

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** At 5:30 p.m. Village President (VP) Shannon Berg called the meeting to order.
- II. **ROLL CALL.** Board of Trustee (Board) Members in attendance were Gary Pitts, Paul Blodgett, Brad Lotts, Gerid Dodge & VP Berg. There was a quorum in attendance. Staff in attendance were Treasurer-Deputy Clerk (TDC) Teresa Dachel, Building Inspector Joe Atwood, Sergeant Andy Clark (arrived late). No public were in attendance.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.** There were no public comments.
- V. **CONSENT AGENDA.** There were no questions or concerns with the consent agenda. Motion was made by Blodgett & seconded by Lotts to approve consent agenda. All were In Favor, None Opposed. Motion carried.
 1. Announcements, Complaints, Concerns and Communications. TDC Dachel did not receive anything since last meeting.
 2. Minutes and Reports.
 - a. Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2026.
 - b. Regular Park Committee Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2026.
 - c. Special Board Meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2026.
 3. 2026 Brush Chipping Dates 04/20, 05/04, 05/18, 06/08, 07/06, 08/03, 09/08, 09/28, 10/19. \$150/hr Minimum 2 hrs.
 4. Election Appointments 2026-2027:
 - a. Marie Dachel (Chief of Election Inspector)
 - b. Cindy Swenson
 - c. Cheryl Weldon
 - d. Catherine Yohnk
 - e. Shannon Berg
 - f. Jacqueline McCracken
 - g. Peggy Stanford (2nd Chief of Election Inspector)
 - h. Ilene Moos (Alt Chief of Election Inspector)
 - i. Bonnie Halberg
- VI. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS.**
 1. Public Works. With the hours that Public Works has been putting in, Jared asked TDC Dachel to read the public works report. Effluent seems to be working properly now that Haas Sons installed the relief valve. Water tower working properly after temperature drop now that the recirculation pump was installed.
 2. Public Safety. Sergeant Andy Clark went over the February hours with a total of 101 billable hours to the village and 21.5 non-billable hours. He also discussed the meeting between Sheriff Hakes, VP Berg, TDC Dachel and Superintendent Austin Hiess in regards to expectations when deputies are visiting the school during village contracted hours. He noted that none of the deputies are consider SRO's and shouldn't be viewed as such during the visits. The village views these visits as a great idea to help the kids feel comfortable with police presence.
 3. Building Inspector. BI Atwood discussed the list of properties that still need to be addressed. Mr. Lauterbach has made no progress; Mr. Cole has made progress on the inside of the building, will start working on the outside when weather allows; Mr. Rosenbrook is waiting for house to be sold before finishing the inside; Mr. Davis and Mr. Larsen will be visited again in the spring. Mr. Coon applied for a yard shed permit.
 4. Treasurer's Report. Receipts-Expense Report There were no questions with the Receipts-Expense Report. All signed.
 5. Clerk's Report. Call for Committee Appointment Options Gerid Dodge was asked to serve on the Board of Review and will be officially appointed during the April board meeting. The suggestion was made to ask Tim Schilla for planning commission. No suggestions were made for park committee.
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**
 1. Consider/Act on Resolution 2026-02 Outdoor Recreational Grant Amendment. TDC Dachel went through the site map, which now includes all areas of the park except the wetland area as well as the new budget, which includes changing the location of the trail, adding ADA cement sidewalks, cement pads for benches, changing the gully for better drainage and flow and potentially a full-size ADA basketball court for the Outdoor Recreational Grant amendment. TDC Dachel stated this would be the last construction season to take advantage of any grant reimbursements. The amended site map and budget


have been submitted to the DNR and we are waiting on approval. The next step will be requesting donations to help complete the project. Motion was made by Lotts and seconded by Blodgett to approve Resolution 2026-02 Outdoor Recreational Grant Amendment. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2. Consider/Act on Call In/On Call pay. At the previous meeting, the board considered several options regarding Call In pay versus On Call pay. There was much discussion back and forth on whether public works needed to be paid a stipend to carry a phone (On Call) versus getting paid for coming to work during non-work hours (Call In). TDC explained what other municipalities were offering and even though we can't compete, we need to stay relevant. PW Thom was given the chance to give options. Trustee Dodge asked to recap what the options were. It was decided to not offer a stipend for On Call but to change the Call In pay. TDC Dachel raised concerns that budgeted over time could potentially need to increase. Trustee Blodgett raised concerns about Call In coinciding with normal work hours. A motion was made by Dodge to change the call in pay from what we currently offer of no less than 2 hours straight pay to no less than 2 hours paid at over time rates to respond to an emergency call in and continue to pay at over time until work is completed unless the work moves into normal work hours, then paid at straight time. This call in policy should start as of the 03/13/2026 payroll and does not include snow removal which is considered normally scheduled work duties. Motion was seconded by Pitts. All were in favor, none opposed. Roll call Pitts-aye; Dodge-aye; Blodgett-aye; Lotts-aye; Berg-aye 5-0. Motion passed.
3. Consider/Act on Quotes for County Hwy SS Pine to North Street. The quotes from Chippewa County Hwy Dept and Sampson Concrete were discussed for the Chippewa County Hwy SS project and the board decided to table any action until funding could be secured.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Consider/Act on 2026 Street Sweeping: A-1 Sweeping \$4,250 OR Chippewa County \$5,310. Motion was made by Lotts and seconded by Dodge to accept A-1 Sweeping's quote to clean the village streets this spring. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
2. Consider/Act on School District of New Auburn Softball Field Use for the 2026 season at no charge in exchange for Tech Ed Dept work on the Dugouts. Motion was made by Dodge and seconded by Blodgett to allow the New Auburn School District to use the Village's softball field for the 2026 Girls Softball season. In exchange, the Tech Ed department would like to make some upgrades to the dugouts. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
3. Consider/Act on providing fireworks for Jamboree Days. Jill Petska from the Jamboree committee asked if the Village would be willing to provide fireworks for 2026 Jamboree Days. TDC Dachel did reach out for a quote and was told there would be a 20% cost increase due to tariffs. Motion was made by Lotts and seconded by Dodge to provide fireworks costing no more than \$5,000 for this year's Jamboree Days. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
4. Recess into Closed Session per WI Statute §19.85(1)(C) "to consider employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." To wit: Pay Compensation. Motion was made by Dodge and seconded by Lotts to move into closed session at 6:24 p.m. Roll call: Pitts-aye; Dodge-aye; Blodgett-aye; Lotts-aye; Berg-aye. 5-0. Motion carried.
5. Reconvene from Closed Session. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Blodgett to open session at 6:30 p.m. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
6. Action on Closed Session. Motion by Dodge and seconded by Lotts to offer Joe Koterak a seasonal rate of \$35/hour when filling in for public works. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
7. Future Board Meetings:
 - a. Next Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026.
 - b. Next Park Committee Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

- IX. ADJOURN.** Motion by Pitts and seconded by Blodgett to adjourn meeting at 6:32 p.m. All in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.



Prepared by Terea Dachel, Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer