VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, October 21, 2026

1. **CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 pm**
   ROLL CALL: K. HANDRICK-Present, M. AHRENS-Present, K. SORENSON-Present, K. PAUL-Present, B. PARLIER-Present, J. LAWRENCE-Present

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**
   a) Virtual Meeting Guidelines
      This meeting will be recorded and available upon request
   b) Public Participation at Government Meetings
      Virtual Attendance: Kevin O'Brien – Record Review, Peter Meidal – Ehlers Financial

4. **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 7, 2026 REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**
   Approval tabled to November 4, 2026 meeting.

5. **REVIEW OF LICENSE APPLICATIONS**
   a) New Operator License Application for GPM Southeast, LLC (R-Store) – Donna Silva
      Donna turned in all required paperwork and payment and passed background check. Recommended for approval.
      MOTION – Approve Operator License Application for Donna Silva for R-Store
      Motion made by Ahrens second by Paul. Motion passed by voice vote.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a) Discuss 2027 General Fund Draft Budget – Debt Levy & Equipment Replacement Fund Proposal
      Cherek shared slides from the October 7th meeting reminding of the property tax impact to residents with increasing the Debt Levy to create the Equipment Replacement Fund. Both options include an overall Debt Levy Increase of $150,000. Option A achieves it in 2 years with annual tax increases of $72 on a $200,000 home. Option B spreads the $150,000 increase over 3 years resulting in $48 tax increase annually on the same value home.
      The Debt Levy increase would adjust an interest allocation shift needed and add $112,600 annually to an Equipment Replacement Fund. If the Village were to borrow the $112,600 at 5.5% annually for 10 years, principal and interest payments would add $14,940 each year to the tax levy. Cherek and Meidal projected that by 2034 the annual debt service would increase to approximately $119,500, exceeding the $112,600 annual Equipment Replacement Fund level.
      Multiple graphs showed the estimated 20-year cost difference and debt service between borrowing for equipment replacement needs and having an established Replacement Fund. They can be viewed in the Agenda Packet. Total estimated cost of equipment with borrowing over 20 years is approximately $4.616 million with a final debt service payment year of 2056 versus $3.279 million estimated costs through 2050 with an Equipment Replacement Fund.
      MOTION – Approve Option A – Debt Levy Increase of $75,000 For 2 Consecutive Years and Create an Equipment Replacement Fund
      Motion made by Sorenson second by Ahrens. Motion passed by roll call vote.
      Ahrens-Yes, Sorenson-Yes, Paul-Yes, Parlier-Yes, Lawrence-No, Handrick-No

7. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a) Discuss Appointment for Village Board Trustee Vacancy
      After confirming with Attorney VanderWaal, Cherek noted that discussions on the appointment of a new Trustee needs to be in open session. The method to appointing a new Trustee or leaving vacancy until term expires is up to the Board. In years past, current Trustees stated they were brought in and interviewed at a scheduled meeting. The Board collectively agreed to Cherek posting the position on the Village website and Village Facebook page and to hold interviews at the next regular scheduled meeting on November 4th at 6:00 pm.

b) Discuss October 7, 2026 Voting Results on Resolution 2026-10-07A Compensation of Village Trustees
Cherek explained that with a vacancy and 1 board member absent from the October 7th meeting, the motion at the October 7th meeting did not pass. To change wages/salaries of Board members, a super majority or 75% of the entire Board of 7 is required. Therefore, a vote of 6 yes is needed. Trustees had discussion about lowering the wage increase from $100 per meeting to $75.
MOTION – Amend Resolution 2026-10-07A Compensation of Village Trustees from $100/meeting to $75/meeting and Approve Amended Resolution
Motion made by Ahrens second by Sorenson. Motion passed by roll call vote.
Sorenson-Yes, Paul-Yes, Parlier-Yes, Lawrence-Yes, Handrick-Yes, Ahrens-Yes

8. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

a) Discuss and Approve Resolution 2026-10-07B - Establishing the Village Equipment Replacement Fund and Fund Policy
Resolution 2026-10-07B establishes the Equipment Replacement Fund and adopts the Equipment Replacement Fund Policy. The policy spells out the purpose of the fund, eligible uses of the fund, funding sources and strategies, and long-term planning.
MOTION – Approve Resolution 2026-10-07B – Establishing the Village Equipment Replacement Fund and Fund Policy
Motion made by Paul second by Parlier. Motion passed by voice vote.

9. FUTURE SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

a) Regular Village Board Meeting – Wednesday, November 4, 2026 – 6:00 pm
b) Special Village Board – Budget Hearing & Meeting – Monday, November 16, 2026 – 4:00 pm
Trustees agreed to change the time of Budget Hearing Meeting to 5:00 pm on November 16th.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 7:36 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Parlier second by Ahrens. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cassie Lang
Village Clerk / Deputy Treasurer