

VILLAGE OF WOODHULL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
December 8, 2025
Committees

President – D. Holmes

Building – M. Bethell, J. McCready, & D. Holmes

Finance/Insurance/Audit – H. Garrett & D. Holmes

Personnel – D. Holmes, C. Brinson, & S. Francis

Public Works – J. McCready & S. Francis

Pro-Tem Pres – J. McCready

Economic Development – S. Francis & D. Holmes

Parks & Recreation – C. Brinson & H. Garrett

Police/Civ. Def./Zon. – M. Bethell & D. Holmes

Mayor Dave Holmes called the meeting to order on December 8, 2025 @ 7:00 pm.

Followed by Roll Call: Trustee Mark Bethell, Trustee Conner Brinson, Trustee Scott Francis, Trustee Hannah Garrett, Trustee Jeff McCready were present. Also present: Mayor Dave Holmes, Police Chief Jesse Bewley, Part-time Police Officer Alex Wagner, Public Works Director Dusty McKeag, Treasurer Kelli Hand and Village Clerk Debra Krueger

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jason Lindstrom came before the board to request to rent the community room for the purpose of teaching a martial art class in the Woodhull community. Jason is licensed and insured and has been teaching the class for seventeen years. Mayor Holmes asked Jason if the board approved his request to rent the community room, what type of insurance do you have. Jason responded by saying he had liability insurance, but he did not know the amount at this time. Mayor Holmes asked if Jason could add the Village to his insurance policy? Jason said that would be possible. Mayor Holmes asked if Jason had contacted any other facilities to use. Jason said he had talked to someone at the Alpha Legion and was waiting for their answer and they had not discussed the financial arrangement. Trustee Francis asked Jason could the walls, lights and ceiling possibly be damaged, Jason stated that this class would not be using weapons, so no he did not believe there would be any damage. Mayor Holmes asked how soon he would want to start, Jason answered soon. Board members asked what ages he would be working with. Jason said he hoped to meet either on Tuesday or Wednesday and he would teach two classes that evening, with each class lasting an hour. The one class would consist of eight to twelve years old, and the other class would be for adults. Mayor Holmes asked, did Jason know what amount of rent he anticipated that the Village would ask for. Jason answered, "since he didn't know how much the room rented for, he did not have an answer". Mayor Holmes told him it would be \$80.00 dollars each time. Mayor Holmes explained that the Board would discuss the matter and he would contact Jason with their decision.

Mike Dennis of the Prairie Snowmobilers Club came before the Board to request an additional route be added to the already approved 2015 snowmobile map. Mike presented the Board with the original accepted map. Mike then asked for permission to add to the map West 3rd Avenue to West 2nd Street to West 2nd Avenue. Trustee McCready asked if they could just vote on it now. Trustee Garrett said we should update the Snowmobile Route in the Ordinance Book.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

12/08/2025

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Francis made a motion to approve November 10, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. Trustee Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Trustee Brinson made a motion to approve November 10, 2025, Closed Session Meeting minutes as presented. Trustee Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Trustee Brinson made a motion to release the Closed Minutes from July 2024 through December 2024. Trustee Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer Kelli Hand reading from the memo prepared by ASI asked the Board did they have any questions regarding the memo?

Treasurer Kelli Hand asked is the Personnel Manual being updated so that ASI may have a copy? Mayor Holmes said that it was being worked on and it should be ready within the next two weeks. Treasurer Hand asked, did the new method of the payroll report meet the Board's "approval and did anyone have any feedback on the report?" Kelli asked, "Did the Board still want notes relating to the Board packet written on the reports?" ASI is still concerned why the Village does not list any fixed assets. Trustee Garrett said that auditors will sometimes keep a record of the fixed assets and if the auditors have not then we will work through the issue and make a list of fixed assets. Mayor Holmes said that West Central auditors still need more information on payroll records from the payments we make to the state. West Central then explained how to complete their request. Treasurer Kelli and Accountant Tanya will get the documents to West Central. Kelli reminded the Public Works Director and the Police Department that all receipts must be written on explaining what the charge was for and initialed who made the charge. Trustee Garrett was asked about an update, and she said that QuickBooks will be owned by ASI and we will have access to the files and ASI will bill us monthly for the use of QuickBooks. ASI wants to know is health insurance for the full-time employees of the Public Works department split between water and sewer. Mayor Holmes said it should be split in three ways water, sewer and streets and the same would be for Clerk Krueger.

