

VILLAGE OF YATES CITY REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026 6:00 P.M. 102 WEST MAIN STREET, YATES CITY, ILLINOIS

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order

Hostetler called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: Tom Kinzer, Dave Mahr, Seth Lekies, Matt Ehens, Ron Smith, Vonda Brinker, Mark Hostetler
Also Present: Richie Springer, Joy Mahr, Jim Record, Neely Carr, Molly Copher, *Weekly Post*

3. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and pledged to the flag.

4. Citizens to Address the Board

Richie Springer, resident of 600 block South Burson, addressed the Board regarding a water bill reflecting high usage at his property. Springer stated that he had inspected his crawlspace and basement and found no visible signs of a leak. He conducted additional checks within the home and continued to dispute the reported usage. Review by Kamstrup did not identify an error, however a new meter has been installed; the one removed will be sent for diagnostic testing. Springer requested consideration of a billing adjustment beyond the Village's standard forgiveness policy. The Board agreed to allow Springer to pay his average monthly water bill amount pending receipt of the diagnostic results to avoid service shutoff. Any billing adjustment will be considered after the diagnostic report is received.

5. Approve Minutes for December 3rd Committee Meeting and December 10th Board Meeting

Ehens moved to approve the December 3rd and December 10th Meeting minutes. Kinzer seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

6. Approve Monthly Bills, Payroll and Financial Statements

Kinzer moved to transfer \$10,000 from Police savings to Police Checking. Mahr seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

Kinzer moved to approve the monthly bills, payroll, and financial statements. Ehens seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

7. Police Report- Chief Record

Chief Record provided the Board with a monthly report. Record also reported that the computer in the squad car requires updates. He noted that the current system does not provide access to Knox County processing. Updating would result in an estimated annual cost of approximately \$500 to \$1,000.00 He is reviewing options related to the Bullet CAD system, with the intent of remaining on the current platform while pursuing available updates.

OLD BUSINESS:

8. Update on Well/Reservoir Project

Hostetler reported there is no update on the Reservoir. Well project, we are still waiting on rock cleanup and electrical line connection to the pump. Once connected, a bacteria test will need performed.

9. Discuss/Approve Revised Contract with AMP Electrical for Water Building Amperage Increase from 200AMP to 320AMP Service for the amount of \$11,609.00

Hostetler reported item #3 of the contract was revised to require payment within 30 days after completion rather than immediate payment upon completion. Ehens moved to approve the revised contract with AMP Electrical for the amount of \$11,609.00. Lekies seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

10. Update on Document Destruction with Confidential Security Corp

No update.

11. Update on Water Shut-Off Valve Isolation Project

No update.

12. Update on Shaft for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant

Hostetler reported the shaft has been shipped and should arrive tomorrow or Friday (January 15th-16th)

13. Discuss/Approve Gear Box Replacement for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant from Midwest Power Products in the Amount of \$3,298.00 (\$2,842.00 + \$456.00 shipping)

Hostetler reported that three options had previously been provided to the Board: repair of the existing gearbox, replacement with an OEM gearbox, or replacement with an aftermarket gearbox. An aftermarket gearbox was recommended by TEST. The Board approved the purchase of the aftermarket gearbox in the amount of \$3,298.00 as part of the bills listed under Agenda Item No. 6.

14. Update on Repair of Gate Valve at Treatment Plant

No update. Waiting on nuts for bolts still.

15. Discuss/Approve Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for Road Repairs

Hostetler reported that Kevan Cooper confirmed Knox County will be performing tar and chip road work. Cooper and Smith will be doing an on-site road inspection this week to evaluate which area would be best.

16. Discuss/Approve Requested Culvert at 403 South Union

Hostetler has not heard back from the resident.

17. Discuss/Approve Temporary Average Billing Pending Meter Diagnostic Results for Excessive Water Use in 600 Block of South Burson

Richie Springer was present at the beginning of meeting. Joy Mahr also reported the high bill includes sewer charges, which are calculated based on water usage. The sewer charges were therefore elevated due to the increased water usage associated with the suspected leak.

18. Discuss/Update on IDOT Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program

Neely Carr reported that she and Hostetler had a ZOOM meeting with Jacob Rzewnicki, BNSF, regarding the IDOT Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program applications. Carr reported installation of gates for the Dixon Street crossing was requested. Carr reported she also informed Rzewnicki about placement of the Marietta Street south signal being further than 15ft from center of track due to removal of a former second track. Rzewnicki agreed that would need relocated. Applications were submitted for upgrades to all crossing signals, including gates and warning devices. Discussion was had regarding the roughness of the Knox Road 2300 crossing; roadway surface conditions are not eligible for the program but can be addressed directly through BNSF if we'd like to proceed. The Board agreed we would like to proceed, Hostetler will inform Rzewnicki.

19. Discuss/Approve Hiring Kenneth McMillion as Police Officer

Ehens moved to approve hiring Kenneth McMillion as a Police Officer. Smith seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

20. Discuss/Approve Purchase of Squad Car Radar from Stalker Radar Applied Concepts, INC. in the Amount of \$1,727.99

Ehens moved to approve the purchase of a squad car radar in the amount of \$1,727.99. Smith seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

21. Discuss Purchase of an Outer Carrier Vest from Gear Up Armor Express in the Amount of \$400.40

Ehens moved to approve the purchase of an outer carrier vest in the amount of \$400.40. Smith seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

22. Discuss/Approve 6 New Police Uniform Shirts from LCD Uniforms & Gear, LLC in the Amount of \$597.00

Ehens moved to approve the purchase of 6 new police uniform shirts in the amount of \$597.00. Smith seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

23. Discuss/Approve Payment to Kinsel Trkg & Excvtg LLC for 01/07/2026 in the Amount of \$980.72 for Water-Main Repair on James Street

Approved under Agenda Item No. 6

24. Discuss/Approve Payment to Kinsel Trkg & Excvtg LLC for 12/11/2025 in the Amount of \$1,800.48 for Vac Trailer Services for Water Isolation-Valve Boxes

Approved under Agenda Item No. 6

25. Discuss/Approve Payment to Kinsel Trkg & Excvtg LLC for 01/01/2026 in the Amount of \$740.00 for Vac Trailer Service for 403 S Union Water Curb-Box and Repair

Approved under Agenda Item No. 6

OTHER BUSINESS:

26. Committee Reports

Finance/Insurance – Kinzer: New insurance cards are in.

Technology/Public Grounds - Brinker: Reported the light on the flag at Gazebo Park is out. Would like to order new flags, will get an amount. There are 250-year celebration flags available to order but wants to check the bracket system for hanging and decide on the cost for a 1-time event.

27. Discussion of Such Other Business as may Properly Come before the Board and Action, if any, to be Taken as Result of Discussions

Kinzer moved to approve the Annual Schedule of Regular Board and Committee Meetings for calendar year 2026. Ehens seconded the motion. Roll call unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Ehens moved to adjourn the meeting. Kinzer seconded. Roll call unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 P.M.