



Town of Cortland

Board of Trustees Town Board Meeting

Town Hall, 59 S. Somonauk Road Cortland, IL 60112

August 24, 2026

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL

Mayor Pietrowski called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called showing as present Trustees Fioretto, Haier, Siewierski, and Olson. Shown as absent were Trustees Corson and Stone. Quorum was present. Also present were Town Clerk Cheryl Aldis, Attorney Kevin Buick, Director of Public Works Joel Summerhill, Police Chief Bruce Van Wankum, Town Engineer Brandy Williams and Deputy Clerk Catherine Koks.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Haier moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK

Charlotte Hodder, a representative from American Legion Post 66 in DeKalb, addressed the board about "Be The One", an initiative by the organization to prevent veteran suicide. The American Legion has worked for this nationally recognized cause over the last three years. The program provides training for community members to recognize and address veterans in crisis and to be first responders to prevent loss of life. A training session will take place in October and people from all over the United States are expected to attend. The organization's mission is to have state-wide training to reach more areas. DeKalb county is a nation-wide leader in education for the public about this cause. A walk to raise awareness and funding is scheduled for September 20, 2026 beginning at the Kishwaukee Health Center and anyone interested can sign up to participate on the website. There were comments by other members of the organizations on the high level of support for veterans in DeKalb County. They are asking the Town of Cortland to proclaim September 20th, 2026 as "Be The One Day".

Cortland Community Library Director Heather Black and Library Technician Jessica Nava addressed the board about Library Card Sign-Up Month for September. They outlined their mission and programs the library offered as well as plans to continue providing the community with new and exciting services. They asked the board to proclaim the month of September 2026 as "Library Card Sign-Up Month".

PRESENTATION

1. Mayor's Proclamation Be The One; Suicide Prevention 3rd Annual Walk on September 20, 2026; Mayor's Proclamation Library Card Sign Up Month

Mayor Pietrowski thanked the American Legion Post #66 for their thoughtful presentation and their hard work supporting veterans in DeKalb County. He read a proclamation proclaiming September 20, 2026 as "Be The One Day" in the Town of Cortland.

PROC 2026-03

Mayor Pietrowski thanked the Cortland Community Library for their thoughtful presentation and service to the community and read a proclamation proclaiming the month of September 2026 as "Library Card Sign-Up Month" in the Town of Cortland.

PROC 2026-04

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Approve the Minutes of regular meeting of the Board of Trustees July 13, 2026, Approval of Expenditure Report and Acceptance of Treasurer's Report of May 2026

The consent agenda was read into the record by Clerk Aldis.

Trustee Siewierski moved and Trustee Fioretto seconded a motion to approve the Regular Town Board Minutes of July, 13 2026, approve the Expenditure Report and Accept the Treasurer's Report of May 2026, as submitted.

Roll Call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Olson, Siewierski, Fioretto, Haier

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Corson, Stone

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

3. Consideration of Approval of DOT/CDL Drug & Alcohol Testing Program Policy. If approved, this policy keeps the Town in compliance with requirements of DOT/CDL drug and alcohol testing.

Mayor Pietrowski introduced the proposed adoption of the Mid-West Truckers Association DOT/CDL Drug & Alcohol Testing Program Policy. This policy amends the existing policy by using the updated Mid-West Truckers Association forms, and changing the Police Chief name to Bruce Van Wankum. All other previously selection options presented are the same.

Trustee Fioretto moved to approve the Mid-West Truckers Association DOT/CDL Drug & Alcohol Testing Program Policy as presented, seconded by Trustee Haier.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Corson, Stone

Motion Carried

P 2026-02

4. Consider a Motion to approve a Proposal (among 3 options) submitted by Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a 60 month contract to Provide Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) and In Car Camera Systems for the Cortland Police Department. Police Chief Bruce Van Wankum is seeking to have the Town replace its current BWC provider with this provider based upon the quotes submitted, and recommends Option 3 in the amount of \$120,871.80 which includes both the Redaction Studio and AI real time translation.

Mayor Pietrowski introduced the Axon Enterprises, Inc. proposal submitted by Interim Chief Van Wankum. Chief Van Wankum reviewed his summary of the proposal (three options presented to the board), highlighting that these changes would first bring the Town into current policing compliance with updated equipment. It would also provide the benefit of streamlined ability to efficiently complete FOIA requests that require written language and video redaction along with the ability to share required data with the county sheriff's department and the state's attorney's office. Chief Van Wankum reiterated that he is recommending Option 3. It was also noted that the contract with Axon would begin after the contract with Flock ended in February 2026.

Trustee Olson moved to approve Option 3 as submitted by Axon Enterprises, Inc., for a 60 month contract to Provide Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) and In Car Camera Systems for the Cortland Police Department in the amount of \$120,871.80, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Corson, Stone

Motion Carried

C 2026-07

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no unfinished business for consideration.

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no report provided. The next scheduled meeting is September 15, 2026.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

5. Public Works Report for July 2026; Police Reports for June and July 2026; Permits Report for July 2026; Annual Library Report to Town Board

There were no questions regarding the provided reports.

COMMENTS

Trustee Siewierski provided comments regarding his concerns at the previous board meeting regarding solar farms and the requirement to approve them. He stated that he felt this was

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poor legislative local action. He stated that he did speak with the town's attorney regarding the matter.

Trustee Olson asked for an update on the proposed police department building. Mayor Pietrowski reported that an architect has looked at the building and will be preparing a report. He stated the architect is the same company that the fire department is using. Once a report is available, the town will need to proceed with an Request For Qualifications for an architect to be hired by the Board. Pietrowski stated it is anticipated that the project would be done in phases which would also be determined by the Board.

Mayor Pietrowski commented regarding SummerFest. He stated that the fireworks display was outstanding. Heather Black added that overall attendance was down from 2025 and it is likely that the Lions Club will have some changes for next years event, but nothing definitive at this time.

Mayor Pietrowski noted that the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for September 14, 2026, is cancelled. The next meeting will be held on September 28, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Siewierski moved and Trustee Haier seconded a motion for adjournment. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Aldis
Town Clerk

Approved: _____