Regular Meeting Village Hall Monday October 5, 2026 7:00 pm

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

Michelle Birkner-Treasurer, Clay Finley-Village Attorney, Chris Daugherty-Building & Zoning and Chief Laura Ottens were also present.

Mayor Riley Goodwin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors were Dean Weber, Hannah Zepeda, Daltyn Becker and Mike Trotter-County Journal,

Citizens Wishing to Speak:

Dean Weber is looking for a place to store about 12-16 pallets of food and asked what the Village is doing with the building next to the Food Pantry. He may be interested in renting the space.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by John to approve the previous meeting minutes from September 21, 2026. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Todd made a motion to approve the personnel committee minutes from September 18, 2026. Motion was seconded by Chris. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Chris made a motion to approve the finance committee minutes from September 28, 2026. Motion was seconded by Todd. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Chris made a motion to approve the personnel committee minutes from September 28, 2026. Motion was seconded by Butch. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Butch made a motion to approve the public safety committee minutes from September 28, 2026. Motion was seconded by Todd. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

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

Correspondence: Mayor Goodwin received a letter from Teresa Holloway asking where the ditch cleaning would start. She also informed him that a large tree is blocking the ditch that needs to be checked.

Mayor Report-None

Public Improvements, Parks, MACC Building and Streets. Kevin reported that the lemonade stand at the park needs repairs. The estimated cost is about $575.00. He would like to put lights on Main St.

John -Public Safety, Police, Ambulance, Nuisance, Zoning and E.S.D.A. John reported that he and Butch were on a conference call with Gonzalez Engineering regarding the design issues for the retention pond that need discussed with the Township and citizens adjacent to the construction. Mr. Kleinschmidt will be attending the next Township meeting and attending the next Village board meeting on October 19, 2026. John will go door to door next week to all adjacent citizens to inform them of the meeting. John met with Cenpro Service regarding abatement and demolition of the future Police Department. He met with Jeremy Gibson to discuss electrical support for demolition at the future Police Department. John drove by the North Park ditch and the corn has been harvested. The cleanout of the last two ditches will be on the next agenda. Watson will start ditch work on October 12, 2026, and will start at Main St. John supported installation of fluent pump #2, removal of Post EQ pump #4 for possible repair, installation of SBR #1 waste sludge pump and removal of digester #2 mixer for repair.

Butch-Utilities-Water and Sewer. Butch reported that the new pavilion will have water next week. Kevin was questioning what the gutters were made of. They are aluminum gutters that are the color of copper, and the wood is treated. The company donated the material used under the roof and the leftover wood. The street truck is fixed, culverts were replaced on East Drive and conduit will be ran underground for electric at the new pavilion.

Chris-Finance, Ordinances, Personnel and Budget. Chris reported that the money needed for Lyons St. railroad crossing will come from the Village Improvements savings account. Several personnel and finance committee meetings were held and are on the agenda tonight.

Todd-Beautification. Todd and John cut corn stalks and hung on Main St. poles. Scarecrow contest will start soon. On October 10, 2026, pumpkins can be picked at the Fall festival at the park and kids can make scarecrows. Yard of the Month goes to the Kirkpatrick's at 311 E. Spring St.

Mike-Landfill- Mike and John walked the creek towards Waste Management all the way back to the train tresses to take pictures of the problem areas to give to Waste Management.

Building & Zoning: Chris reported that a resident filled out a permit to put up a 40 X 40 pole barn. Depending where he decides to place it on the property, he may need a special variance. The demolition on East Drive will be done when the weather permits.

Old Business:

John made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-09 changing fees for traffic crash reports. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

New Business:

Butch made a motion to approve moving the Busey Bank accounts to Citizens Community Bank. Chris seconded the motion. Accounts will be moved in January. Citizens does not charge fees for the accounts and Busey fees were around $10, 030.00. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Chris made a motion to approve a business license for Doug Birkner-Affordable RV Repair, LLC. Butch seconded the motion. Board members would like the applicants to attend meetings when requesting a business license so they can answer question. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-no, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Kevin made a motion to amend the personnel policy so that a clause regarding policies will read “Policies in this manual does not exclude additional policies within the Village Government”. Chris seconded the motion. This clause can be added at the beginning of the policy in section 1.2. A social media post was added to the policy, exit interviews for employees was added, sick time carried over was changed and a few other items were changed. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Kevin made a motion to approve the amended personnel policy. John seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Butch made a motion to approve the quote for the rebuild of digester mixer #2 motor at the sewer plant. Chris seconded the motion. John said we have a good motor we can mount on the mixer it just needs an overhaul. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Butch made a motion to approve paying off the IEPA loan early. Chris seconded the motion. Michelle will need to give them a reason for the early payoff. The next payment will be $57,709.89 and will leave a balance of only $2,701.19. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

John made a motion to approve positive pay with FNB Waterloo. Butch seconded the motion. This will protect the Village from forged checks on 4 of the accounts. The fee will be based on the balance. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Butch made a motion to approve stopping the transfer of money to the water and sewer accounts that are fully funded. Money put into these savings accounts cannot be withdrawn without approval. Chris seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Sealed bids for the abatement and demolition were opened. One bid was from Owens Abatement for a total of $57,962.50 and one from Cenpro for a total of $63,000.00. John made a motion to table. Butch seconded the motion. John will get with both companies to clarify a few things before moving forward.Motion passed. 6-ayes, 0-nayes.

John made a motion to enter executive session at 8:18pm for personnel and property. Butch seconded the motion. Motion passed. 6-ayes, 0-nayes.

Kevin made a motion to re enter regular session at 8:51pm. Butch seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Mike made a motion to approve a pay raise of $2.00 per hour for Jackie Surmeier starting the pay period of October 16, 2026, along with more job responsibilities. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

John made a motion to approve a pay raise of $2.00 per hour for Michelle Birkner starting the pay period of October 16, 2026. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Kevin-yes, Mike -yes, Kenneth-yes, Todd-yes, Chris-yes, John -yes.

Butch made a motion at 8:54 to adjourn. John seconded the motion. Motion passed. 6-ayes, 0-nayes.