This Regular Board meeting was called to order by President Mire at 6:30pm

**Roll Call:**
Physically Present –Peschang, Robertson, Fiems, Fowler, Polenske and DeMarlie
Absent –
Others Physically Present – Clerk Housenga, Attorney Arthur Eggers, Tara Walters & Angel Jacobs of MSA Professional Services (left 7:42pm), Sargent Herbert (6:45pm)
Others Virtually Present – Kathy Peschang (6:40pm)

A quorum was physically established.

**CONSENT "Omnibus" Agenda:** Fiems motioned to approve 09/09/2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, 09-16-2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, 10/2025 Monthly Bills totaling $100,244.52 and Treasure's Report for 09/2025; DeMarlie seconded. All present board members voted yes, motion passes.

**PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** Tara Walters and Angel Jacobs from MSA Professional Services reviewed and updated the board pertaining to the professional services agreement to conduct asset data collections and GIS setup, design rehabilitation for the water tower and aid in SRF funding administration. The board was to pick the services previously discussed at other meetings to customize an agreement to taylor the needs of the Village. Robertson motioned to approve the presented professional services agreement with Phase 300, 400, 500 in the amount of $68,200.00 for Project Number 00443042. DeMarlie seconded the motion, all present board members voted yes, motion passes.

**PRESIDENT – Mire:** Mire updated the board as to the progress of the FY2023 and FY2024 audits originally contracted through Odoni Partners. The FY2023 audit has been filed with the Comptroller's Office, an email has been sent to Odoni Partners requesting the finalized copies of the audit and supporting documents. Based on the email sent from Odoni Partners to the Village Attorneys it was indicated that the FY2024 audit had not begun. Mire instructed Clerk Housenga today to send an email to Odoni Partners to cease all work on the FY2024 audit as another firm would be contracted to complete such work. Robertson motioned to engage the services of Lauterbach and Amen per previous services detailed in the contract dated August 25th, 2025 for the FY2025 audit and a similar contract to be submitted for the FY2024 audit cycle, each audit year not to exceed $19,500.00, Mire would be authorized to sign the new agreement as provided a later date. Fowler seconded the motion, all board members voted yes, motion carries. Clerk Housenga also provided an update on conversation and emails with the Comptroller's Office pertaining to audit submissions and fines that could be imposed.

Mire also provided an update on the railroad safety matter that was addressed in last month's regular board meeting. The board requested Clerk Housenga to reach out to the Canadian Pacific Railroad to obtain a copy of the inspection and schedule of repairs if any is needed.

Mire then touched base with the board concerning the tax levy and the Truth in Taxation Hearing currently scheduled. Mire requested the board to "hear me out" reviewing with the board the process of levying for taxes. If there is not a 5% increase, then no truth in taxation hearing would be required. Mire would like to cover the law enforcement portion of the budget/contract. If a referenda question were to be added to the next ballot in March, seeking public opinion on raising the maximum collection rate from 0.075 to 0.60. The following levy year the village could be able to make up the difference to collect up to the contracted account of police protection. Mire recommended to the board to set the tax collection rate this levy year to .515744 with total collection at $189,600.00 and to also add the referenda question to the March ballot, stating he is looking out for the long game. Discussion took place between the board members to identify the best course of action to take. Robertson motioned to cancel the Truth in Taxation Hearing set for October 28th, 2025. Peschang seconded the motion, all present members of the board voted yes, motion carries. Per Attorney Eggers it was ok to pass the tax levy this evening since the topic was on the agenda. Fiems motioned to pass the tax levy with a rate of .515744, which will collect $189,600.00 for collection year 2026; General - $85,650.00, IMRF - $21,000.00, Police Protection - $25,700.00, Cemetery - $5,150.00, Audit Services - $9,100.00, Liability Insurance - $25,300.00, Social Security - $17,700.00. Peschang seconded the motion, all present board members voted yes, motion carries.

Mire brought it to the attention of the board of a complaint received concerning the filling of a pond with village water from a fire hydrant. Mire did consult with the Village Attorney as long as the resident is paying for the water consumed for filling the pond the Attorney sees no issues. The resident is under full understanding that he will be paying for all water consumption, which is being metered, to fill his pond.

**POLICE REPORT:** No report was presented

**ATTORNEY – Califf & Harper P.C.:** Nothing new to discuss.

**FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey:** Report reviewed as presented.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Report as presented. Bump stated seeding of the hillside on 17th Street this week.

Bump also stated the survey to identify the boundaries of Village property at Schuler's Shady Grove. Bump, Polenske and Fiems are to meet to discuss options to restore the Village property since trees were removed from our property by the neighboring property owner. Once a reasonable restoration option has been identified the neighboring property owner will be notified via email, USPS mail and a phone call.

**INFRASTRUCTURE (Public Works, Water, Sewer & Garbage) – Robertson:** Robertson motioned to approve the renewal of the municipal software and support for the reading of water meters for utility billing. Fiems seconded the motion, all board members voted yes, motion carries.

**PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY – Polenske:** Nothing to report at this time.

**VIDEO GAMING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENT PLANNING – Fowler:** Fowler reported gaming revenues received this last month were $3,633.35.

Fowler motioned to approve total expenditures not to exceed $1,900.00 for the 2025 Annual Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon to be held on November 19th, 2025, with the catering to be done by Smokin Butt BBQ. Fiems seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

**ORDINANCE, LICENSES, BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Peschang:** Peschang reviewed the permit log for the month of September 2025, 7 general permits, 0 new construction and 1 plumber permits were issued.

Peschang updated the board of a planned Planning & Zoning Hearing schedule for Carrie and Rich Riley for the property located at 1620 1st Avenue on October 29th, 2025.

**FINANCE – DeMarlie:** DeMarlie noted the letter enclosed in the meeting packet confirming receipt of the documents to impose the Grocery Tax which will go into effect on January 1st, 2026.

DeMarlie motioned to approve the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management renewal Option #1 to renew municipal risk management insurance in the amount of $27,036.42. Fiems seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

Fiems motioned to approve a transfer from General Fund to Water Operation Fund in the amount of $12,000.00 to cover payroll and bill expenses to date. Fowler seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

**PERSONNEL & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fiems:** Mire updated the board that he authorized Clerk Housenga to pay out Meier's personal time accrued from earlier this year. 70 total hours were deducted and paid from Meier's pool of personal time.

**ELECTIONS – Mire:** Nothing to report at this meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Clerk Housenga reminded everyone of the date change for the November 2025 Regular Board Meeting to Monday, November 10th, 2025.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

The board unanimously agreed to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting at 8:26pm.

Missy M. Housenga
Village Clerk