

VILLAGE OF FALL RIVER
BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 ~ 6:00 PM
MINUTES

VFW presentation to Police Department for Shop With A Cop

VFW members Keith Miller, Todd Toman and John Kraak (Santa) presented Chief Spurbeck with a check for the Shop With A Cop program. Chief Spurbeck was very thankful to the VFW for their donation. It is the second year of this program, and they are looking forward to making some families very happy this season.

President Slotten called the meeting to order.

Trustees present: Robbins, Gould, Neuman, Dykstra and Birr. Absent: Ninmann.

Village representatives: Marie Abegglen (C-T), Julius Weisensel (DPW), Ron Spurceck (PD) and Craig A (C-T).

Guests: Joy Moore and Paul Sahy and Craig Malin.

Approve the Agenda A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Gould and seconded by Trustee Neuman to approve the agenda. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

ENGINEERING/ATTORNEY/FINANCIAL ADVISOR

School Zone Options – Looking at options to extend the school zone and make it safer. The intersection of North Main and South Street is a 3-way wide intersection. There are several options that are being looked at. Cost is also a factor in what can be done.

Extend the school zone, reduce the speed limit, install flashing lights, paint additional lines in crosswalks, add more signage, crossing guards, update existing signs. We have to work with Columbia County because Main Street is also County Highway D. DPW will work on replacing worn signs. We will get pricing for pedestrian-controlled signs. President Slotten will contact the County and work with them. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Birr to extend the school zone on South Street to south of Kane Street and add end of school zone signs. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance A recent building permit request found that the currently online ordinance has a building height of 50' in the Industrial zoning. We found that when transferring a setback change the height was changed also. The original ordinance is 60'. There is no one that remembers or can find that the height was ever changed to 50'. The online ordinance will be corrected to 60'.

PUBLIC INPUT

Gary Errthum Regarding Savanna Oaks – Gary talked of donations that EK has given support to various projects within the village and school. EK will most likely be the highest taxpayer in Fall River. He would like to see more support from the Board for the events of the Chamber of Commerce and Savanna Oaks.

PUBLIC WORKS – The DPW has been picking up leaves daily just to keep up. The restrooms in the parks have been winterized and locked up for the season. The plows are ready to go. The recirculating pump on the Prairie Street water tower was not working. Julius turned it off and back on and it started up again. Lane Tank will need to be called if it goes out again. All of the Lift stations have been cleaned. Julius will look into sign pricing.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ron said how grateful he was to the Board for allowing him to get the new MDCs. He reminded the Board that he would be gone next week for hunting in Michigan.

Chief Spurbeck request for OT, Grant Reimbursed – Ron would like to be able to work and receive OT pay for traffic grant funded time. Other salaried chiefs have stated that they are able to work and receive OT pay reimbursable by the grants. The Clerk should get more information on whether salaried position can also receive OT. The Board will look at this at the next meeting.

Jacob Wawrzyn completed the DRE training. It was very intense and he did well. He has been called out for his expertise once so far.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PSC Water Rate Increase – Effective April 1, 2026 – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Burr and seconded by Trustee Dykstra to approve the water rate increase application for a 3% increase effective April 1, 2026. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Bartender Application on file: Angela Blair – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Neuman to approve the application from Angela Blair. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Reserve Liquor License Inquiry from Village of Poynette – Craig Malin from the Village of Poynette attended to inquire about a Reserve Liquor License availability. Poynette has a supper club business that would like to re-open. Poynette does not have a license available at this time. Poynette believes that their population growth by 2027 would allow one more for them. If Fall River would be willing to swap one for their next one they would be interested. Mr. Malin offered to have each municipality have their attorneys confer on this. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Gould and seconded by Trustee Burr to table this until the December meeting. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

MINUTES, BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Minutes from 10/08/25 – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Neuman and seconded by Trustee Gould to approve the minutes from 10/08/25. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Bills for Payment - A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Burr and seconded by Trustee Dykstra to approve the bills to be paid. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Financial Report from October – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Burr to table the Financial Report until the next meeting. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – The audit report for Eastern Columbia County Joint Municipal Court 2024 does not show a favorable bottom line. There were significant changes in expenses. The Clerk receives health insurance. The court has never paid that before. Karen Schmitt received a large payout at her retirement. There has not been a required contribution from the municipalities since the beginning of the court.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Reminder of December meeting date change to 12/3/25.

Clerk request to close:

Friday, November 28th

Wednesday – Friday 12/24 – 12/26

Wednesday, 12/31/25

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee birr and seconded by Trustee Neuman to approve the Clerk requested closed dates. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Birr and seconded by Trustee Neuman to adjourn. All Members present – aye -- motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 PM.

Marie Abegglen