



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 - 7:00 PM

200 N. Hill Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Richardson at 7:00 pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Admin Chairman Owen Costanza

Finance Chairman Jeff Goings

Trustee David Allgood

Trustee Dan Cheek

Trustee Sinae Hubbard

Trustee Mark Vance

Clerk Karri Miller

Attorney Aaron Szeto

Public Works Director David Howe

Engineer Chris Dopkins

Wastewater Director Ion Steer

Building Official Ken Garrett

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF PHONE PARTICIPATION (Roll Call)

none

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Voice Vote)

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek Motion passed via voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Voice Vote)

1. Motion to discuss/approve Board of Trustee Meeting minutes from July 23, 2025
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Allgood. Motion passed via voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT *Public Comment is encouraged. The Village Board will receive comments from the public, pursuant to State Statutes. Comments will be limited to five minutes on topics relating to the Village of Poplar Grove. Be further advised that matters brought up at this time may be referred to the appropriate committee or individual for further discussion or consideration.*

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

2. Public Works, Howe
no questions
3. Treasurer, Sikich
no questions
4. Engineer, McMahon
no questions
5. Wastewater, Test
no questions

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. Motion to discuss/approve **Resolution 2025-15** a resolution of the Village of Poplar Grove, Illinois, resolving to accept the quote from BS&A Software to provide services to manage software needs.
Motion made by Trustee Hubbard, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance
7. Motion to approve **Resolution 2025-16** a resolution of the Village of Poplar Grove, Illinois resolving to accept a quote from Andrews Technology HMS, INC., to implement and maintain a web-based time and attendance system
Motion made by Trustee Allgood, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance

NEW BUSINESS

8. Motion to discuss/approve check disbursement for payments scheduled to be paid before August 31st, 2025 in the amount of \$65,930.47 in AP checks, \$7,877.25 in EFTs and estimated payroll of \$15,533.83 for a total of \$89,341.55
Motion made by Trustee Allgood, Seconded by Trustee Vance.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance

9. Motion to discuss/approve **Resolution 2025-17** a resolution of the Village of Poplar Grove resolving to award a construction contract for section number 25-00000-00-GM, 2025 pavement maintenance program to Rock Road Companies, INC.
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Allgood.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance
10. Motion to discuss/approve **Ordinance 2025-23**, an ordinance of the Village of Poplar Grove authorizing a special use permit for ground-mounted solar collectors at the properties with pins 03-23-200-014 and 03-23-200-017
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Allgood.
Voting Nay: Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance
Voting Abstaining: Admin Chairman Costanza

Michelle and Zach Anderson:

Mr and Mrs. Anderson opposed the proposed solar farm, noting the Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District's unfavorable opinion and that LESA scores classify the site as prime farmland. She cited Code 857 D2, stating the project would interfere with nearby properties and diminish values. She reminded the board that Planning and Zoning voted "no" and urged the board to do the same.

Madelyn Ragland:

Ms. Ragland stated her strong opposition to the proposed solar farm, noting it would negatively impact property values, create noise, glare, dust, traffic, and potential groundwater contamination. She expressed concerns about loss of farmland, habitat, and increased flooding risk, as well as future toxic waste from panel disposal. She concluded that solar farms belong in industrial areas or on developed land, not on prime farmland near homes, and urged the board to reject the proposal.

Daniel Kelly (Manager, Tahoe Trading Company):

Mr. Kelly supported the project, citing a 2024 Loyola University study showing nearby property values increased around solar farms. He noted drainage issues, not solar, are the main threat to property values and said the developer has a plan to address flooding. He added that setbacks and tree screening will minimize noise and visual impact, and emphasized the project requires no Village infrastructure while providing long-term energy benefits.

Clerk Miller read a written statement from Justin Lewis:

Mr. Lewis expressed strong opposition to the proposed solar farm near his home, where he has lived for 16 years. He stated the project threatens the rural character and quality of life that drew residents to Poplar Grove, and warned it could set a precedent for further development. He cited concerns about declining property values, health risks, and flaws in the process, noting the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Water

Reclamation District both recommended against the project. He emphasized that the land is prime farmland despite testimony to the contrary. Mr. Lewis urged the board to reject the proposal and stated he would hold elected officials accountable if resident concerns and commission recommendations are disregarded.

Mack Gapinski from Trajectory Solar answered questions from the trustees and residents

GOOD OF THE VILLAGE

Village Hall Closed for Labor Day - September 1, 2025

Board of Trustees Meeting - September 10, 2025 - 7:00 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting - September 24, 2025 - 7:00 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting - October 8, 2025 - 7:00 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

11. Motion to go into executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) to discuss Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) to discuss Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Motion made by Trustee Allgood, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance

Went into executive session at 7:56 pm

Motion made by Trustee Vance, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Trustee Allgood, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Hubbard, Trustee Vance

Came back into open session at 8:46 pm

PRESENT

Admin Chairman Owen Costanza

Trustee David Allgood

Trustee Dan Cheek
Trustee Sinae Hubbard
Trustee Mark Vance
Clerk Karri Miller
Attorney Aaron Szeto
ABSENT
Finance Chairman Jeff Goings

ADJOURNMENT (Voice Vote)

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Allgood. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm