Town of Cortland

Board of Trustees Town Board Meeting

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

June 08, 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 Corson, Fioretto, V. Haier, Siewierski, Stone, and Olson. There was no one absent. Quorum was present. Also present were Town Clerk Cheryl Aldis, Attorney Kevin Buick, Director of Public Works Joel Summerhill, Police Chief Lin Dargis, Town Engineer Brandy Williams and Deputy Clerk Catherine Koks.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK

Ben Haier addressed the board with concerns regarding his personal property and neighborhood service issues with LRS and contract negotiation process.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of regular meeting of the Board of Trustees May 26, 2026, Approval of Expenditure Report and Acceptance of Treasurer's Report of April 2026

   Deputy Clerk Koks read the consent agenda into the record.

   Trustee Haier made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

   Roll Call vote

   Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, Olson, and Haier

   Nay: None

   Absent: None <u>Motion Carried</u>

NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

2. Consider a motion to approve a renewal contract with Lakeshore Recycling Systems (*If approved this contract would be effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031)*

   Trustee Corson made a motion to approve a renewal contract with Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031. Trustee Siewierski seconded the motion.

Board members brought forward safety concerns with weekly pickup, billing issues, and some general service complaints from some specific areas in town. The board discussed the experience with LRS for the last ten years, which was positive overall.

Mayor Pietrowski explained that when contracts are put out for bid and bids are collected, the rate would have jumped much higher to keep up with the competition than negotiating with the same company. He was expecting a 12% or more jump, and it ended up only being about 4%.

Trustee Fioretto expressed that she would have liked to seen more competition and what those competitive rates would have been. She asked to communicate concerns with LRS to hold them accountable when there are consistent issues.

Mayor Pietrowski stated that residents, board members, and staff can report issues at any time to LRS by contacting the customer service number, or the area representatives directly. He asked that the contact information be distributed to board members. [Clerk's note: the business cards of the representatives present at the meeting were provided to the Board member.]

Trustee Haier expressed concerns about her neighborhood's unique layout and yards being torn up during weekly pickup. She is willing to help try to problem solve by finding a solution to limit damage in the future, potentially changing location of all cans to reduce traffic in the alley.

Pietrowski and Aldis asked Jordan Kraber, Municipal Services Manager for LRS to speak about the procedure for pickup as well as addressing some of the issues brought forward. Kraber gave a brief overview on some standard practices, including multiple loops around the same block to ensure pickup, right-hand turns only due to equipment size and design, and pick up zones with the same driver to increase efficiency. She also stated that each truck is equipped with a 360-degree camera that allows footage of pick ups to be viewed by supervisors. She mentioned that E-Waste is curbside pickup only for an additional fee. The Elburn location will accept televisions and monitors if they are brought in. She offered to provide reports and operation notes upon request when services issues are reported.

Trustee Olson asked a clarifying question about going out for bid in lieu of negotiation. Pietrowski responded that the rate offered as part of the bid process would be higher than re-negotiating a new contract with the same company. Clerk Aldis added that the language of the contract also stipulates that properties will be locked into this rate.

Kraber stated a new informational tri-fold brochure is being formatted and will be made available in June or July to answer common questions about service and provide contact information. She mentioned LRS is also in the process of updating the website and billing portal.

Roll Call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, and Olson
Nay: Trustee Haier
Absent: None <u>Motion Carried</u> **C 2026-03**

3. Consider an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and Between the Town of Cortland and Cortland Lions Club 524 *(If approved the eligible project cost shall not exceed 75% of the verified TIF eligible project costs or $14,000, whichever is less, as set forth in this Agreement)*

   Mayor Pietrowski introduced an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and Between the Town of Cortland and Cortland Lions Club 524.

   Trustee Corson made a motion, seconded by Fioretto, to approve the execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement between the Town of Cortland and Cortland Lions Club 524 in the amount of 75% of the verified TIF eligible costs or $14,000, whichever is less.

   Trustees Stone and Haier recused themselves from discussion on this matter due to their ownership of property within the TIF District.

   There was no other discussion.

