

Minutes of
Board of Trustees
Village of Atkinson

November 3rd 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-Absent
Richard DeSmith, Trustee
Bobby Burton, Trustee
Dawn Stage, Trustee
Jeana Jagers, Trustee
Robert Westfall, Trustee

Others Present

Krystle Thomas, Lauren Downing
Bob Floming
Andy Carton, Scott Krug
Chief Adam Burroughs,

Motioned: Jagers and Stage seconded to approve the October 20th meeting minutes. Burton, Westfall, Rahn-Absent, Stage, Jagers. DeSmith. Motion carried: 5– AYES; 0 – NAYS.

CITIZENS'/GUEST OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE VILLAGE

OLD BUSINESS

- i. Building Name
 - Mayor, has anyone come up with a name for the old school building
 - Jagers, Atkinson Commons
 - Westfall, Rahn, was supposed to send us a list of names
 - Stages, some suggestions from the community, Tigers Den
 - Mayor, do not have to decide tonight, Rahn might have more

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS

FINANCE/PROPERTIES

- i. Nothing.

PUBLIC WORKS

- i. Action: Casey's Engineering Plans and stormwater report for review/approval
 - Lauren, here as a representation of the project for Casey's
 - Here for any questions or to give answers

- Westfall, are you an engineer?
- Lauren, License engineer, if approved, put my stamp, send village copies
- Westfall, retention pond
- Lauren: (Described the pond, on the pamphlets provided to the board)
 - Narrow sliver on the west side and north shallow, large, not very deep
 - Provide the report to the county for review and had no comments
- Westfall questioned if Lauren was Artech for drawing
- Lauren, no, done by a different company
- The mayor questioned Lauren about how they came up with the numbers: a special evaluation?
- Lauren, two different elevations, all storm
 - 5 minutes to 48 hours
 - Make sure it's safe for runoff
 - Basin might become overwhelmed, but the storm will not
 - 100-year 5-minute storm
 - Bolton 75 most current rainfall data
- Mayor, that is good to know. I have no further questions
- Jagers, I have no questions
- Mayor, questioned Lauren if she mainly works with just Casey's?
- Lauren, mainly in the Midwest with Caseys
 - Southern IL with Dollar Generals
 - Some local Culver's
 - Happy to work with anyone who would be buying the west piece of the new Caseys
 - It is very beneficial that Casey bought all twenty-two acres
 - Biggest competitors are sales of pizza, coffee, donuts, and typical fast food
- Westfall, preliminary review till Lauren stamp seals
- Lauren, conditions to safeguard
- Mayor, do not want to hold up Casey's
- Lauren, going to close early 2026, do the quick claim deed

Motioned: Burton and Jagers seconded Casey's Engineering plans and stormwater report for approval, with a conditional receiving stamp seal from the engineer and a building seal from the architect. Burton, Westfall, Rahn-Absent, Stage, Jagers. DeSmith. Motion carried: 5– AYES; 0 – NAYS.

- DeSmith, Jacob, started today. Scott took him around
- Mayor, I think Bob Floming did too
- Bob Floming, good kid, knows his stuff
 - Leave him be, let him do his stuff, of what he knows
 - Gave him a long list of things to do

- Jacob said he is pleased with how we are set up. He is going to be an excellent asset
- Mayor, Jake, did ask if we would continue to use TEST
 - I would have to have a recommendation from Joe to turn him loose; that would be less on TEST,
 - TEST is a good insurance policy
- Westfall, as much turnover we have had, we should keep TEST
- Scott agrees with Bob Floming on everything
- Mayor, update on the muffin monster?
- Thomas, have not received any, will call MVP and check on it tomorrow
- Jagers questioned Bob Floming if they ever kept a list of maintenance on equipment
- Bob Floming, records on the two wells, the date when we put them in

PARKS & RECREATION

- Jagers, decorating the weekend before Thanksgiving
- Mayor questioned Scott about anything to report regarding your surgery
- Scott, I return on the 17th, no more doctor's appointments
- DeSmith, two people with a boom truck to put up lights

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- Stage, Chief Burroughs provided his monthly report
- Chief Burroughs mentioned at the last meeting hiring a new officer at Excel
 - I would like to hire Justin Fox, who currently works for the sheriff's office
- Mayor, stated to Chief Burroughs, " I know you have been having family issues, hope everything is ok, and gets better."
- Stage, I gave the police schedule to Thomas before the meeting for the month

Motioned: Stage and Jagers seconded to hire Justin Fox based on Chief Burroughs' recommendation. Burton, Westfall, Rahn-Absent, DeSmith, Stage, Jagers. Motion carried: 5 – AYES; NAYS;

TIF

- i. Action: TIF Reimbursement Breakdown
- Burton, we can't vote on anything tonight due to Rahn not being here.
- Mayor, since Rahn is gone, there is no quorum
 - I want to say, since it's already been voted on for the reimbursement, it can be reimbursed. Thomas probably knows more about it and can answer it

- Thomas, the TIF reimbursement breakdown that Burton is speaking of, cannot be voted on
 - Gwen had a phone call with Burton and myself and strongly suggested having a cap of some sort for the TIF reimbursement.
 - her actual words were: If there was a cap amount, and a reimbursement amount cap because people can't keep coming back for more money
 - Burton came up with these TIF reimbursement numbers, and I typed them up
 - Mayor, what you were speaking of is Andy's reimbursement amount that the TIF committee has already approved, which is on the bills to be approved to pay tonight.
- Burton, the reimbursement will have to be building by building
 - Every building is different
- DeSmith, still need a guideline, I like this one
- Andy, Gus building he is currently doing is $\frac{1}{4}$ the size of mine
 - Every project is different, based on size
 - 100% on Gus project, does his whole project
 - 100% on my project, covers a $\frac{1}{4}$ of mine
 - My building 4 times the size of Gus building
- DeSmith, makes sense what Andy says
- Andy, that doesn't fit for everyone the same way
- Westfall, Other financing program
- Mayor, revolving loan, low interest
- Westfall, apply for that
 - You must have "skin in the game"
- Mayor, nothing can be voted on tonight, it's for your information
- Burton, Gwen, wants the total amount when applying
- Andy, if you can't vote tonight, I will be at a standstill
 - The construction company will have to stop, I can't put in \$100,000 into a building, not knowing if maybe we will or maybe we will not reimburse
 - If he doesn't start this week, then he has to wait till spring, but then that's when the sidewalk is being redone, and then he cannot do the front of the building
- DeSmith, the city is on hold with streets right now
- Burton, we have no idea when the streets are going to get done now
- Westfall, it will not be till next spring, Burton agreed
- Mayor, this summer or more into fall
- DeSmith, we cannot vote tonight anyway
- Andy, any suggestions or thoughts on how to proceed?
- Burton, must wait two weeks before we can vote on anything
- DeSmith, I think you go ahead and schedule it
- Andy, was going to start on Wednesday
- DeSmith, no street work is going on anytime soon; you have plenty of time to get it done
- Mayor, if they did adopt TIF reimbursement, would you continue the work?

- Westfall, we must consider the amount of money
 - We cannot pour 3-4 hundred thousands of dollars on every building
 - Mayor, your value would also be larger
 - Questioned Andy if he is planning on having a bar?
 - Andy, no
 - Had two people inquire about the kitchen
- ii. Action: Amend Andy's current application into 30K increments
- Burton cannot vote tonight. Gwen wants full numbers, then a drawdown

FARM REFUSE & RECYCLING

- i. Update from Dennis Walsh
- Mayor, Email update from Dennis Walsh
 - Happy he has been in contact with Phil
 - Westfall questioned Thomas if she had received any garbage bids.
 - Thomas, we have received one from LRS
 - Jagers, questioned only one?
 - Thomas, reminded that we have till the 17th of November to receive them, we still have some time.
 - Mayor, did receive a phone call from Matt from Republic
 - States will outdo any other service
 - Would like to stay with us
 - Might not be the lowest bid, but will be better service than anyone else
 - Stage, questioned Scott, garbage can by concession stand
 - Was full, who dumps that?
 - Scott, is to be dumped into the dumpster
 - Mayor, have not had any workers to dump it

BILLS

Motioned: Westfall and Stage seconded that all bills be paid as presented, \$56,886.47. Burton, Westfall, Rahn-Absent, DeSmith, Stage, Jagers. Motion carried: 5 – AYES; NAYS;

OTHER ITEMS

- Mayor, Kenny McBride dumped a whole tree at the dump site
 - I called him out on it
 - 4-5 big loads
 - If we wanted him to pick it up or pay

- Wanted to know if we wanted them to pick it up or pay?
- Bob Floming, let them take it
- Mayor, it's good firewood, but not supposed to be bigger than 16 inches
- Bob Floming, did he charge for disposal? If so, then charge him
- Westfall, charge them, they will not do it again
 - \$250.00 is a fair charge
- DeSmith, I have a big tree. What do I do with the big stump
- Mayor, we do not allow it

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Nothing

FINAL ACTION

- Nothing

Motion made by Burton, seconded by Westfall, to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 pm. Motion carried: 5 – AYES, 0 – NAYS.

Respectfully submitted, Krystle Thomas, Village Clerk