

Regular Meeting Village Hall Monday, August 3, 2026 7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Village Board opened with Trustee John Baker presiding. Trustees present were Mike Marler, Kevin McDonald, Kenneth (Butch) Chandler, Todd Kinzel. Chris Klingeman was absent.

Michelle Birkner-Treasurer and Chief Laura Ottens were also present.

John Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitor was Mike Trotter-County Journal.

Citizens Wishing to Speak: None

A motion was made by Butch and seconded by Mike to approve the previous meeting minutes from July 20, 2026. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Mike to approve paying the bills. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

Correspondence: The EPA approved the change to AW Services and the new operator.

Public Improvements, Parks, MACC Building and Streets. Kevin reported that most all the work for the Coal Festival is complete. Gravel was laid in front of band stand and concrete will be poured later. Dog waste bins will be put up soon.

John -Public Safety, Police, Ambulance, Nuisance, Zoning and E.S.D.A. John reported that he requested feedback from Gonzalez Engineering on the tentative retention pond. Twenty out of thirty-eight letters were returned giving permission to clean out ditches along Pinckneyville Rd. Five letters were returned undeliverable. John will try to contact the remaining residents for permission. Letters were sent out to residents along North Park to Doza Creek requesting permission to clean out the ditches. Two have given permission. Advertising for bids was sent out and three excavating contractors are looking at the ditches to give their bids. Influent pump #2 was removed due to an electric short circuit. The pump was only in service for 2 months. John escorted Kyle Demsar-Diecker-Terry Masonry to the site of the new Police Station for construction advice on holding cell, interview room, and demolition. Kyle recommended complete gutting of existing partitions which will bid out. Asbestos abatement and a complete demolition will also be bid out. Reconstruction for the new floor plan will also be bid out in conjunction with the SWIC drafting group.

Butch-Utilities-Water and Sewer. Butch reported that he met with the Superintendent regarding the alley behind the school being torn up. Lacey would like it fixed before school starts. Doug and Butch are planning on helping the residents at 218 S. Main St. clean-up their property. The sidewalk in front of John Taylor Sr. home has been replaced.

Chris-Finance, Ordinances, Personnel and Budget. No report. Absent.

Todd-Beautification. Todd reported that dead plants have been removed. New plants will be planted before Coal Festival. Three homes were nominated for yard of the month. A couple out of town people will pick the winner out of those 3 nominations.

Mike-Landfill- Mike reported that he spoke with Bryan Merry regarding the pipeline project. They will be restarting the project on September 21, 2026. It should take around 4 weeks to finish.

Building & Zoning: No report.

Old Business:

Demolition of property located at 428 East Dr. was tabled until the easement agreement is signed, and a bid is given for demolition.

New Business:

A motion was made by Butch and seconded by Kevin to approve the purchase of a flagpole, solar light and flag from Shaw's True Value in the amount of \$357.98. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Todd and seconded by Kevin to approve the Ministerial Alliance a park request on August 9, 2026, for a public worship from 9:30-11:30am. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by John and seconded by Mike to refer the consideration of sewer/septic for a new home build at 308 West Hall (PIN: 21-22.0-113-020) to the utilities committee for further review. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Mike to table the consideration of a business license for Justin Raban- Bold & Bright Painting Co. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Butch to table the consideration for a new plow truck for the street department. The old truck will be picked up from Iron Ford. Motion

passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Butch to approve a new submersible pump. The Village will be responsible for \$1,932.78 after insurance has paid. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Butch and seconded by Todd to approve repairing the broken door at the street shed. This will be the West door on the South wall. An original quote to replace all 4 doors was approved but to save money the replacements will wait. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Butch and seconded by Kevin to approve paying Overkill Custom \$2,406.60 to repair Justin Rhodes damaged vehicle. His vehicle was backed into with a piece of Village owned equipment by another employee. Overkill Custom was the lowest of 2 bids. Butch does not want to turn into the insurance company because we have already had one claim, and the insurance cost will raise. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made by Butch to give Kendall Lloyd a \$5.00 per hour pay raise for working at the water/sewer plant. The motion died for a lack of a second. Kendall has been doing a great job fixing equipment and working at the sewer plant. Kendall will be receiving his EPA license once he completes the apprenticeship program. Village Attorney David Schneidewind pointed out that this could cause issues later since Kendall is union and there is a CBA. Mike asked if we could pay him contingent on passing the test. Kevin said that since there is a CBA Kendall could negotiate for himself. A motion was then made by Butch and seconded by Mike to refer this matter to the personnel committee. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A discussion was had regarding correspondence from Kay Jetton about the Mow to Own program. The property in question was previously owned by the Fire District and was not deeded to the Village until May of 2025. The two years the Jettons were mowing the grass at the property, it was not owned by the Village. Village Attorney David Schneidewind said that the Village can make an ordinance deeming the property as surplus, then it could go in the paper for purchase. This will allow for anyone interested in the property to place a bid.

Three bids were opened for the street shed breakroom. Lake Construction was \$164,973.36, Averbeck Construction was \$137,572.00 and Top to Bottom Construction was \$131,011.00. The Village budgeted \$80,000.00 for this project. A motion was made by Butch and seconded by Mike to refer to the streets committee for further discussion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-absent, John -yes.

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:56pm by Kevin and was seconded by Butch. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes, 1-absent.