ASI says there is an outstanding item that was a manual adjustment entered by a previous bookkeeper. ASI says to clear this out they need a motion to approve an additional adjustment as an expense in the amount of \$383.61. Trustee Garrett made the motion to approve ASI making an additional adjustment as an expense in the amount of \$383.61 to clear the original item out. Trustee Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

TREASURER REPORT NOVEMBER 10, 2025:

General Fund	\$ 867,097.48
General Fund Payroll	\$ 7,908.28
Video Gaming FSB Savings	\$ 172,264.97
Vets Memorial Fund FSB Savings	\$ 1,423.79
Drug Enforcement Fund	\$ 3,470.53
Playground Fund	\$ 1,014.25
WINN Checking FSB	\$ 1,423.48
Operation & Maintenance	\$ 15,449.64
Depreciation Checking	\$ 22,955.48

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Debt Service #2033	\$ 78,632.79
Debt Service Savings	\$ 8,909.25
<u>MFT Fund</u>	<u>\$ 53,695.89</u>

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund November accounts payable were presented as follows:

Please see the last pages of this report

Water Fund November accounts payable were presented as follows:

Please see the last pages of this report

Trustee Garrett made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Trustee Brinson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Holmes mentioned a new law Paid Leave for All Workers Act took effect in 2024 that states all part-time employees should receive one hour pay for every 40 hours worked. The part-time employees would all like cash as a method of reimbursement rather than be reimbursed by future hours off.

Mayor Holmes mentioned the Finance Committee had talked about the Tax Levy. Mayor Holmes mentioned he had looked at the tax levy and thought it was reasonable to increase the tax levy from \$73,000.00 to \$74,500.00 and the paperwork he presented has that increase figured into it. If the Board chooses to change the amount of the increase, he will change the amount on the Tax Levy. The Tax Levy is due on the fourth Tuesday of December 2025. Trustee Garrett said we have a large amount of money in the General Fund, and we should be allocating what the money is being set aside for such as vehicles, equipment and new buildings, etc. Trustee Garrett said we must prioritize what the money is for. Mayor Holmes referred to a document he had sent to the Trustees and if you noticed the actual tax rate per \$100.00 of assessed value evaluation has dropped significantly in the last few years.

Trustee Francis made a motion to set the tax levy according to Ordinance 25-03 as presented at \$74,500.00. Trustee Brinson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Trustee Scott Francis – Y, Trustee Hannah Garrett – Y, Trustee Conner Brinson – Y, Trustee – Mark Bethell, Trustee Jeff McCready – Y. Motion carried.

POLICE/CIVIL DEFENSE/PERMITS:

Police Chief Jesse Bewley stated the squad car is out having the brakes fixed the calipers were leaking and he wanted to make sure the amount is approved by the Board. Mayor Holmes stated that it is in the budget and it is approved. Chief Bewley said that Adam McNair has started working and doing the training with Officer Alex Wagner and himself in the area. Chief Bewley said his mandated training for the state is coming due, so he will be working on that. Chief Bewley completed part-time Police Officer Alex Wagner's yearly employee review. Officer Wagner has conducted several investigations and has made another arrest this week due to battery. Chief Bewley is also waiting on the death investigation for the toxicology report to come back regarding a deceased person.

Trustee Garrett moved to approve the written report as presented. Trustee Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

12/08/2025

Public Works Director Dusty McKeag explained that they got the Christmas lights put up. Director McKeag asked if we could put something on Facebook asking residents not to park on the street during a snowstorm. Director McKeag said that they did have the water tower inspected by USG and are waiting for the results. Director McKeag stated that Micheal and he did get the slats in the chain link fence around the re-cycle area. Director McKeag said he has not heard anything from IDOT regarding the water main construction on Route 17. Director McKeag finished by saying that they are still putting things away for the winter.

