

Minutes of the Village of Waterman Board held at Village Hall 215 W. Adams St. Waterman, IL 60556 Tuesday, June 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Feitlich, Radtke, Jay, Genslinger, Pearson and Wade were present.

Approve Agenda: Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the agenda as published. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Approve Meeting Minutes: Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the regular Board meeting minutes held on May 13, 2025, as amended. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0 with Trustee Pearson abstaining.

Trustee Radtke motioned to approve the Special meeting minutes held on May 19, 2025, as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0 with Trustee Pearson abstaining.

Accept Council Approval Reports: Trustee Pearson motioned to accept the Council Approval Reports as published. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept Petty Cash Report: Trustee Pearson motioned to approve the petty cash report as published. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept Treasurer's Funds Report: Trustee Pearson motioned to approve the Treasurer's Fund Report as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Mayor's Report: Trustee Radtke motioned to reappoint Abigail Pool as Village Clerk. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. Trustee Pearson motioned to reappoint Amy Nykaza as Village Manager. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. President Feitlich swore in Abigail Pool as Village Clerk and Amy Nykaza as Village Manager.

President Feitlich notified the Board that the Village received a complaint regarding parking near the Fire Department, which is still being looked into.

Request for Consideration: Shawn Ajazi with Progressive Business Solutions presented the opportunity to join a Community Solar Subscription Program. The Village would be subscribed to a solar field located in Oregon/Prophetstown for up to a 20-year contract. Enrollment in this program would save the Village 10% on energy costs.

Correspondence: Nothing

Public Comment: Larry Mason commented on the fence that was taken down when the lights at the school were being fixed. He is concerned that the unfinished fence could be a safety issue. Village Manager, Nykaza said she would follow up with the Indian Creek School District regarding this. Larry Mason also went on to ask if Amy could question the school district about the broken basketball hoop. Trustee Radtke informed Larry that the school district holds monthly meetings to address any issues or concerns related to the school. Alexandra Bee directed her comment to President Feitlich regarding the replacement of Chief Jason Swanson. Denise Horn asked when the Board Meeting Minutes are made available for public viewing. Village Clerk, Pool stated that once approved by the Board they are posted to the Village website the following day.

Staff Reports

Chief Swanson – Chief Swanson presented the May stats report to the Board for review. The Department is continuing to provide their support to Chance Light Education Center with de-escalating juveniles experiencing crises. Provided support during the Seeds and Stones Bike Rally event on May 3rd with no incidents reported. Department participated in the Waterman Summer Rec Parade on May 17th. Corporal Bermudez successfully completed Police Supervisory Training on June 6th. Working to install the necessary software and mount the new computers in the police vehicles. Adjusting patrols to address the speeding violations along South Elm Street. Ofc. Vandegrift and I have decided to pause the update of the

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Policy and Procedure Manual to focus on crafting a comprehensive set of Rules & Regulations for the Public Safety Committee's review.

Village Manager Nykaza – Still waiting for testing at Well #5, in Deerfield Crossing, to be completed. All upgrades to the Lions Park Shelter have been completed. Nykaza thanked Clerk Pool for preparing and taking the lead on this project. The MFT Road Project, along Elm Street, has been approved but waiting on the start date from Curran. Once the project's start date and details have been finalized, impacted residents will be notified. Awarded \$5,000.00 for the Police Body Camera Reimbursement Grant. Waiting for a response to the AED Grant. Notified of an IDOT Grant on May 14th. In response to that, two grant applications were submitted. One for \$198,600 to reimburse the Village for the road project and for Engineering Phases I and II for a multi-use path. If awarded, the Village has 3 years to utilize the funds. Waiting for the new playset at Garfield Park to be installed. Continuing to work on revisions to the Village's dog at large nuisance ordinances. Brad Fritts held a town hall meeting on June 4th. Attended the DeKalb County Enterprise Zone Meeting regarding Economic Development. Also attended the Small-Town Regional Discussion Group to discuss how local municipalities can collaborate on solutions to issues in the communities.

Attorney Neveu – Deed Transfer for the Clinton Township Community Building to the Village of Waterman is complete.

Public Works – Matt Conlin: Received giant concrete blocks for storing gravel and other materials. President Feitlich spoke with representatives from Shabbona and Lee regarding the possibility of an Intergovernmental Agreement for the use of local municipalities' Public Works equipment. Matt Conlin said this was done in the past and raised the issue of some municipalities not maintaining their equipment as diligently as others.

Committee Reports

Water & Sewer – Adam Pearson: The Village held an Open House on May 21st at the Community Building to discuss the Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District. Clerk Pool stated that we are working to schedule the remaining 10 houses left for the Meter Exchange Project. The infrastructure fee's rate on the utility bill is set to expire in July 2025. Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss ordinance update.

Streets & Alleys – Adam Pearson: Nothing

Public Safety - Arnie Johanningsmeier: Nothing

Buildings & Grounds – Alison Genslinger: Nothing

Finance & Personnel – Tony Feitlich: Nothing

Economic Development – Sarah Radtke: Village Manager, Nykaza reminded the Board that our summer intern from Aurora University started researching Economic Development needs in Waterman.

Zoning – Sarah Radtke: Received two variance applications for review. The Zoning of Appeals Meeting to review the two applications is scheduled for June 23rd at 6pm. The first application was submitted by Almanar Trading for Phase II of Deerfield Crossing. They are requesting to be allowed to farm on the residential lots instead of having to maintain them. The second application is for property address 310 S. Hickory Street to install a detached garage as the building's size is beyond what the Village ordinance allows.

Special Hiring – Johanningsmeier: Nothing

Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nothing

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Regional Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nothing

Old Business: Nothing

New Business: President Feitlich explained the process of arriving at the decision to appoint a new Police Chief and to read a short summary of Tony Jemison’s credentials and experience. Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve a conditional appointment of Tony Jemison as Police Chief dependent upon the successful completion of his background check. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/1.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve A.H. Brenner Heating and Cooling’s bid for new furnace and a/c units at Village Hall in the amount of \$8,575.00. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to appoint Willett Hofman & Associates Inc. as the Village Engineers. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the retirement fund settlement for Anthony Pero in the amount of \$17,884.41. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the retirement fund settlement for Dillon Ford in the amount of \$16,279.46 with the amended mailing address. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Closed Session – Legal & Personnel

No closed session was held.

Adjournment:

Having no further business to conduct, Trustee Genslinger motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Pool, Village Clerk

Approved