VILLAGE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
October 6, 2026

REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   President Underwood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

   Members present: Trustees: Megan Behm, Genevieve Girard, Bob Halpern-Givens, David Jensen, John Sprenzel and Kevin Werner
   Members absent: None
   Others present: Attorney Hart Passman, Chief Michael Goins, Superintendent Josh Singer and Records Clerk Laura Jonasen
   Others absent: Administrator Michael Freese and Clerk Sheryll Kominoski

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   Austin May, candidate for McHenry County Board District 5, introduced himself and emphasized government accessibility, collaboration with local municipalities, affordability, and prosperity for residents.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   a. Village Board Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2026
   b. Warrants for August 2026 in the amount of $281,196.60
   c. Payment to McHenry County Sheriff's Office Invoice #CI00113686 in the amount of $12,653.61 for Dispatch Fees
   d. Payment to Elrod Friedman for services through August 31, 2026, in the amount of $5,787.00
   e. Payment to Flock Group in the amount of $15,000.00
   f. Executive Session Minutes of August 4, 2026

The Board discussed Flock camera data retention, contract safeguards, privacy protections, and transparency. Members supported fulfilling current contractual obligations and scheduling a future discussion regarding policies and safeguards before contract renewal.

A Motion was made by Trustee Werner and seconded by Trustee Girard to approve the consent agenda as presented. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Werner, Trustee Girard, Trustee Behm, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Jensen and Trustee Sprenzel. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

4. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

a. Ordinance Amending Section 2.10 of the Village Code regarding salaries of the Village Officials

Trustee Halpern-Givens presented a compensation comparison of surrounding communities with populations under 10,000. He reported average annual salaries of $9,871 for Village Presidents, $3,205 for Trustees, and $5,667 for Clerks. He recommended annual compensation of $9,500, $3,000, and $5,500, respectively, noting that the proposed amounts were below the averages. He explained that current salaries have not changed since 2002 and that the responsibilities of elected officials extend beyond scheduled meetings.

President Underwood clarified that any approved compensation changes would apply to future officeholders beginning with the next term, not current officials. Board members thanked Trustee Halpern-Givens for his research. Concerns were raised about increasing compensation before addressing critical infrastructure needs, including road improvements in the Cobblestone subdivision. Trustees expressed a preference for prioritizing essential infrastructure expenditures.

No motion was made, and no action was taken on the ordinance.

b. Resolution for Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Preliminary Engineering (Phase 1) for the replacement of the Structure carrying Barreville Rd over Sleepy Hollow Creek

A Motion was made by Trustee Werner and seconded by Trustee Behm Resolution for Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Preliminary Engineering (Phase 1) for the replacement of the Structure carrying Barreville Rd over Sleepy Hollow Creek. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Werner, Trustee Behm, Trustee Girard, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Jensen and Trustee Sprenzel. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

c. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of form Access area Agreement for use of Village Roads

President Underwood stated this is a resolution establishing a standardized agreement governing vehicle access across Village roads to unincorporated property in McHenry County. The

agreement includes provisions addressing potential damage to Village property. President Underwood noted that a petitioner may submit an alternative access request for Board consideration at a later date.

A Motion was made by Trustee Sprenzel and seconded by Trustee Girard to approve Resolution Authorizing the Execution of form Access area Agreement for use of Village Roads. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Sprenzel, Trustee Girard, Trustee Behm, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Jensen and Trustee Werner. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

d. Motion Authorizing Administrator Freese to renew contract with Blue Cross & Blue Shield Medical Health Insurance for Employees – FY 26/27

A Motion was made by Trustee Sprenzel and seconded by Trustee Jensen to authorize Administrator Freese to renew contract with Blue Cross & Blue Shield Medical Health Insurance for Employees – FY 26/27. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Sprenzel, Trustee Jensen, Trustee Behm, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Girard, and Trustee Werner. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

e. Resolution Approving the release of certain written minutes of certain closed meetings of the Village Board of Trustees

A Motion was made by Trustee Behm and seconded by Trustee Girard to approve a Resolution Approving the release of certain written minutes of certain closed meetings of the Village Board of Trustees. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Behm, Trustee Girard, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Jensen, Trustee Sprenzel, and Trustee Werner. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

f. Motion to approve the award of the Cobblestone Woods Pavement Rehabilitation Project to Geske and Sons, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $339,651.56, and authorize the Village President to execute the necessary contract documents, subject to final administrative and procurement review

g. Motion to approve the award of the Cobblestone Woods Curb and Gutter Replacement Project to D'Land Construction LLC, in an amount not to exceed $146,000.00, and authorize the Village President to execute the necessary contract documents, subject to final administrative and procurement review

h. Motion to approve a project contingency of $25,000 for unforeseen construction conditions associated with the Cobblestone Woods improvement project, bringing the total authorized project expenditure to an amount not to exceed $510,651.56, with contingency expenditures subject to applicable Village approval procedures

The Village President requested that Items 6F through 6H be tabled for the Cobblestone Road improvement project. It was noted that postponing the items would delay the project until spring. In response to a question regarding the project scope, it was clarified that the proposed work includes curb and gutter replacement.

With no objections, Items 6F, 6G, and 6H were tabled for consideration at a later date.

5. REPORTS AND ANNOUCEMENTS

a. **Village Administrator**- No report at this time.

b. **Building/Code Compliance-** No report at this time.

c. **Parks Committee-** No report at this time.

d. **Public Works-** No report at this time.

e. **Police**- Chief Goins stated that he will have more detail next month on Flock and specific questions or concerns to contact him directly.

i. **Trustee/Village President**- President Underwood addressed rumors and misinformation circulating on social media regarding the Village, Board members, and school board members. He stated that allegations he had heard or seen were untrue and emphasized the Village's commitment to transparency and public access to information. He encouraged residents to contact him, the Village Administrator, or any Trustee with questions or concerns. He also expressed appreciation for the time and effort devoted by elected officials and staff to addressing Village and school-related issues, noting that misinformation and conspiracy theories hinder efforts to resolve community concerns.

Resident Jim Hicks expressed support for the Board and its commitment to transparency and public service. He encouraged residents to attend meetings and share their concerns and ideas before issues reach the final stages of consideration. He

praised the Board's accessibility, dedication, and efforts to address residents' concerns and maintain Village infrastructure, including roads and curbs.

f. **Village Attorney-** The Board confirmed that the next regular meeting would be held on November 10, 2026, rather than November 3, due to the general election.

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION-** No executive session is required.

A Motion was made by Trustee Behm and seconded by Trustee Jensen to adjourn the meeting at 7:28pm. **A Roll Call Vote was called: Trustee Behm, Trustee Jensen, Trustee Girard, Trustee Halpern-Givens, Trustee Sprenzel and Trustee Werner. All Ayes. Motion carried.**

Sheryl Kominoski

Sheryll Kominoski, Village Clerk