MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, October 20, 2026
TIME: 6:00pm
LOCATION: Combined Locks Civic Center,
Council Chambers, 405 Wallace Street

MINUTES

A. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Village President Neumeier at 6:00pm.
B. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance recited.
C. **Roll call:** Board members present – Neumeier, Lindberg, Leicht, Talbot, Stutzman (6:15pm), and Krueger (7:20pm). Board members absent – Schinke. Village staff present – Administrator Shampo-Giese, Public Works Director Weyenberg, Fire/EMS Chief Wiedenbauer, and OUSO Sgt. Hambly. Others present – Jason Vollrath of Erickson & Associates.

1. **Public comment for matters not on the agenda:** None
2. **2025 Audit Presentation – Erickson Associates:** Jason Vollrath reviewed the financial statements with the trustees. Highlights include a health fund balance, positive cash flow for enterprise funds, and acceptable margin of indebtedness.
3. **Fire/EMS Department 3rd Quarter Report:** The Chief reviewed calls and training activities for the Fire/EMS Department during the third quarter. The Chief's report was accepted and is on file in the Clerk's Office.
4. **Review 2027 proposed Fire/EMS Department expenses and capital projects – revise, if needed:** The proposed Fire/EMS operating and capital expense budgets were reviewed and discussed. Capital requests include a gear dryer, electric exhaust fan, facemask replacements, and tables, chairs, and shelving for the remodeled Fire/EMS space.
5. **Review 2027 proposed fuel expenses, debt expenses, and capital improvement projects - revise, if needed:** The proposed expense categories were reviewed and discussed. Fuel expenses include a $3,000 contingency due to the status of fuel expenses at this time. Debt payments are down slightly from 2026. Capital requests include street construction projects, civic center remodel projects, security cameras for parks and yard waste area, Ash tree and brush removal at Lindberg Park, two DPW pick-up trucks, generator repairs, IT replacements/upgrades, and a digital sign at the civic center entrance.
6. **Review 2027 proposed revenues - revise, if needed:** The proposed revenue projections were reviewed. The projected tax rate was also discussed. The levy will increase by 2.34%.
7. **Discuss proposed new borrowing for 2027 projects:** The Administrator reviewed some initial details about the new borrowing package needed for 2027. Trustees discussed using some cash reserves to reduce the amount of new debt but voted to borrow 100% of the project costs. This allows the reserve funds to increase and be used for projects after 2027.
8. **Review and consider approval to appoint Morgan Stawski as Plan Commission Chair:** T. Stutzman made a motion to appoint Morgan Stawski as Plan Commission Chair. L. Lindberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
9. **Review and consider approval of operator license for M. Helms:** A. Leicht made a motion to approve an operator license for M. Helms. J. Krueger seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
10. **Other business, updates, and future agenda items**
    a) **2027 General Fund Budget Public Hearing 11/17/2026**

b) Debruin Road/Block Road Public Informational Meeting 11/30/26: Combined Locks hosting for Buchanan.

11. Adjourn: T. Stutzman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Krueger seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.