Trustee Bethell made the motion to accept the written report as presented. Trustee Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Holmes said regarding the talks about having a County Code Enforcer Officer he had talked with Steve Brown, City Administrator of Cambridge. Mr. Brown said that Cambridge and three other towns in Henry County were interested. The cost is \$500.00 monthly cost would be divided equally between all the cities who join in. Mayor Holmes said he would look into what type of Intergovernmental Agreement was needed.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Trustee Mark Bethell said that all the keys to the building are now accounted for. Trustee Garrett said that the ambulance class could not get our TV to connect with their computer. Trustee Francis said he would investigate it. Treasurer Hand said her husband could look at it. Trustee Garrett said if the TV needed to be replaced then we should and Trustee McCready added the TV should be bigger because anyone in the back cannot make out the screen during a training session.

DANGEROUS BUILDING UPDATE:

None currently.

ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

None currently.

PARKS/RECREATION/TOURISM:

Mayor Holmes went to the last tourism meeting and there has been a change in officers, Kelly Wolfe seems to be doing a good job. Mayor Holmes asked if there was anything new on the outside bulletin board? Trustee Francis had contacted David Anderson, but David said he was too busy. David Anderson did recommend not attaching the board to the building but instead attaching it to two poles placed in the ground. After discussing the bulletin board Dusty said if they only want it attached to two poles, then he believes Michael and him can do that. The Board told Dusty to go ahead and get it done.

Next tourism meeting to be held on December 10, 2025, and Christina Anderson said she could no longer be the Village representative regarding the Tourism meetings, in her place Mayor Holmes will attend and if anyone else is interested in taking over Tourism for the Village then he would gladly let this person do it.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Trustee Francis commented how sad it was to see Casa Hidalgo the Mexican restaurant close. At this time neither Mayor Holmes nor Trustee Francis had heard anything new. Trustee Francis also mentioned he had not heard any information about the new doctor's office opening here in Woodhull. Trustee Francis

explained he had another meeting to attend so he needed to cancel the Economic Development meeting on December 16, 2025.

OLD BUSINESS:

None currently.

NEW BUSINESS:

None currently.

Trustee McCready made a motion to go into closed session to discuss one potential litigation and five personnel items. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Time 8:08 p.m.

Trustee Jeff McCready moved to go back to Regular Session at 9:30 p.m. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Conner Brinson moved to proceed with Village Attorney Jordan Newell's recommendation for the following change to the Holiday Policy in the Personnel Manual: "If a Board-approved holiday falls on an employee's day off, the employee may take off the same number of hours they were to work on the closest scheduled workday to that holiday." Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Conner Brinson Yes, Trustee Scott Francis Yes, Trustee Jeff McCready Yes, Trustee Hannah Garrett Yes, Trustee Mark Bethell Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Jeff McCready moved that Dusty McKeag's 2026 base salary be \$59,000 and Michael Keener's base salary be \$45,000. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Jeff McCready Yes, Trustee Mark Bethell Yes, Trustee Scott Francis Yes, Trustee Hannah Garrett Yes, Trustee Conner Brinson Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Conner Brinson moved to give full-time employees a Christmas bonus of \$400, part-time administrative employees \$250, and part-time police \$125. Trustee Jeff McCready seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Conner Brinson Yes, Trustee Jeff McCready Yes, Trustee Mark Bethell Yes, Trustee Hannah Garrett Yes, Trustee Scott Francis Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Mark Bethell moved to amend the snowmobile route in the Village Code Book by adding the 200 block of W. 2nd Street to the route. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mark Bethell Yes, Trustee Scott Francis Yes, Trustee Hannah Garrett Yes, Trustee Jeff McCready Yes, Trustee Conner Brinson Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Conner Brinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0 at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Holmes, Village President