

VILLAGE OF YATES CITY COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026 6:00 P.M. 102 WEST MAIN STREET, YATES CITY, ILLINOIS

1. Call to Order

Hostetler called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Tom Kinzer, Dave Mahr, Seth Lekies, Matt Ehens, Vonda Brinker, Ron Smith, Mark Hostetler
Also Present: Neely Carr, Joy Mahr, Chief Jim Record, Kevin Lewis, Tracy Parrish

3. Discuss SmartBiz Internet Services for Renters Associated with ESPD with Kevin Lewis (Mid-Century)

Kevin Lewis and Tracy Parrish of Mid-Century were present to discuss potential SmartBiz internet services in coordination with the ESPD to provide Wi-Fi access for renters. The Park District would pay a portion of the monthly service cost if the entities choose to proceed. The discussion focused on providing Wi-Fi access while maintaining appropriate network security. Mid-Century explained that their SmartBiz software installs on the existing router and allows the network to be divided into up to four separate sections that do not communicate with each other. The Village would have the primary section. Separating into sections will not hinder speed or performance. The guest section would include a guest landing page where users sign in with their email to access the network. The cost would be approximately \$15 more per month than the current service. A Wi-Fi extender, an additional \$5 per month, may be needed. Mid-Century will conduct a site survey to determine whether an extender is necessary. The Village will continue to have unlimited data usage and adding SmartBiz does not require a contract. The Board expressed network security was the primary concern in considering any public/renter Wi-Fi access, Mid-century ensured this was the safest option. The Board will determine whether they are willing to proceed in coordination with the Park District.

4. Update on Well/Reservoir Project

No update available.

5. Update on Public Works Building Amperage Increase from 200AMP to 320AMP Service

Hostetler reported all the preliminary work is completed. They are waiting on suitable weather conditions for install of new shingles and related roof work to finish job.

6. Update on Document Destruction with Confidential Security Corp

Joy Mahr reported she is still working on sorting.

7. Update on Water Shut-Off Valve Isolation Project

Hostetler reported with the current weather conditions this is on hold, no further update.

8. Update on Shaft and Gear Box Replacement for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant

Hostetler reported all parts have been delivered. Greg Fulkerson, TEST Inc, has been notified.

9. Update on Repair of Gate Valve at Treatment Plant

Hostetler reported this was completed on Monday, February 2nd, and we are awaiting final bill.

10. Discuss Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for Road Repairs

Ron Smith reported Kevan Cooper and him could not complete the drive, Neal Smith and him are doing it tomorrow, February 5th.

11. Discuss Requested Culvert at 403 South Union

Hostetler reported he has received no contact from resident.

12. Discuss Meter Diagnostic Results for Excessive Water Use in 600 Block of South Burson

Meter diagnostics were reviewed and no errors or issues were reported with the meter. The resident's water usage for the current billing period was within normal limits.

13. Update on IDOT Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program

No update on the IDOT program, the application for the Knox Road 2300 access/plank section was submitted.

14. Update on Purchase of Squad Car Radar

Joy Mahr reported the payment has been sent.

15. Discuss Sewer Backup in 300 Block of E Ames

Hostetler reported on Monday, February 2nd, there was a sewer backup in the 300 block of E Ames. Affected residents were 215 S Dixon and 307 E Ames, which is the start of the line. Inspection from the manhole showed that where the residents' sewer lines exit into the manhole pit and join the sewer line, there was a divot formed on each side, which allows debris, including toilet paper, to collect in that area and cause blockages. Kinsel came and hydro-flushed the line. During the flushing process, a blockage happened near Bishop Street and another near Kellogg Street. The line was flushed again. Hostetler requested a camera inspection be performed. The camera inspection indicated there was still a blockage at Kellogg. Kinsel came back on February 4th and cleared the blockage. The second camera inspection determined there were no structural issues with the line and the overall slope was adequate. Public Works is to grind the divot area down. There will also be a maintenance flush scheduled every 6 months.

16. Discuss Mid-Century's Request for Water Shutoff and Disconnection

Hostetler reported Mid-Century requested the water be shut-off and capped off due to the risk of water damage inside the building. The Board discussed the removal of meter, where to cap it off outside, and the connection of the line to the Post Office. Mid-Century and the Post Office share the same curb-stop and somewhere thereafter, their water line splits.

17. Discuss Issues with Public Works Phone Number and Technical Issues

Hostetler reported the Mid-Century bill had the phone numbers reversed for the correct addresses of the Treatment Plant and the Public Works building. There was also an issue with one of the phones, you could not hear the caller, so the phone was replaced. The numbers and contact sheets have been updated.

18. Discuss Police Squad Car Radio Software Updates

Chief Record reported the need for software updates to the police squad car radios. Supreme Radio updates the radios and initially advised the cost was \$136.00, but it was determined we did not receive a prior update approximately 2 years ago, which affects the final cost and now could range between approximately \$150.00 to \$500.00. The radios remain operational but are not performing optimally. Knox County is working towards implementing radio encryption. The software update will be necessary for the Village radios to support encryption when it becomes available.

19. Discuss New Entry Gate for the Treatment Plant

The entry gate post at the Treatment Plant is bent, causing the gate to drag. The Board discussed a 16' farm-style gate replacement. Kinzer recommended an 8x8 post or an 8" round post for installation, Lekies suggested the possibility of using a phone pole, and Dave Mahr mentioned potential use of old water pipe located behind the plant. Further determination will be had.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No further reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Neely Carr
Village Clerk