



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, August 21, 2024 - 7:00 PM

200 N. Hill Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at President Sattler at 7:01 pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

President Don Sattler

Admin Chairman Owen Costanza

Finance Chairman Jeff Goings on the phone until 7:07 pm then in person

Trustee Dan Cheek

Trustee Austin Davies

Trustee Betsy Straw

Clerk Karri Miller

Attorney Stuart Diamond

Treasurer Carina Boyd

Engineer Chris Dopkins

ABSENT

Trustee Bruce Moore

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF PHONE PARTICIPATION (Roll Call)

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek to approve Jeff Goings for phone participation.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Straw

Voting Nay: Trustee Davies

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Voice Vote)

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

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Straw

Voting Nay: Trustee Davies

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek to add discussion on security for Village Hall.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Straw

Voting Nay: Trustee Davies

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek to add discussion on tax exempt use.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Straw

Voting Nay: Trustee Davies

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek to add discussion on Village Newsletter.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee

Davies, Trustee Straw

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Voice Vote)

1. Motion to approve minutes from July 17, 2024 Village Board of Trustees Meeting.
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings.
Motion passed via voice vote.

2. Motion to approve Village of Trustee Board Meeting minutes from June 19, 2024
Motion made by Finance Chairman Goings, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza.

Motion made by Trustee Straw, Seconded by Trustee Davies to amend item 9 to reflect trustee salary reduction to \$100 per meeting, reflect the finance chair vote, President's salary amendment to \$10,000 not reflected and Attorney Kerri Lynn's revisions

Trustee Goings asked that amendments be emailed to the Clerk's office.

Motion made by Trustee Straw, Seconded by Trustee Davies to postpone the June 19, 2024 minutes. Motion passed by 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.*

Mark Vance: Criticized the board's behavior as appalling and divided. Highlighted the division between appointed board members and elected officials. Questioned how residents could start the process to remove someone from public office outside of waiting for the next election.

Jeff Goings: Addressed allegations of dishonesty and misconduct, emphasizing the personal attacks and the impact on the board's functionality.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. Engineer Report, McMahon
Provided an update on the tenant support rehab, aiming for completion before Labor Day despite weather delays.
4. Public Works Report, David Howe
No additional comments beyond the submitted report
5. Treasurer Report, Carina Boyd
No additional comments beyond the submitted report
6. Wastewater Report, TEST
No additional comments beyond the submitted report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. Motion to discuss/approve Electrical Aggregate program to the lowest bidder for Village service.
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Cheek.
Chad Hageman from Rock River Energy - Presented bids for the Village's electrical aggregate program, noting significant changes in rates since the last contract. Discussed the financial impact of new rates compared to the previous year. Recommended locking in a one-year contract due to market volatility and the potential for future savings.

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings to approve AEP for 1 year for the Village Electrical Aggregate program.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Davies, Trustee Straw
8. Motion to discuss/approve quote for the Ravens Crest entrance sign from Timber Line Sign Company.
Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Trustee Davies to postpone to September 18, 2024.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek, Trustee Davies, Trustee Straw

NEW BUSINESS

9. Presentation of Forensic Audit, Greene Forensic Accounting Solutions LLP.
The presentation by Green Forensics Accounting Solutions was canceled due to the Auditor's absence
10. Motion to discuss/approve to approve check disbursement for payments scheduled to be paid prior to August 31, 2024, in the amount of \$486,544.88 in AP checks, \$17,148.25 in insurance expense checks, \$28,715.42 EFTS, and Payroll with estimates included \$49,802.62 for a grand total of \$582,211.17.

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings.
Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek,
Trustee Davies, Trustee Straw

Trustee Goings stated the high amount is primarily due to the MFT payment for road work, totaling approximately \$280,000.

Trustee Costanza stated there is no report or documentation provided yet to justify the payment for the Forensic Audit.

Motion made by Finance Chairman Goings, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza amend the payment approval, excluding a \$14,800 payment to Green Forensic Audit.

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek,
Trustee Davies, Trustee Straw

11. Motion to discuss/approve **Resolution 2024-19** A Resolution of the Village of Poplar Grove to authorize the Public Works Director to execute a Compliance Commitment Agreement ("CCA") between the Village of Poplar Grove and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA").

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

Voting Yea: Admin Chairman Costanza, Finance Chairman Goings, Trustee Cheek,
Trustee Davies, Trustee Straw

Engineer Dopkins Stated The village's south-based water treatment plant is rated at a million gallons per day, making it a major contributor of nutrients, specifically phosphorus, into the downstream environment. The plant treats about 150,000 gallons per day, only 15% of its capacity, making it unreasonable to classify it as a major discharger. Estimated \$2.4 million for future phosphorus treatment. Proposal to reduce the plant's rating to avoid major discharger classification and associated costs. Reduction in annual NPDES permits from \$15,000 to \$5,000. EPA officials are supportive of the village's plan to derate the plant.

12. Motion to discuss Tree Lighting Event.

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

Treasurer Carina stated she needs to apply for a grant for the event. The report must include a list of planned activities. The budget includes \$6,000, with \$3,000 allocated for lift rentals for decorations. Proposal to spend \$2,500 from the grant to upgrade street decorations and add more ornaments.

Tree Lighting will be November 23, 2024

- 12.a Motion to Discuss Security Updates

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings.

Trustee Costanza inquired about updates on the military course. Treasurer Boyd stated PWD Howe has requested information but has not received it yet.

- 12.b Motion to Discuss Tax Exempt Status

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings.

Trustee Costanza stated An attempt was made to use the village's tax-exempt number for a personal purchase by President Sattler for trees for Mansfield Park. Attorney Diamond stated only governmental bodies can use tax-exempt numbers. Donations should flow through the village for tax-exempt purchases.

12.c Motion to discuss Village Newsletter

Motion made by Admin Chairman Costanza, Seconded by Finance Chairman Goings. Kristi Richardson highlighted the formation of the communication committee before COVID and the need for a newsletter. suggested the newsletter be a simple PDF posted on Facebook and the website to avoid additional tasks for the office. The newsletter is designed to be released quarterly. The current issue is intended to go out early September, covering September, October, and November. The next issue will drop in December. will make an updated version and send it out for a final look next month.

GOOD OF THE VILLAGE

- 13. Planning and Zoning Meeting - August 28th, 2024 - 6:00 pm
- Board of Trustee Meeting - September 11th, 2024 - 7:00 pm
- Poplar Grove Community Market - September 15th, 2024 - 10am to 4pm
- Board of Trustee Meeting - September 18th, 2024 - 7:00 pm
- Planning and Zoning Meeting - September 25th, 2024 - 6:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT (Voice Vote)

Motion made by Finance Chairman Goings, Seconded by Admin Chairman Costanza. Passed via voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm