

Meeting Minutes
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF STEWARD, ILLINOIS
402 Main Street

Monday, July 14, 2025

1. **Call to Order/Pledge** – Meeting called to order at 7:00pm
2. **Roll Call** - Zach (y) Bill W (y) Erik (y) Rylee (y)
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Revision noted: Park/Village Property, Item B regarding gravel for driveways. Was previously approved and does not need further attention from the Trustees. Zach motions for approval of agenda with revision, Rylee seconds.
4. **Minutes of the June 9, 2025 Meeting** – Rylee makes a motion to approve as presented, Zach seconds. All in favor.
5. **Treasurer's Report** - Matt reviewed Treasurer's Report. No changes necessary. Rylee motions to approve, Erik seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y) Bill (y) Erik (y) Rylee (y). All in favor.
6. **Accounts Payable** – Revision noted regarding General Fund Payment Approval: Advance Tree Care for treatment of (4) Ash trees to prevent Ash Borer death in the amount of \$671.00, with a subtotal of \$1,989.67. Second revision was the inclusion for the United States Treasury for payroll taxes in the amount of \$541.62, bringing June's total expenses to \$2,531.29.
Water Department Accounts Payable: the following payments were made from the IEPA funding received for the water project: CFPS \$10,000.00; Willett Hofmann \$7,023.45; Martin & Co \$59,305.27. A payment for payroll taxes to the United States Treasury in the amount of \$359.57 was added, bringing the Water Department total expenses to \$78,887.48. Repayment of the IEPA Loan will be biannually @ \$9,496.78 with 40 payments over 20 years. Zach motions to approve as revised, Rylee seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Bill (y), Erik (y), Rylee (y). All in favor.
7. **Visitor Recognition** – Jasper Rager, Karen Bonnell and Jamie Finnistad were present. Rylee made a motion to suspend the rules to allow a visitor presentation, Zach seconds. Jasper Rager of Rager Renovations LLC presented an estimate for the repairs to Village Hall. The bid will be valid for 2 months. Other construction companies will be submitting bids as well. The Board of Trustees will be making a decision no later than the August 11, 2025 Board Meeting.
8. **Committee Reports** –
 - A. Water Department:
 1. Well 2. The recommendation is to install an electrical device at a cost of \$22,120.00, slowing the flow to eliminate the current sand issue so Well 2 can be utilized. Other systems can cost \$75,000.00, while purchasing additional property and drilling a new well could cost millions. Zach made a motion to approve \$25,000.00 for the repairs recommended, Rylee seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Bill (y) Erik, (y), Rylee (y). All in favor.
 2. Hydrant Flushing: October is recommended as it will be the last flushing of the year. Bill makes a motion to table until August meeting to confirm October date, Rylee seconds.

B. Park/Village Property:

1. Report of Property Maintenance

- a. Village Hall – see previous discussion, item 7.
- b. Park Mowing: A bid was received for \$150.00 per mowing, to include weed trimming, mowing park, triangle and Village Hall from David Hunter. An additional bid was received in the amount of \$250.00 per mowing. Rylee motioned to accept the bid from David Hunter, Bill seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Bill (y), Erik (y) Rylee (y). All in favor. Bill will contact David Hunter to begin this week.

9. Old Business –

- a. Celebration Garden – Laura is currently the only person working on the garden, and cannot keep up with weeds and mulching. She is seeking volunteers.
- b. Shirts and Cards for Village – Bill makes a motion to eliminate this, Rylee seconds.
- c. FOIA/OMA - Laura reminded everyone that this is required by Illinois state law for elected officials. Trustees are to complete this prior to the August 11, 2025 meeting.
- d. Return to Work Policy – Hugh will be working on this as it is required by state law.
- e. Open Trustee Spots – Two positions are currently open for Trustees. Jamie Finistad, a Steward resident of 12 years who has volunteered for numerous projects is interested. Zach motions to approve Jamie for one of the trustee positions, Rylee seconds. All in favor. Jamie will be sworn in August, 11, 2025.

10. New Business –

- A. Purchase laptop computer for village clerk for village work – Laura received a bid in the amount of \$600.00 with programs installed but requiring renewal of program subscriptions. Erik will do more research and will present next month. Item tabled until then.

Next meeting date: August 11, 2025.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:56pm.