VILLAGE OF YATES CITY <u>REGULAR</u> BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 6:00 P.M. 102 WEST MAIN STREET, YATES CITY, ILLINOIS

AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order**

   Hostetler called the meeting to order at 6:06pm

2. **Roll Call:**

   Present: Dave Mahr, Seth Lekies, Ron Smith, Matt Ehens, Vonda Brinker, Mark Hostetler
   Absent: Tom Kinzer
   Also Present: Neely Carr, Joy Mahr, Randy Benson, Molly Richeson from *The Weely Post*, Greg Fulkerson, Donna Fulkerson

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

   All present stood and pledged to the flag

4. **Citizens to Address the Board**

   No citizens present

5. **Approve Minutes for September 10th Special Meeting, September 10th Board Meeting and October 1st Committee Meeting**

   Ehens moved to approve the for September 10th Special Meeting, September 10th Board Meeting and October 1st Committee Meeting. Brinker seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

6. **Approve Monthly Bills, Payroll and Financial Statements**

   Ehens made a motion to approve monthly bills, payroll, and financial statements. Brinker seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

7. **Police Report – Chief Randy Benson**

   Hostetler read Chief Benson's letter of resignation to the Board, as he is retiring from the Police Department. Chief Benson nominated James Record as his replacement. Record is currently Chief in Fairview, previously served in Avon, and was employed here in the past. He resides in Farmington. It was noted that the position will not be full-time, and 1–2 officers will be needed to cover the remaining hours previously worked by Chief Benson.

OLD BUSINESS:

8. **Discuss/Approve Bill for Audit from Phillips, Salmi & Associates in the Amount of $16,500.00**

   Smith made a motion to approve the audit bill from Phillips, Salmi, & Associates in the amount of $16,500.00. Ehens seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

9. **Update on Well/Reservoir Project**

Hostetler provided an update on the Well Reservoir Project. The village will be moving forward with a 130-gallon-per-minute pump. The deadline with the EPA had to be extended. The reservoir portion of the project is currently out for bid, with bids closing on November 10th.

10. **Discuss/Approve Bill for Kinsel Trucking & Excavating LLC for Installation of Bearings, Removal of Shaft and Paddle Wheel Assembly at the Treatment Plant in the Amount of $660.00**

A bill was presented from Kinsel Trucking & Excavating in the amount of $660 for installation of bearings, removal of the shaft and paddle wheel assembly at the treatment plant. The original invoice was $1,060, but the Bobcat charge was removed, bringing the total to $660. The Board clarified that moving forward, any issues at the treatment plant will first be handled by TEST, and if outside services are needed, they will coordinate that. Specialized plates had to be installed between the bearings, and Kinsel assisted with that work. Jordan Suits is to grease the equipment weekly and maintain a spreadsheet at the water building documenting dates and times. For the shaft, no price has been received yet from Lakeside, and the cause of failure is unclear given that a new shaft was installed within the last two years. The shaft needs to be fixed by Spring due to seasonal water demands.
Greg Fulkerson (TEST) requested a meeting with the engineer from Bruner, Cooper & Zuck to review the reservoir project to ensure the system will meet operational needs. He expressed his concerns regarding the lack of adequate alarm monitoring within the water system operations and proceeded to explain how the current setup functions and where the risks occur. The underground well pump sends water directly into the reservoir, where the water level controls when the well pump turns on and off. It was noted that there is no functioning alarm system on the reservoir for either high or low water levels. When the water tower calls for water, the tower's pressure sensor signals the high-service pumps at the plant to turn on and pump water from the reservoir to be treated and then up to the tower. The water tower does have an alarm system through Guard Dog, along with a red indicator light at the water building if the tower level becomes too low. However, if the well pump trips or loses power, the reservoir can drop without warning, and the high-service pumps may continue running and start pulling air. This causes high amperage and overheating, potentially locking out or damaging the pumps before the tower alarm activates. Greg recommended installing an alarm system on the reservoir to provide early notification of low-water or pump-failure conditions in order to protect the pumps and system. Hostetler informed him that the new reservoir would include an alarm system and the pumps would be electrically protected with VFD's. Hostetler advised Greg to contact Kevan Cooper with further questions.
Ehens moved to approve the bill from Kinsel Trucking and Excavating in the amount of $660.00 for the installation of bearings, removal of the shaft, and paddle wheel assembly at the treatment plant. Smith seconded. Roll call unanimous.

