VILLAGE OF YATES CITY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025 6:00 P.M. 102 WEST MAIN STREET, YATES CITY, ILLINOIS

1. **Call to Order**
   Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Tom Kinzer.

2. **Roll Call**
   Present: Matt Ehens, Vonda Brinker, Tom Kinzer, Dave Mahr, Ron Smith, Seth Lekies
   Also Present: Chief Record, Neely Carr, Joy Mahr, Zoe Walton *Miller, Hall & Triggs*

3. **Public Comment**
   None

4. **Discussion and Possible Action on Village President Vacancy**
   The Board discussed filling the vacant Village President position and considered individuals who may be interested in serving. Kaiti Murphy, a Village resident, was discussed as a possible candidate. Trustee Seth Lekies expressed interest in serving until the April election. Tom Kinzer stated that he could continue handling required paperwork and official documents but could not assume the Village's day-to-day responsibilities. The Board also discussed that if a trustee were to resign their trustee position if selected as Acting Village President, Bruce Brinker may be interested in serving as a trustee.

5. **Interviews for Public Works Position and Possible Action Regarding Hiring**
   The Board interviewed two applicants for the Public Works position. Following the interviews, the Board discussed hiring Jacob Fitch at $18.50 per hour with a wage review after three months. Matt Ehens made a motion to hire Jacob Fitch under those terms, contingent upon completion of the required employment paperwork. Lekies seconded. Roll call unanimous. Fitch can begin as soon as the required paperwork is completed.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   - **A. Trustee Kinzer: Finance/Insurance**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       The new radios have been received and are operational. The serial numbers are needed so the radios can be reported to the Village's insurance provider.

   - **B. Trustee Lekies: Water**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       - **(a) Update on Well/Reservoir Projects**
         The Board discussed the need to reroute piping around the generator. A quote and invoice were received from Schulte for the necessary parts in the amount of $4,378.26. Lekies made a motion to approve the purchase and order the parts. Brinker seconded. Roll call unanimous. The painting has been primed and the remaining work is expected to be completed within the next day or two.

       - **(b) Discuss Change Order Request to Build a Security Fence Around the New Well and Associated Electrical Panel**
         The quote obtained by Kevan Cooper for composite fencing was considered too expensive. Other fencing options are still being explored.
       - **(c) Update on Isolation Valve Project**
         None
       - **(d) Update on Water Tower Inspection**
         Inspection results have not been received but are expected by next week's Board meeting.

C. Trustee Mahr: Sewer

(1) Reports:

(a) Update on Shaft and Gear Box Replacement for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant

The Board received an update that the replacement shaft and gearbox should be completed the week of August 14 and will be installed once they are ready.

(b) Update on Treatment Plant Sand Filters

None

(c) Update on Dry Sludge Hauling

Knox County will accept one load of dry sludge at $63 per ton without requiring testing. Other options discussed included Indian Creek in Hopedale, approximately 53 miles away, at $65 per ton with $425 in testing costs, and Quad Cities Landfill in Milan, approximately 62 miles away, at $60 per ton with $1,304 in testing costs. Matt Ehens noted that Illinois American Water uses Waste Management in Peoria. Joy Mahr will contact Waste Management for additional information.

D. Trustee Ehens: Police

(1) Reports:

None

E. Trustee Smith: Streets/Alleys

(1) Reports:

(a) Discuss Tree Behind the Bank and Related Fence Damage

Ownership of the tree has not yet been confirmed. The bank indicated that it is not theirs and suggested locating the property pins. Matt Ehens will check the pins to help determine ownership before further action is taken. The Board discussed that the tree needs to be removed.

F. Trustee Brinker: Technology/Public Grounds

(1) Reports:

(a) Update on Mid-Century FRS Community Grant

The Board discussed improvements to the Village's security camera system. Miko Armwood has discussed the proposed upgrades with Chief Record. We are awaiting a quote from Armwood before submitting the grant application.

G. President Pro Tem: Other

(1) Reports:

(a) Update on Special Permit for Modular Home at 304 W. Williams Street

The Village has not received an update regarding the covenants in the subdivision. The Board discussed reviewing and updating the Village's ordinance concerning modular homes. The property is also currently in violation of the Village's grass and weed ordinance.

(b) Discuss Purchase of Two Lots on S. Burson Street Adjacent to the Village's South Lot

The Board discussed two lots owned by Kara Garren that are adjacent to the Village's south lot. The Board considered the additional steps and expenses that would be involved in separating and purchasing the lots. The Board expressed no interest in purchasing the property at this time.

(c) Discuss Resident Letter Regarding Harvest Home Park Restrooms

The Board discussed a resident's letter about the restrooms at Harvest Home Park. Since the restrooms are owned by the Elba-Salem Park District the letter will need to be directed to the Park Board.

(d) Discuss Bottled Water During Water Service Interruptions

The Board discussed creating guidelines for when bottled water should be provided during water service interruptions. Several things would need to be considered, including how long the water will be off and the temperature or heat index. More discussion is needed and no decisions were made at this time.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Ehens moved to adjourn the meeting. Lekies seconded. Roll call unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm

Respectfully submitted,
Neely Carr
Village Clerk