

VILLAGE OF WOODHULL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
February 9, 2026
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 February 9, 2026 @ 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, Public Works Director Dusty McKeag, Police Chief Jesse Bewley, Treasurer Kelli Hand and Village Clerk Debra Krueger.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Holmes introduced Alex Johnson who is a resident of Woodhull, employed at Kline Equipment and is a volunteer fireman for Clover Township. Mayor Holmes went on to explain that Alex may be interested in becoming a board member.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mayor Holmes explained that Abilities Plus was asking for a donation for their transportation services. Trustee McCready made a motion to add Abilities Plus request onto the agenda. Trustee Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Bethell made a motion to approve January 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. Trustee Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Trustee Brinson made a motion to approve January 12, 2026, Closed Session Meeting minutes as presented. Trustee McCready seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer Hand reading from the memo prepared by ASI. Treasurer Hand asked the Board did they have any questions regarding the memo? Kelli added that ASI said the payroll system and QuickBooks Online are going very well. Tanya is setting more accounts on the system. Blue Cross/Blue Shield costs will go down because Public Works Director McKeag changed his enrollment.

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ASI questioned why we were not paying Ameren the extra amount anymore and Mayor Holmes explained that as of September 9, 2025, it was paid off. Mayor Holmes explained that due to Ameren sending our monthly invoice for the wastewater treatment plant to Woodhull Co-op for about three years. When the Co-op figured this out, they contacted the Village. Ameren reimbursed the Co-op for what they were incorrectly billed for. Ameren told the Village they needed to pay them \$81,072.30. Ameren agreed that the Village should pay \$5,000.00 down and then make 24 monthly payments in the amount of \$3,170.00. Payments began in February 2024. As of September 10, 2025, Ameren was paid off due to an additional payment of \$6,377.27 in April 2024. Visa bills are now being scanned and emailed to Tanya so they can be paid by check. Discussion followed about the payment to McGuire and the board said that ASI could void the check because as far as the board was concerned the matter was settled. Public Works Director McKeag will contact Tanya at ASI and discuss why certain things she billed MFT should come out of General Fund. Trustee McCready suggested that Tanya contact Cindy Wermuth at IMEG.

Illinois My Local Tax Allocation said we were not responding to their letters regarding businesses in our area opening and closing. Mayor Holmes said he has always returned their letters. Treasurer Hand said she and Tanya would investigate this matter. Mayor Holmes was happy to announce that the Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2023-2024 was completed by West Central CPA of Monmouth. Mayor Holmes explained that ASI has now received the AFR report and a copy of the 2023-2024 Financial Audit.

TREASURER REPORT FEBRUARY 9, 2026:

General Fund Checking FSB #0040	\$ 844,589.80
General Fund Payroll Checking FSB #3735	\$ 10,759.38
Water & Sewer FSB Checking #0065	\$ 168,269.17
Video Gaming FSB Savings #3954	\$ 173,785.46
Vets Memorial Fund FSB Savings #3537	\$ 1,424.68
Certificate of Deposit #3957	\$ 3,330.48
Drug Enforcement Fund #2140	\$ 3,473.53
Playground Fund #2165	\$ 1,015.13
WINN Checking FSB #0342	\$ 1,424.09
Operation & Maintenance FSB #0057	\$ 10,434.84
Depreciation Checking #2041	\$ 23,803.53
Debt Service #2033	\$ 81,559.80
Debt Service Savings #1088	\$ 8,914.86
Square Checking FSB #2017	\$ 1,744.81
MFT Fuel Fund FSB #2157	\$ 59,762.89

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund January accounts payable were presented as follows:

Please see the last pages of this report

Water Fund January 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 Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

President Holmes said the 2024 Audit is complete and he is now ready to give West Central the information for the 2025 audit, as soon as, West Central finishes up their new procedures.

President Holmes presented to the Board the Village of Woodhull Annual Financial Report regarding Tax Levy and Budget information from 1972 – 2024. Normally, this report is given in January of 2025, but shortages of auditors delayed this report for 13 months.

