

**VILLAGE OF LAKE VILLA
VILLAGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 20th, 2025**

Call to Order: Mayor McDonald called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

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 Tisinai, 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: 5 (Nielsen, Bartlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Barbato)
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion to Approve the October 6th, 2025 Village Board Meeting Minutes. Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to approve the Committee of the Village Board Meeting Minutes–October 6th, 2025.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

AYES: 3 (Nielsen, Cramond, Savell)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Barbato)
ABSTAIN: 2 (Bartlett, McCollum)
MAYOR: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Finance: Motion to Approve the Accounts Payable Report for October 20, 2025 in the amount of \$538,909.15. Trustee Savell motioned and Trustee McCollum seconded the motion to approve the accounts payable report for October 20th, 2025 in the amount of \$538,909,15

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor: **Discussion: Water Bill Relief Policy**

The Board discussed whether to formalize a water bill relief policy for residents experiencing unusually high bills due to leaks. Currently, the Village offers payment plans and a summer sewer credit but does not have a formal water relief policy.

Staff noted that most overages result from household leaks and that the new meter replacement program, now in its second year, will help detect these issues more quickly once completed and paired with future software upgrades for real-time monitoring.

The Board acknowledged that other nearby communities typically offer payment plans or limited relief up to a set amount but rarely provide full waivers. Members agreed it would be beneficial to establish a formal policy outlining eligibility and authority for granting partial relief or adjustments under specific circumstances.

Consensus was reached for staff and the Village attorney to draft a proposed policy for future Board consideration.

Staff Reports:

Administrator Strong: Community Open House: Notices were sent within a 1,500-foot radius of the site. The open house will be held Wednesday, October 29, 5–7 PM at Village Hall. It will feature an open format with site plans, architectural designs, and feedback opportunities. The development team will return to the Village Board on November 17 for concept review and follow-up.

Downtown Development:

- New Tenant secured: A health food and coffee shop has leased space at 133 Cedar Avenue, replacing the previous coffee shop. They're preparing plans and hope for a soft opening around Tree Lighting weekend.
- FAU Route Revisions: The Hainesville Road and Park Avenue route revisions were approved by the Lake County Council of Mayors and forwarded to IDOT for review. If approved, then the collector designation could qualify for Surface Transportation Program resurfacing funds (approx. \$820,000).
- T-DAC Redevelopment: The subcommittee is finalizing the RFP document prepared by Taska and G Groups. A draft will be presented to the Village Board at the next meeting. Work will take approximately 2–3 days to complete, tentatively scheduled for the week of October (exact dates to be confirmed).

Supervisor Bowles: The team is currently preparing holiday decorations, unpacking storage, and beginning to wrap trees and set up displays.

Chief Tisinai: A new solar-powered speed trailer has been received from Township Center at no cost. It's an older model that functions well; but, may experience shorter battery life due to aging batteries. The trailer will pair with one of the existing Flock cameras for data and visual monitoring, enhancing traffic and safety coverage. The setup allows for flexible placement on the road shoulder and will integrate into the current monitoring system.

New Business:

Motion to Approve Ordinance 2025-10-01, a Zoning Ordinance Variation relative to rear-yard and side-yard setback variation at 42 Woodhead Drive.

Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-10-01, a Zoning Ordinance Variation relative to rear-yard and side-yard setback variation at 42 Woodhead Drive.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Waive the Formal Bidding process and approve a purchase order of a Vaughan Chopper Pump from Gasvoda & Associates in the amount of \$27,730.00.

Trustee McCollom motioned and Trustee Cramond seconded the motion to waive the Formal Bidding process and approve a purchase order of a Vaughan Chopper Pump from Gasvoda & Associates in the amount of \$27,730.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Approve Resolution 2025-10-01, Approving a First Amendment to the Restated and Amended Agreement for Sewage Disposal by and between the Village of Lake Villa and Lake County, Illinois.

Trustee Savell motioned and Trustee Nielsen seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2025-10-01, Approving a First Amendment to the Restated and Amended Agreement for Sewage Disposal by and between the Village of Lake Villa and Lake County, Illinois.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Approve Resolution 2025-10-02, Authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Lake County Quiet Zone Corridor.

Trustee Cramond motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2025-10-02, authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Lake County Quiet Zone Corridor.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Old Business:

Trustee Community Outreach Discussion:

Administrator Strong reported recent success with community engagement events, including one held at Harbor Brewing Company with Senator Wilcox and other local officials.

Trustee Savell suggested hosting a similar outreach initiative titled *"Tacos with a Trustee"* at Timothy O'Toole's, possibly on a Tuesday evening. The event would serve as an informal opportunity for residents to meet trustees, ask questions, and receive accurate information about Village projects and initiatives. Board members expressed support for the idea, noting that such events help address public misconceptions and improve communication with residents. The Village Attorney provided clarification regarding **Open Meetings Act (OMA)** compliance, stating that no more than two trustees may attend unless the event is officially noticed as a public meeting. If a quorum of trustees is present, formal notice, agenda, and opportunity for public comment would be required.

Consensus of the Board was favorable, and staff will explore details for consideration at a future meeting.

Executive Session: Motion to move into Executive Session for Personnel updates, Land Acquisition, and litigation which is probable or imminent.

Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to move into Executive Session for Personnel updates, Land Acquisition, and litigation which is probable or imminent at 7:53pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

At 8:38 pm, the Village Board reconvened into open session.

Adjournment: Trustee Bartlett motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:40pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:

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

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED BY ME THIS 3rd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025



JAMES MCDONALD, MAYOR



CONNIE OLKER, CLERK