



**Village of Industry
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2025 at 6:30pm
Kiwanis Building**

The Board of Trustees, Village of Industry, McDonough County, State of Illinois met on December 4, 2025. Clerk Larson called the meeting to order. Those answering roll call were Trustees Jones, Rittenhouse, Thompson, and Murray. Also present were Treasurer Black, Superintendent Gorsuch, and Attorney Laegeler. President Danner and Trustee Drummond were absent. Trustee Murray was elected to preside over the meeting in President Danner's absence.

I. Public Comments

- a. Jared Royer was present as a Trinity Academy board member. Trinity Academy has entered into a contract to purchase the school building. The Village has a right of first refusal. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to refuse to purchase the school building. Trustee Thompson SECONDED the motion. A roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED with Trustee Murray abstaining from the vote.
- b. Sara Plummer and Scott Forman raised concerns about the dark street behind the Kiwanis building and the higher traffic due to the water bills being paid there. Superintendent Gorsuch will call for quotes on lighting and it can be discussed at the next meeting.
- c. Scott Hance discussed the MFT budget being turned into IDOT. The budget for milling was set at \$26,000 but it cannot be over \$20,000 without additional paperwork so that was cut back to \$19,000. The work will have to be paid out of another fund if it goes over that amount. In regards to the Miller property, Attorney Laegeler stated that the Village is still attempting service and is following up on a new address.

II. Benton Engineering

- a. Doug gave updates on the Village's pending projects. The substantial completion deadline for the elevated storage tank is approaching. It is currently being disinfected for the second time. Funding was awarded for Sullivan Street improvements. There was a kick off meeting with IDOT 2 weeks ago. Attorney Laegeler asked about the Fire Department adding an antenna on top of the water tower. Doug did not see any issue with this but stated it would have to wait until after substantial completion.

III. Minutes and Bills

- a. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to approve the Minutes from the November meeting and pay the bills for December. The motion was SECONDED by Trustee Jones. The VOTE was unanimous and the MOTION CARRIED.

IV. Village Officials' Reports

- a. President/Mayor Ad Hoc-absent
- b. Clerk-nothing to report
- c. Treasurer Black reported that a new cleaning person will need to be found. At the request of the auditors, an employee handbook needs to be developed. Attorney Laegeler will find some examples to start with.
- d. Superintendent Gorsuch reported that the water tank is being filled and disinfected.
- e. Attorney Laegeler reported that the tax levy had been filed
- f. Water Clerk Wheeler reported that the bills were printed today. Last month's bill had been unusually low and this month they were much higher, effectively double charging. The due date for this month was changed to the 15th. There have been fewer phone calls recently.

V. New Business

- a. Water Clerk Wheeler and Superintendent Gorsuch have been discussing the fees regarding water start-up and shut-off. Our current start-up fee is \$25 while others charge \$75-\$100 and \$25-\$50 for shut-off. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to approve the rate increase to \$25 for shut-off and \$100 for start-up. Trustee Thompson SECONDED the motion. Discussion was tabled.
- b. A sewer line on Sherman Street that is collapsing has been brought to the attention of the water and sewer committee. Unfortunately, the camera cannot be used to assess the damage. The quote for the repair is under the competitive bidding threshold. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to repair the sewer line at a total cost of no more than \$18,000 with the work to be performed by Superintendent Gorsuch and Chad Forman. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED the motion. A roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED.
- c. The 2026 Village Board meeting dates were discussed. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to approve the proposed dates. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED the motion. The VOTE was unanimous and the MOTION CARRIED.

VI. Old Business

- a. The installation of a drive-up payment drop box was discussed. The best quote was for \$1500. Options for installation include in front of the Kiwanis Building. The preferred location is behind the Kiwanis Building with a light. Discussion was tabled until a decision was made on the light.
 - b. Property access rights through the vacant lot on S Downen St were discussed. Attorney Laegeler has reviewed the documents including the deed. There was a perpetual easement retained and Attorney Laegeler doesn't believe any action is needed.
- VII. Other
 - a. Trustee Wheeler's letter of resignation was officially accepted.
- VIII. Executive Session
 - a. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to enter Executive Session. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. Executive Session was held. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to hire Theresa Wheeler as the water billing clerk. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED the MOTION. A roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to approve a \$12,400 bonus to Theresa Wheeler to compensate her for additional work beyond what was initially expected. Trustee Jones SECONDED. A roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED.
- IX. Adjourn
 - a. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED the motion. The MOTION CARRIED and the meeting was ADJOURNED at 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Larson, Interim Village Clerk