

NOVEMBER 3, 2025

REGULAR MEETING 6 P.M.

Regular meeting of the Village Board held at the Village Hall and called to order by President Starcevich with the following members present: Loving, Olson, Frenell, Whiting, Baker, Starcevich, and Johnson. Absent: Sappington.

Motion by Loving, second by Olson to accept the October 6, 2025 meeting minutes. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Motion by Baker, second by Loving to authorize the October 2025 bills. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Sean Nicholson present to inquire about his sewer installation at his property at 313 Franklin Street. President Starcevich stated Justin Fowler's sewer installation on the same street needs a pump. Mr. Nicholson said he knows he is past the deadlines, but he is not sure where the actual sewer is at. President Starcevich said that he would talk with Tom Whiting, a contractor, for an idea of what can be done, and that Loretta Barton is on the same street and had to put in a pump. President Starcevich told Mr. Nicholson that the Village would hold off on turning the water off until the area was looked at.

President Starcevich reported that today was the deadline for homeowners Celada and Vann to reply to Village Attorney Halpin's letter on their property. He said that Attorney Halpin will proceed with getting the properties condemned.

Police Chief Davis reported that Marlena Welsh was in jail and Ethen Welsh left the property on State Street, and neighbors reported a dog barking at the Welsh property. Chief Davis found a dog left there with no food or water for days. He took the dog to Mercer County Animal Control, and then to the Alpha Vet Associates to be checked over. He said there had been abuse to the dog and not one of the Welsh's had taken the dog. Chief Davis said a charge of animal abuse would be made on Marlena Welsh. He also stated that Mrs. Welsh wanted to sell the property for \$5,000. Chief Davis called the Tax Assessor, and he said that Welsh's have until next year on the taxes, but a realtor out of Peoria has a \$1,500 fee due. Chief Davis said that tomorrow he will talk to Marlena Welsh about selling the property for \$5,000 to James LaCamera, adjacent to the property.

President Starcavich said that Village Attorney Halpin will inform the Village what to do next on the Vann and Celada properties to get them demolished.

President Starcevich reported that Munibilling is doing the document to sign up on line to pay water bills through the website.

President Starcavich stated that Diverse Communications needs to set up the internet for the Village Hall and the Police office with separate internet. He said that there would have to be new e-mails made, and he will talk to Diverse.

President Starcevich stated that there is still a vacancy for a maintenance person. He said that he would make up a profile for the job including qualifications, salary, job specifics, and ability to use Village equipment, tools, and phone. He said then there would be an interview of the applicant(s). The Board agreed that the applicant could have a sewer operator license or be willing to take the class to get one, and salary would depend on the applicant's skills. Trustee Whiting informed the Board that a B License is needed for one ton to 26,001 pound truck. He said the Village's dump truck would require the B License, and the Village's pick-up truck would use an A license.

President Starcevich said that Stephen Thorp is willing to put in the new water meters.

Chief Davis presented a written report, but had to leave because he was called out.

Motion by Frenell, second by Olson to hire Scott Sappington as Zoning Officer at \$40 per month. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

The Board was not sure, but thought the Christmas Walk would be December 5th. They will check on that.

Motion by Baker, second by Frenell to adjourn. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Claudine D. Johnson, Village Clerk