

Minutes of
Board of Trustees
Village of Atkinson

September 2nd 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Village of Atkinson, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Taber, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present

Kenneth Taber, Mayor
Ryan Rahn, Trustee
Richard De Smith, Trustee
Bobby Burton, Trustee
Dawn Stage, Absent
Jeana Jagers, Trustee
Robert Westfall, Trustee

Others Present

Krystle Thomas, Sue Mochel,
Scott Krug, Bob Floming, Ninette Carton
Katie VanAntwerp, Lola Rahn, Shari Mapes
Chief Adam Burroughs, Andy Carton,

Moved by DeSmith and seconded by Jagers to approve the minutes of the August 18th Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Motion carried: Burton, Rahn, Stage-Absent, Jagers, Westfall, DeSmith, 5– AYE; 0 – NAY;

CITIZENS’/GUEST OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE VILLAGE

i. Foster Hope- Lease Update

- Katie VanAntwerp, Director of Foster Hope
 - Foster Hope is in front of the old school building
 - Contract is being reviewed
 - Offering support group meetings and bible studies starting next Tuesday
 - Hosting these meetings in a safe place to host for children
 - 11 registered from Atkinson, Geneseo, Annawan, East Moline, and Sherard
 - 7-15 kids
 - Would like to provide a gym for kids
 - Our meeting are not during when others are needing the gym
 - If a renter needs the gym would gladly move to another area
 - Not asking for special treatment fees or attention
 - Children use the gym in the community for free, and people walk on lunch
 - Could use the gym for bible study and small weekly sessions part of our lease
 - Our slogan is Every Child Matters
- Jagers, meeting, and kids all in the gym and will be supervised
- Katie, correct
- Mayor, Thomas, do you have dates?
- Thomas, 9/9/25,9/16/25,9/23/25,9/30/25,10/7/25,10/14/25,10/21/25
- Jagers, I have no problem

- Mayor, Foster Hope is a non-profit, correct?
- Kate, yes
- DeSmith, how long meeting last?
- Lola, 1.5-2hours
- Mayor, if someone calls, wants the gym?
- Kate, then we can move to the cafeteria
- Jagers made a motion, but was reminded by a citizen that on the agenda, they cannot debate or act
- Rhan, want something in the lease?
 - So, you do not have to ask every time
- Lola, use of the gym
- Kate, not larger events

ii. Ninette Carton- Library

- Ninette, we replaced the door a couple of years ago.
 - Service agreement is up
 - Caught the first mouse of the year, put bait, and trap out
 - Next door, renters stated they cannot put out traps due to the kids
 - Picked up screens that fell off the windows
 - Caulk and seal up windows on the outside
- Mayor, 1-inch PVC pipe with bait inside, around the outside of the building for mice
- Ninette, the service agreement date is coming up quickly
- Rahn, \$566 for 1 year
- Mayor, what was the cost of the door?
- Ninette, over \$12,000
- Mayor, will put on the agenda the next meeting and speak to public works about your requests.
- Westfall questioned Rahn if he had talked to Ninette about her questions on concrete?
- Rahn explained what they are doing with concrete.
 - Make sure you have access
 - Waiting on date, said first September will follow up

OLD BUSINESS

i. Style of Submersible & Vertical Pump

- Mayor Matt Wagner called and spoke to Thomas, asking the board to decide on which pump they would like to do
- Bob Floming, I would go with a submersible
 - Last longer
 - Push water better
 - You must get this done
 - If the current well stops, we have no water

- Would stick with peerless

Motioned: Westfall and DeSmith seconded to go with peerless submergible pump, Burton, Westfall, Rahn, DeSmith, Jagers, Stage-Absent. Motion carried: 5 – AYES; 0 – NAYS..

ii. Camera system/Internet for the school building

- Rahn, a company from Moline
 - Priced for 6
 - Further out by KRC, behind the Excel parking lot, fan out to catch part of the baseball field
 - By the cafeteria, back parking lot
 - Took average distances
- Ninette, exactly where on the door? And by the cafeteria
- Rahn, will not be on the door
 - Spaces between the parking lot and the door
 - Cameras are Stationary
 - Hallways, maybe on the front
- Westfall, who is the footage going to?
- Rahn, has a memory bank
 - Give access to the mayor, Public Works, and the Chief
 - Review on your phone
 - Records
 - Put the box in old boiler room
 - The company takes care of IT work, pass wording
- Mayor, installation, materials, service agreement
- Rhan, then we own it, will investigate the service agreement
- DeSmith, add cameras as we need to
- Rahn, start with 16 for now
 - Just going to be at old school building
- Mayor, will this help Apex?
- Rhan, that is up to the board
 - Part of the lease or have two separate systems
- Westfall, private or public
- Rahn, access is private; the office can give access for the internet for renters
- Ninette, how does that impact the library?
- Rahn, will talk to Ryan-Apex; he can use it or have two separate systems
- Mayor, Ninette will let you know our decision