11. **Discuss/Approve Bill for Kinsel Trucking & Excavating LLC for Repair on Gate Valve at the Treatment Plant in the Amount of $2,788.96**

Lekies moved to approve the bill to Kinsel for repair on the gate valve at the treatment plant in the amount of $2,788.96. Brinker seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

12. **Discuss/Update Purchase of Shaft for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant**

We have not received a price. Tabled.

13. **Update on Fire Hydrant**

The Board discussed Agenda items 13 and 14 together due to related subject matter.

14. **Discuss/Approve Purchase and Installation of Water Main Shut-Off Valve from Kinsel Trucking & Excavating LLC in the Amount of $18,766.00**

    The Board reviewed a proposal from Kinsel Trucking and Excavating for the purchase and installation of a new water main shutoff valve in the amount of $18,766. Hostetler contacted Oscar from Kinsel during the meeting for clarification. It was reported that the shutoff valve leading to the hydrant is defective and the main shutoff valve near the water tower is also leaking. The project will include installing a new main shutoff valve upstream near the base of the water tower and replacing the valve leading to the hydrant. The line to the hydrant will be replaced with PVC piping. Lekies made the motion to approve the purchase and installation; Brinker seconded. Roll call: Mahr abstained; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens yes; Brinker yes. Motion carried.

15. **Discuss/Approve Purchase of Eighteen (18) Two (2) Ton Cement Barriers with Hooks for the South Lot Concrete Pad from Galesburg Builders Supply in the Amount of $810.00**

    Hostetler informed the Board that Roanoke only had 3' and 6' cement barriers available. Smith made a motion to purchase eighteen (18) 2-ton cement barriers with hooks for the south lot concrete pad from Galesburg Builder Supply in the amount of $810.00. Lekies seconded. Roll call: Mahr yes; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes. Motion carried.

16. **Discuss/Approve Hiring John Woodcock to Haul and Deliver/Unload Eighteen (18) Two (2) Ton Cement Barriers with Hooks from Galesburg Builders Supply in the Amount of $1,200.00**

    Smith made a motion to approve hiring John Woodcock to haul, deliver, and unload eighteen (18) 2-ton cement barriers with hooks from Galesburg Builder Supply in the amount of $1,200.00. Lekies seconded. Roll call: Mahr yes; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes. Motion carried.

17. **Discuss/Approve Hiring John Woodcock to Place Eighteen (18) Two (2) Ton Cement Barriers with Hooks on the South Lot Concrete Pad in the Amount of $600.00**

    Smith made a motion to approve hiring John Woodcock to place eighteen (18) 2-ton cement barriers with hooks on the south lot concrete pad in the amount of $600.00. Lekies seconded. It was noted that Bruce and Brian from Public Works placed CA-6 at the lot. Roll call: Mahr yes; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes. Motion carried.

18. **Update on Water Building Amperage Increase from 200AMP Service to 320AMP Service and Moving Electric Boxes to the Car Port Area**

    Hostetler reported that Quick Electric’s bid has been received and the AMP bid is still pending. The item was tabled. It was noted that both proposals are three-stage bids and will be compared on an apples-to-apples basis once the AMP bid is received.

19. **Discuss/Approve Splitting Cost with Salem Township on Fall Clean Up Day in an Amount not to Exceed $750.00**

    Ehens moved to approve splitting the cost with Salem Township for Fall Cleanup Day in an amount not to exceed $750. Brinker seconded. Roll call unanimous.

20. **Discuss/Approve New Three (3) Year Contract with TEST**

Greg Fulkerson from TEST was present to discuss the new three-year contract proposal. Hostetler requested revisions to clarify responsibilities. The greasing log is to be kept in writing at the water plant. Property maintenance, sand filter weeding, wasting sludge removal, and dried sludge stockpile management will be handled by the Village. Monitoring is to occur seven days a week, with Jordan Suits performing the daily checks and sending a report to Greg at the end of each month. TEST will make the requested revisions and provide an updated contract for Board review at the next meeting.

21. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village Trustees for Board Meetings in the Amount of $75.00 per Meeting effective May 1, 2026

The Board discussed Agenda items 21, 22, 23, and 24 together due to related subject matter.

22. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village Trustees for Special Board Meetings in the Amount of $75.00 per Meeting effective May 1, 2026

The Board discussed Agenda items 21, 22, 23, and 24 together due to related subject matter.

23. Discuss/Approve Salary for Trustees for Committee Meetings in the Amount of $75.00 per Meeting effective May 1, 2026

The Board discussed Agenda items 21, 22, 23, and 24 together due to related subject matter.

24. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village President in the Amount of $6,000.00 per Year effective May 1, 2026

The Board discussed the proposed approval of salaries for Village Trustees in the amount of $75.00 per meeting (including regular Board meetings, special Board meetings, and committee meetings) and the Village President's salary in the amount of $6,000.00 per year. This item was tabled due to the effective dates being listed incorrectly, and because the salary of any elected Village official cannot be increased during that official's current term of office. The current Village Board may approve salary increases for elected officials beginning with the next term of office, but such approval must occur at least 180 days prior to the start of that term. Based on term schedules, the earliest effective date for salary increases for Village Trustees would be May 1, 2027, and any changes would need to be approved prior to November 1, 2026. Any change to the Village President's salary could not take effect until May 1, 2029. The Board was only permitted to discuss Agenda Items 21 through 24 and could not take action on them at this time, therefore, the matter was tabled.

25. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village Clerk in the Amount of $1,000.00 Per Month effective May 1, 2026

Lekies made a motion to approve the salary for the Village Clerk in the amount of $1,000.00 per month, effective May 1, 2026. Brinker seconded. Roll call: Mahr yes; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes. Motion carried.

26. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village Treasurer in the Amount of $1,000.00 Per Month effective May 1, 2026

Lekies made a motion to approve the salary for the Village Treasurer in the amount of $1,000.00 per month, effective May 1, 2026. Brinker seconded. Roll call: Mahr abstained; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes; Hostetler yes. Motion carried.

27. Discuss/Approve Salary for Village Water Clerk in the Amount of $1,400.00 Per Month effective November 1, 2025

Lekies made a motion to approve the salary for the Village Water Clerk in the amount of $1,400.00 per month, effective November 1, 2025. Brinker seconded. Roll call: Mahr abstained; Lekies yes; Smith yes; Ehens no; Brinker yes; Hostetler yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

28. Discuss/Approve Insurance Annual Premium and Membership with IML Risk Management Association in the Amount of $33,012.06

Ehens moved to approve the annual insurance premium and membership with IML Risk Management Association in the amount of $33,012.06. Mahr seconded. Roll call unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

29. Committee Reports

No reports given

30. Discussion of Such Other Business as may Properly Come before the Board and Action, if any, to be Taken as Result of Discussions

Hostetler reported that he, Joy Mahr, Bruce Brinker, and Brian Efnor attended JULIE training in Peoria. Effective January 1, 2026, the Village will be required to use the Positive Response System, which confirms and documents that each utility has responded to a JULIE locate request. Each responder will have an individual account to log responses on the system. A $250 fine may be issued for failure to respond within required timeframes, and at least 90% yearly compliance is required. A closeout procedure checklist will need to be created, and additional online training on the new system will be required, approximately one and a half hours in length. Hostetler also noted that a special meeting will be held on October 22nd at 6:00 p.m. regarding electrical work at the water building. The Village is also obtaining two additional bids for shutoff valve exercising and hydrant assessments to determine which hydrants are operable, create a priority list, and establish the ability to isolate quadrants of the Village. A map will be created showing hydrant and valve locations. Hydrant flushing and valve exercising will take approximately three days. Notice will be placed in the Weekly Post, and it is not yet known whether a boil order will be required.

ADJOURNMENT

Brinker moved to adjourn. Ehens seconded. Roll call unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Neely Carr
Village Clerk