President Holmes presented his 12-year Video Gaming Report December 2013 thru December 2025. Treasurer Hand explained that Tanya says her Video Gaming fund shows more money than President Dave's final figure. The amount off is \$96,100.00 which President Holmes believes is about the same amount of money we were paying in installments to pay off the water tower. Each installment was for \$97,000.00. President Holmes believes one of the installments did not get taken out of the Video Gaming account. Tanya of ASI would like to investigate this further so we can approve the amount of \$96,100.00 can be put back into the right account. Trustee Garrett said we should just wait until Tanya let's the board know what she finds out.

Trustee McCready made a motion to donate \$250.00 to Abilities Plus. Trustee Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Roll call: Trustee: McCready – Y, Trustee: Bethell – Y, Trustee: Brinson – Y, Trustee: Francis – Y, Trustee: Garrett – Y

Trustee Garrett asked President Holmes had he signed a 2025 engagement letter with West Central? President Holmes explained when we received the engagement letter from West Central to sign, the letter indicated years 2025 and 2026. President Holmes called Talea Nelson from West Central, and she said that date of 2026 was in error, but the audit for 2025 will take place.

POLICE/CIVIL DEFENSE/PERMITS:

Police Chief Bewley gave his January police report.

Chief Bewley reported that since ASI has changed the line-item numbers, he has gone over old invoices and is changing the line-item numbers to match ASI line numbers for the new budget. Mayor Holmes told Chief Bewley and Public Works Director McKeag to work directly with Tanya at ASI. Reminded both the Chief and Public Works Director to get with their committees regarding their budgets.

Trustee Francis mentioned that one of the Village's laptops is trying to log onto a non-Village network. Trustee Francis is looking into this. Chief Bewley said he would look at the Police Department for this laptop, but he said it would not be plugged in. Chief Bewley will also contact OMC and schedule a time when they can come to the Police Department.

Chief Bewley is also working with the school and Juvenile Probation Services regarding school related issues.

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Chief Bewley received a letter from IMRF, and he will call them to make sure the figures are correct.

Chief Bewley is also trying to get mandatory training, but the classes fill up fast. He is scheduled to try again in two weeks.

Mayor Holmes asked Jesse about the radio systems in the SUV and the truck. The SUV has the old radio system, and the truck has Star Com. At this time Chief Bewley would like to wait to update the SUV or purchase a new vehicle and would like to discuss it with his committee. Chief Bewley explained that OEM has the new radio for the SUV and is just waiting for a decision.

Trustee McCready inquired about the property in town that has items stored in the yard too close to the street. Chief Bewley said he has spoken to the homeowner to resolve this issue.

Mayor Holmes mentioned that the Board should have gotten a copy of the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding a Code Enforcement Hearing Officer. There also is a second document that will need to be signed regarding liability because the hearings will take place at the courthouse, they do not want to be held liable. Steve Brown, City Administrator of Cambridge, said if there are any hearings scheduled, they will take place in April of this year. Mayor Holmes asked Trustee Bethell what he thought about the Board voting at this meeting. Trustee Bethell said the agreement could be a good thing, but he would like to wait to do a vote, until he had more time to look over the agreement. Mayor Holmes asked the Board should he send a copy of this to our attorney Jordan Newell to look over the agreement? Trustee Francis said that would be a good idea to give Jordan an opportunity to read it because right now our attorney has a lot of things on his plate. Trustee Garrett asked how many other towns have passed the agreement. Mayor Holmes explained that only Cambridge and Galva, but Orion was meeting tonight also and might vote on it at their meeting.

Trustee Bethell moved to approve the written Police Report as presented. Trustee Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Public Works Director McKeag presented his written report and explained that the cold weather froze the chlorine line that feeds the ground storage tank but is now working properly. Director McKeag explained that tomorrow here at the Village Hall there will be a meeting that IDOT with all the utility companies and contractors involved to discuss the relocation of the water main at the bridge project I 74 and IL17. He added that hopefully if IDOT approves, then IMEG can get the information out so we can get bids back as soon as possible. The Public Works Department met with IMEG to discuss the relocation of the water main.

