

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
January 8, 2026

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Village President Brian Gill. The following Trustees were present: Dave Doty, Jeannie Ruppert, Zak England, Karen Jeffers and Gene Mueller. Greg McLain was absent.

A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2025, regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the special meeting minutes from the December 30, 2025 meeting, seconded by Trustee Mueller. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the "Statement of Income and Expenses", seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the "Banks and Checks Journal", seconded by Trustee Jeffers. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Public – Ron Martin (The Publisher) Mr. Martin was in attendance to bring up some revisions to the current liquor ordinance code. He presented to the board, a copy of the current code with the revisions or eliminations they would like to see made. This will be discussed further on the appropriate agenda item.

Robert Fandel - was in attendance to request a handicap for his father on Main Street. This matter was discussed and voted on several months ago. The board had the area surveyed and it did not meet the grade to allow for an ADA compliant handicap parking spot. The board will look into other options.

Greg Gustafson Water Improvement Project Updates - Mr. Gustafson presented follow up information on the Water main restoration with SNC, the most recent change order and retainage to be paid out. There is still some discussion that will need to take place regarding the stored materials. Electrical improvements and final hookups for the water plant should be done tomorrow. This will complete the punch list for Commercial Electric. Phone dialers are now registered. Mr. Gustafson also sent a response to Rural Development to clear up some confusion on their end so they will allow for approval of funds on last month's pay request. He also looked into a prefabricated building for the chlorine room at the water plant for consideration. It was quoted at 40,000.00.

TIF Agreement with the American Legion - This was already agreed upon at the last meeting. The ordinance will need to be passed for final approval of the agreement. A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to approve Ordinance 26-864 TIF Agreement with the American Legion Post #507, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Hire of New Full-Time Utility Employee - This will be discussed in Executive Session.

Amending Liquor Code Ordinance Regarding Hours - The board reviewed each suggested change by Mr. Martin. There was some discussion amongst the board, the Village Attorney and Mr. Martin on specifications and clarifications to the requested changes presented. Mr. Martin added that he wished to see a consideration of a clause to allow authority of liquor commissioner for special circumstances. Attorney Patrick Sullivan will gather all the recommendations discussed and will draft an amended ordinance for review next month.

Reports - Manager Shannon Risley

Correspondence – None

Committee Meeting Dates – None

A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee to enter back into Open Session, seconded by Trustee. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to offer Hudson Ruppert a full-time utility position at \$18.00 an hour to be paid half out of the electric fund and half out of the gas fund, seconded by Trustee England. Roll call taken. Ruppert - abstain (conflict of interest); England - yes; Jeffers - yes; Mueller - yes; Doty - yes. Motion carried.

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Doty and seconded by Trustee England. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Henderson, Interim Clerk

Brian Gill, President