6th on the 2026 calendar.

Chad asked the board if they want to reschedule the September board meeting as he will be unavailable for the meeting. The board decided to keep the meeting date as scheduled and Taryn Cross will lead the meeting in Chad's absence.

Taryn will be filling the role as mayor pro tempore in Chad's absence.

Beautification Committee updates:

Greg Neuhaus supervised a group of his boy scouts for one individual to complete an activity toward his Eagle Scout award. They installed a brick boarder around the gardens at the Community Center Park.

Chad stated that once school is back in session he is going to reach out to the building trades instructor at Ridgeview and see if they may be able to coordinate some small projects at the community center this winter.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.