   Roll Call Vote

   Yea: Trustees Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, Olson
   Nay: None
   Absent: None
   Abstaining: Trustees Stone and Haier <u>Motion Carried</u> **Ord No. 2026-07**

4. Consider a motion to approve An Ordinance Approving the Vacation of a Public Irrigation Easement on Property owned by the DeKalb Community Unit School District 428 (Cortland Elementary School) and Authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to Execute a Plat of Vacation. *(The Town of Cortland has no use for this land for public irrigation purposes and has no existing equipment located within the area of the existing public irrigation easement.)*

   Mayor Pietrowski introduced an Ordinance to approve vacation of an easement owned by CUSD 428.

   Trustee Stone made a motion to approve An Ordinance Approving the Vacation of a Public Irrigation Easement on Property owned by the DeKalb Community Unit School District 428 (Cortland Elementary School) and Authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to Execute a Plat of Vacation. Trustee Olson seconded the motion.

   There was no discussion.

   Roll Call vote:

   Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, and Olson
   Nay: Trustee Haier
   Absent: None <u>Motion Carried</u> **Ord No. 2026-08**

5. Consider approval of a special event - Cortland Community Library August 4, 2026 - This is an event hosted by the Cortland Community Library for End of Summer Reading Bash at the Cortland Community Park

   Mayor Pietrowski introduced consideration to approve a special event hosted by the Cortland Community Library in August.

   Trustee Corson made a motion to approve the End of Summer Reading Bash at Cortland Community Park, hosted by the Cortland Community Library on August 4, 2026, who make the second?

   Library Staff commented that several activities featuring foam and bubbles are planned.

   Roll Call vote:

Yea:	Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, Olson, and Haier	
Nay:	None	
Absent:	None	Motion Carried

6. Consider approval of a proposal for emergency repairs from Albrecht Well Drilling, Inc in the amount of $108,338; not to exceed $150,000 from budget line 07-7400-243 *(If approved this would repair the pump at Well #4.)*

   Mayor Pietrowski introduced the proposal for Well #4 repairs by Albrecht Well Drilling, Inc.

   Trustee Stone made a motion to approve a proposal for emergency repairs from Albrecht Well Drilling, Inc in the amount of $108,338; not to exceed $150,000 from budget line 07-7400-243. Trustee Haier seconded the motion.

   Public Works Director Summerhill stated that the condition of Well #4 has continued to decline and the issues it is experiencing warrant immediate repairs. The well is supposed to pump 600 gallons per minute but is currently only pumping 330 gallons per minute. The proposed repairs would also address removal of a mercury seal within the pipe.

   Trustee Stone commented that Albrecht is a very good contractor and he recommends them for this type of work. Summerhill stated that this pipe was installed in 2008 and life expectancy for infrastructure in a well this size is 7-9 years. There have been no major issues, but he felt it would be best to get ahead of this repair before it fails.

   Roll Call vote

Yea:	Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Corson, Fioretto, Olson, and Haier		
Nay:	None		
Absent:	None	Motion Carried	**C 2026-04**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

COMMENTS

Trustee Olson reported that she attended the meeting and commends the Planning Commission for its discussion and decision making process on the proposed solar project from Apex Energy at its June 4, 2026, meeting.

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no Parks Advisory Committee report. The committee meets next on June 9, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

There were no department head reports submitted.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pietrowski announced that he would be personally sponsoring a musician to play at the June 27, 2026, "America 250 Celebration" to be held at Suppeland Park. He is also personally sponsoring a giveaway of small memorabilia. He reported that Mr. Summerhill had acquired three commemorative flags to be hung at the Town Hall, at the Veteran's Memorial, and at Mound Rest Cemetery. Mayor Pietrowski also plans to ask if the Fire Department, Police Department and the Library would like to participate in some way. Trustee Corson asked if Public Works would be pulling out equipment to view as well. Director Summerhill stated that there was no overtime approved for monitoring or sitting with the equipment.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Stone moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Siewierski. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:43pm

Respectfully submitted

Catherine Koks, RMC

Deputy Clerk title here somewhere?