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS

FINANCE/PROPERTIES

- i. Name for old school building
- Rahn, feel it's confusing, call it ROE or “old school building”
 - Nice to have a name for it
 - Once have a name out front on the building
 - Like the name Atkinson Commons
 - Something to think about, bring ideas to next meeting

PUBLIC WORKS

- i. White Chevy
- DeSmith, update on truck still at Fritz
- Scott, Fritz said the Tork converter
 - Had a Tork converter put in
 - Do not know who said that it was ok to put in
 - Now GM said it is the tranny
- Mayor, what do we want to do?
 - Have Fritz, do it?
 - Rebuild or new
- DeSmith, will call
- ii. Pump Bids
- DeSmith, Hartco pierced the side of tile hole up further
- Dead cable inside
- Miller's going to put a manhole cover on for nothing
- Rahn, would not have them do a man cover
 - Farm tile, splice across, patch
 - Not the cities
 - Notified Hartco patch, put tile back together

(All Board Agreed)

PARKS & RECREATION

- Jagers, going to order three more dog clean-up stations
 - Scott was able to put two up at the park
 - If we order more, have one for all four corners
- i. Tree Quotes

- Jagers, contacted Steve's nursery for memorial tree quotes and replaced the tree by a fountain
- Mayor, would not do business with Steve Nursey, needs to get another bid
- Westfall, agree
- Jagers, getting plaque for Don Martin Tree
 - Used my own personal money
 - It's a metal one with steak
 - Went through the whole village to see what has been donated to whom and by whom
 - Made a 3-ring binder, and the office will have a copy
- Westfall, questioned Jagers if she mentioned to Marv about turning down the lights
- Jagers Marv will check on them and turn them down
- Westfall, the fountain sprayer has been large
 - Lately not so much
- Jagers, not sure if Terry has been taking care of it or not
- Bob Flowming, there is a square in Fountain when water gets below all that's sucking air
 - Needs to be filled

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- i. Chief, I have nothing

TIF

- i. Reimbursement Breakdown
 - Burton, came up with percentages for TIF applicants
 - Since Stage is absent, we cannot vote on either Ordinance
 - DeSmith will be absent at the next meeting
 - Tabled till 10-6-25
- ii. Ordinance No. 833 Eric Nelson
- iii. Ordinance NO. 834- Andy Carton

FARM REFUSE & RECYCLING

- Westfall, Don Verbeck said he mowed out at the lagoon the piece he does
- Rahn, took items out to the dumpster at the landfill, and it was very painless and easy

BILLS

Motioned: Westfall and Burton seconded that all bills be paid as presented, \$66,195.65
 Burton, Westfall-NO, Rahn, DeSmith, Stage-Absent, Jagers. Motion carried: 4 – AYES;
 1 – NAYS; 1-ABSENT

OTHER ITEMS

- Final Action Donation to Freedom House
- Mayor, fundraiser for new shelter
- Jagers, if our residents ever need to use it its good cause
- Mayor suggests \$2,000 for eight seats
- Westfall, I think we should do four individual seats, so make sure not to pay for seats no one shows up

Motioned: Westfall and Burton seconded to purchase four individual seats for the Freedom House fundraiser at \$250.00 each. Burton, Westfall, Rahn, DeSmith, Jagers, Stage-Absent. Motion carried: 5 – AYES; 0 – NAYS..

- Jagers, talked to my son, who tree trims
 - Have him and his buddy with climbing gear to trim trees
 - On the weekend for \$900
 - Public Works cannot get bucket trucks in there
- Bob Floming, over on Margaret & Hamilton, can't see the stop sign
 - Needs trees/bushes trimmed up

Motioned: Rahn and Westfall seconded to go into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m., Burton, Westfall, Rahn, DeSmith, Jagers, Stage-Absent. Motion carried: 5 – AYES; 0 – NAYS..

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Recap of special meeting-Personnel

Motioned: Rahn and Westfall seconded to go into Open Session at 7:34 p.m., Burton, Westfall, Rahn, DeSmith. Jagers, Stage-Absent Motion carried: 5 – AYES; 0 – NAYS

FINAL ACTION

i. Final Action: Personnel

Motioned: DeSmith and seconded to discipline Terry Stephens for six days without pay and three months' probation, with the request that Scott oversee the probation period

- Mayor, DeSmith's motion failed to get a second.
 - Do we have another Motion?

Motioned: Rahn and Jagers seconded to terminate Terry Stephens for reasons discussed in the executive session. Burton, Westfall-ABSTAIN, Rahn, DeSmith-NO, Jagers, Stage-Absent Motion carried: 3 – AYES; 1 – NAYS;1-ABSTAIN

Motion made by Westfall, seconded by Rahn, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm. Motion carried: 5 – AYES, 0 – NAYS.

Respectfully submitted, Krystle Thomas, Village Clerk