Inventoried the supplies to see what else they need for summer projects. Met with USG regarding the water tower inspection that they did. Planned what roadwork the department might be doing this year based on funding. Director McKeag will be in Effingham at the ILRWA conference next week. At the conference he is scheduled to take his water test.

Director McKeag said that Taylor Paving will now be doing chips and seal coat.

Discussion followed regarding the IDOT project, the projected cost of materials and traffic control.

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Mayor Holmes asked would they need a special meeting at this time Director McKeag said he did not know. Mayor Holmes also asked about the USG inspection and Director McKeag said they are planning a department meeting with the committee and USG. Anyone else that wants to come to the meeting is welcome. The purpose of the meeting is to decide which option best suits the Village. USG member Chad wants then to bring the proposal to the Board and answer any questions.

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

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Mayor Holmes said that he has asked Tanya from ASI to come up with the expenses that we share with the Township and then schedule a meeting with Clover Township.

DANGEROUS BUILDING UPDATE:

None currently.

ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

None currently.

PARKS/RECREATION/TOURISM:

Trustee Brinson brought quotes regarding the clean-up day the Village would like to sponsor. Eagle Enterprises gave a rough bid at \$2,300.00 for three thirty-yard roll off dumpsters. Electronic recycling should not be held on the same day as clean-up day. Prices for electronic collection from Eagle Enterprises would be \$1,400.00 for one thirty-yard roll-off dumpster and one fourteen-foot box truck. Eagle Enterprises will have staff to load with the electronic collection. Trustee Brinson said the other bids he got were much higher. The only thing that Eagle Enterprises requested is that we advertise what items are acceptable and what items are not. Trustee Brinson also called Mayor Brown in Alpha to see if they might want to split the cost. The Village Board decided to hold Saturday, May 30, 2026, as the tentative date. Trustee Brinson will contact Eagle Enterprises regarding the date, time and request the bid in writing. Mayor Holmes stated there is no update on Henry County Tourism at this time.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

None currently.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Francis handed out information on prices for a new replacement television for the Village Hall. Trustee Francis recommended the TCL 85" OLED 4K Smart Google TV for \$678.00 at WalMart. The Board also discussed purchasing a new bracket that the TV would hang from, but with the added feature the bracket lets you pull the TV away from the wall to make access easier. Trustee Francis went on to say that it would also be subject for approval by Clover Township. Trustee Bethell made a motion to approve the purchase of the TCL 85" TV and the new bracket pending Clover Township's decision. Trustee Garrett seconded the motion.

Roll call: Trustee Bethell – Y, Trustee Garrett - Y, Trustee McCready – Y, Trustee Brinson - Y, and Trustee Francis – Y. Motion carried 5-0.

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Trustee Francis said the Village needs a new web designer because McDonough Television Cooperative will no longer be supporting our existing web page. Trustee Francis said that this search had enlightened him because of the prices involved. Some companies that he contacted were as high as \$10,000.00 and one as low as \$3,400.00 with discounts and a one-time set up fee with a yearly maintenance fee. Mayor Holmes asked if Trustee Francis had a recommendation and he said he liked the company from Genesio WTI because they seemed easy to work with. Mayor Holmes asked if Trustee Francis expected to vote on this tonight. Trustee Francis said that he would prefer to wait until next month because the company offered to come and give a demonstration. Trustee McCready added that ILRWA has two companies that help Village's set up new websites. Trustee McCready will email Municipal Impact Company and Rural Water Impact information to Trustee Francis.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Francis explained that he had Treasurer Kelli give him information on the cell phones the Village owns because US Cellular wants to go over our phone plans since now they have been joined with T Mobile.

Trustee Bethell moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Trustee Bethell moved to go to Closed Session for one personnel item and one litigation item at 8:22 p.m. Trustee Garrett seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Actions taken after Closed Session:

Mayor Holmes stated that part-time hours for one officer have remained at eight hours per week. There has been discussion about increasing this. Trustee Conner Brinson moved to approve up to 20 hours of part-time police work per week on days that the Police Chief is not working. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board further discussed the one Trustee vacancy and may re-visit this at the March Board Meeting.

Trustee Mark Bethell moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Conner Brinson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0 at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Holmes, Village President