VILLAGE OF YATES CITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026, 6:00 P.M. 102 WEST MAIN STREET, YATES CITY, ILLINOIS

1. **Call to Order**
   Meeting was called to order by Pro Tem President Seth Lekies.

2. **Roll Call**
   Present: Vonda Brinker, Matt Ehens, Tom Kinzer, Dave Mahr, Seth Lekies Absent: Ron Smith
   Also Present: Police Chief Jim Record, Public Works Brian Efnor, Deputy Clerk Joy Mahr

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   - **A. Trustee Kinzer: Finance/Insurance**
     - **(1) Reports:** Nothing to report
   - **B. Trustee Lekies: Water**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       - **(a) Update on Well/Reservoir Projects**
         Brian Efnor was wondering about the mural for the reservoir project Mark started. He thought the mural would add some color and the Village's history.
       - **(b) Update on Isolation Valve Project**
         Seth reported the there is a temporary suspension to replace or repair. The plan is to repair if the water is off or work needs done.
       - **(c) Update on Water Tower Inspection**
         The report still has not been received by Bruner, Cooper, & Zuck. Angie has emailed them but has had no response.
   - **C. Trustee Mahr: Sewer**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       - **(a) Update on Shaft and Gear Box for South Oxidation Ditch Paddle Wheel at the Treatment Plant**
         Dave reported the Paddle Wheel is there ready to install, Jordan is planning on installing with the help of Greg Fulkerson.
       - **(b) Update Dry Sludge Hauling to Knox County Landfill**
         Jordan is planning on loading Woodcock Trucking with sludge this week to deliver to Knox County Land Fill. It should be delivered on Thursday.
   - **D. Trustee Ehens: Police**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       Chief Record reported the focus in August was on Ordinance Violations and a few traffic stops.
       The police have had no complaints about the dogs on N Union. The violations served still have not been paid, Jim will be talking to Attorney Burton about the next step.
   - **E. Trustee Smith: Streets/Alleys**
     - **(1) Reports:**
       - **(a) Update Knox County Seal Coating**
         The seal coating is completed, and Village does have some pea gravel left over. Brian Efnor reported the County appreciated the cement slab but would like the barrier walls another row higher. Brian will get the number of blocks the Village will need to make the barrier higher.
       - **(b) Update on Tree at Bank**
         Seth received a quote from Advanced Tree Service, Jeremy Pierson for $1500.00 for the tree in Gazebo Park near the Bank property line along the alley. Seth is going to look into stump removal before the board meeting.

(c) **Update on Bush on Northeast Side of Alley Behind Bank**

Brian reported the bush has been taken care of at the east end of the bank alley but felt there needed to be a stop sign before the sidewalk at that end of the alley. After discussion with Chief Record thoughts, the board agrees it would be a good idea and vote on it at the board meeting.

F. Trustee Brinker: Technology/Public Grounds

(1) Reports:

(a) Update on Mid-Century FRS Community Grant

The village could not submit for Mid-Century Grant.
Vonda asked about leaving buntings up at Gazebo Park until the 25th Anniversary of 9/11, board agreed it is a good idea. The Flags will stay up along Main St until after Veterans Day 11/11.

G. Village President Pro Tem: Seth Lekies

(1) Reports:

(a) Update on FOIA Lawsuit

The board will need to check with Attorney Burton

(b) Discuss Culvert Replacement on Washington Street

Brian wanted to bring to the Board's attention the fact that the culvert near the lift station is deteriorating and will need to be replaced. Tom Kinzer suggested we might want to use MFT funds. The Village will need to contact Kevin Cooper to file the paperwork to use those funds.

(c) Discuss Bottled Water Policy During Water Service Interruptions

No comments.

OTHER:

Pro Tem President Seth Lekies reported the siren was not set off on 9/1, first Tuesday.
He asked Brian Efnor if he could set the siren off the first Tuesday of each month. Brian agreed he would be willing to do the job. Discussion on getting a person or person to take care of the siren for tornados. Chief Record is going to contact Fire Chief Mike Dryden.

The FCHS Yearbook submitted a request for a donation for 2027 yearbook ad, as we have done in the past 1/8 ad for $80.00.

Pro Tem President Lekies asked if the board thought it was time to trade in the mower, board agreed Probably it is time usually every 3 years. President Lekies will contact some business on some quotes for government prices.

Brian Effnor would like to take the 1-ton truck and big truck to get serviced at Butlers in Farmington.
He also asked where the Board would like the backhoe, skid steer, and tractor to get a yearly service.
Pro Tem President Lekies told Brian he would investigate some places.

Brian Efnor would like to clean out the white shed and get rid of some items scrap metal, Polaris 4-wheeler that does not run, and get the trailer at the treatment plant jack repaired so the trailer is usable. For the Village to get rid of the Polaris we will need a resolution to sell or get rid of the Polaris.

Brian Efnor was reminded by the board about hydrant flushing in October. The Christmas light should be in working order by November and using the bucket truck from Farmington.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:58p.m.