

MINUTES
Of a Regular Meeting of the
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
May 7, 2025

A regular meeting of the Village Board of Piper City was brought to order at the Community Building on May 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Orr presiding. The oaths of office were administered to newly elected trustee Brandon Decker and re-elected trustees Douglas Berry and Mark Houck, as well as Mayor Jeff Orr and Clerk Rhonda McCoy. Trustees Fuoss, Houck, Decker, Cotter, Berry, and Bertrand responded to roll call.

The minutes from the regular meeting held April 2, 2025, were presented to the Board for their approval. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Houck and seconded by Cotter. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the motion was carried.

The financial report for April showing a balance on hand in all funds of \$1,084,769.28 as of April 30, 2025, and was presented to the Board for their approval. A motion was made by Fuoss and seconded by Houck to approve the financial report. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the report was approved.

A list of payroll and bills were presented to the Board for their consideration. Motion by Berry and seconded by Cotter that the village clerk issue warrants on the village treasurer to named claimants. On a roll call vote, Fuoss, Houck, Decker, Cotter, Berry, and Bertrand voted aye and the motion was carried. The list of payroll and bills is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof by reference.

Under public comments, Kathy Stamm asked about ordinance violations on the property on the corner of Route 115 and Chestnut St. Orr responded that the village was working on ordinance violations for several properties. Resident Jacob Nowicki asked that the board reconsider its current ordinance concerning chickens in town.

There were no items to discuss under old business.

Under new business, Mayor Orr shared the exterior building inspection report from SKS Engineers, LLC. on the buildings located at 50 and 54 W Peoria St. Mayor Orr spoke with the property owner, and she indicated a willingness to convey the deeds of the properties to the village. The board discussed options for any financial recourse for the demolition of the properties and instructed Orr to seek legal advice from the village attorney. Decker made a motion to receive bids for the demolition of the 50 & 54 W Peoria St. and Bertrand seconded. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the motion carried.

Mayor Orr presented the Building Permit Ordinance to the board for review. Action was tabled until the June meeting to allow time to review and amend, if needed.

After discussion, Cotter made a motion to advertise the municipality owned real property for 30 days and to seek bids and Houck seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all trustees voted aye and the motion was carried.

Mayor Orr noted that Bertrand, the Community Building Manager, indicated that the current tables and chairs need to be replaced. After discussion, Bertrand was instructed to get a quote for the tables and chairs to present at the June meeting.

Trustee Fuoss, on behalf of the Water Committee, noted that they had held meetings with different engineering firms to determine who can best help the village moving forward with water projects. The committee has narrowed the choices and will have a recommendation for the board at the June meeting.

Mayor Orr informed the board that village attorney Marc Miller would like to hold a special meeting on Thursday, May 29, 2025, at 7:00pm to discuss the village's options in forming a TIF district.

Under code enforcement, Mayor Orr told the board that the Russell Gerhart property has been sold for three years back taxes.

Under trustee reports, the following items were noted:

- Fuoss asked the board to consider starting the meeting with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
- Decker asked about the water operator's license test that Evely was taking in April/May. Orr stated that there was confusion on test dates and Evely is now scheduled to take the test on June 3
- Decker expressed concern over the congested parking at the elevator and library. If extended vehicles park in that area, it is difficult for two large vehicles to pass on the street.
- Berry noted that John McIlwee told him that he is ready to pour his own sidewalk as was discussed at last meeting.
- Bertrand noted that the yard on Weakman's property needs to be addressed.
- Bertrand stated that the basketball rim for the park court will be replaced/repared.
- Bertrand noted that the condition of the park's picnic tables is deteriorating as well as the condition of wood posts at the pavilion.

Motion for adjournment was made by Fuoss and seconded by Cotter. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Rhonda McCoy, Village Clerk