

**VILLAGE OF LAKE VILLA
VILLAGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15th, 2025**

Call to Order: Mayor McDonald called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Present: Mayor McDonald, Trustees: Nielsen, Barbato, Bartlett, Cramond, Savell and McCollum, Village Administrator, Mike Strong, Assistant to the Village Administrator Jake Litz, Finance Director, Christine McKinley, Chief of Police Decaro, Public Works Supervisor Jim Bowles, Village Attorney Rebecca Alexopoulos and Superintendent of Streets Ryan Horton.

Roll Call: Mayor McDonald initiated the roll call.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 6 (Nielsen, Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Bartlett seconded the motion to approve the Committee of the Village Board Meeting Minutes – September 2nd, 2025.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 5 (Nielsen, Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 1 (Savell)

MOTION CARRIED

Minutes: Trustee Bartlett motioned and Trustee Barbato seconded the motion to approve the September 8th, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 5 (Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 1 (Nielsen)

MOTION CARRIED

Finance: Trustee Bartlett motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to approve the accounts payable report for September 15th, 2025, in the amount of \$265,918.21.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 6 (Nielsen, Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor: Expressed gratitude to everyone for their contributions and support in making the Celebration of Fall a wonderful success.

Staff Reports: Discussion: Jim Bowles provided an update on the water main project.
Discussion: Christine McKinley reported that the final audit has been completed.

New Business: **Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-09-01: An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use and Variations for a Mini-Warehouse Facility for Personal Storage on the Property at 406 Monaville Road, Lake Villa, IL.**

Trustee Barbato motioned and Trustee Bartlett seconded the motion to Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-09-01: An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use and Variations for a Mini-Warehouse Facility for Personal Storage on the Property at 406 Monaville Road, Lake Villa, IL.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 6 (Nielsen, Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-09-02: An Ordinance Implementing a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers’ Occupation Tax and a Non-Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax for the Village of Lake Villa.

Discussion surrounding the Sales Tax Increase:
Ted Nielsen (a local business representative) questioned the 1% sales tax increase

- Concerns raised:**
- Impact on local businesses
 - Potential competitive disadvantage
 - Whether businesses were consulted beforehand

Business Attraction:
Participants discussed Lake Villa's lack of retail businesses
Debated whether the tax increase would help or hurt business attraction

- Revenue Use:**
Village board members suggested using the tax revenue for:
- Road improvements
 - Dispatching services
 - Reducing property tax burden

Key Points:
The board ultimately voted 5-1 to approve the sales tax increase
Surrounding communities are also implementing similar tax increases
The tax is intended to generate approximately \$800,000 in revenue
The meeting revealed a tension between generating municipal revenue and potentially discouraging local business growth.

Trustee Barbato motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-09-02: An Ordinance Implementing a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers’ Occupation Tax and a Non-Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax for the Village of Lake Villa.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 5 (Barbato, Barlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 1 (Nielsen)
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution for OSLAD Grant Tabled.

Discussion: Review and Discussion on Comprehensive Amendments to the Village of Lake Villa's Zoning Code.

Old Business: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Trustee Barbato motioned and Trustee McCollum seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:30pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 6 (Nielsen, Barbato, Bartlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED BY ME THIS 6TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2025



JAMES MCDONALD, MAYOR



CONNIE OLKER, CLERK