

**VILLAGE OF LAKE VILLA  
VILLAGE BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2026**

**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, 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: 6 (Nielsen, Barbato, Bartlett, Cramond, Savell, McCollum)**  
**NAYS: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:** **Motion to Approve the January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Village Board Meeting Minutes.** Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Barbato seconded the motion to approve the Committee of the Village Board Meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Village Board Meeting Minutes.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to Approve the Accounts Payable Report for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 in the amount of \$301,273.61.** Trustee Savell motioned and Trustee McCollum seconded the motion to approve the Accounts Payable Report for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 in the amount of \$301,273.61.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Mayor:** 125<sup>th</sup> Frost Bite Gala. Saturday's Frost Bite Gala was well attended with great energy. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with no complaints. The Lake Villa Historical Society added a meaningful touch with a historical display, looping film, and slideshow.

133 Cedar Avenue – New Health Order. A soft opening was held at the former dance studio for The Great Awakening, an organic coffee shop. A grand opening and ribbon-cutting is tentatively planned for the week before the St. Patrick's Day parade, pending inventory. Village officials and trustees will be invited once confirmed.

Proposed Development Overview. Village staff and representatives from ECA Solar gave a brief overview of the presentation that they had recently provided at a hearing before the Plan Commission/ Zoning Board of Appeals relative to their request for preliminary approval of a conditional use permit for a planned development for a community-scale ground-mounted solar energy system, rezoning from UR-1 to AG with a reverter and an exception to the six-foot height limit to allow solar panels up to twelve feet at full tilt. This matter was only up for discussion for the purposes of providing a very brief overview of what was presented to the Plan Commission/ Zoning Board of Appeals and to address any related questions.

**Staff Reports:**

**Public Works Supervisor Jim Bowles:** Water main break identified.

**Administrator Mike Strong:** Pleviak submittals are being reviewed.

Last week, the RFP for the erosion investigation feasibility study was issued to six-seven qualified firms with experience in McHenry and Lake Counties. Proposals are due the first week of March and will be brought to the Board for review.

Recruitment is underway, and applicants are currently being screened.

**Superintendent of Streets Ryan Horton:** Provided Roadway & Safety Updates. The project from Avenue to Route 59 includes crack filling, curb repairs, and related maintenance, largely within township jurisdiction. A request was submitted to reinstall the guardrail at the end of Cedar Lake Road, which has been struck multiple times and is currently missing again. The Police Chief supports replacement, and the County has confirmed the location.

A flashing stop sign was also requested. The County is reviewing both items. The project is in the design phase for this year, so these safety improvements may still be considered.

**Chief of Police Tisinai:** In March 2026, law enforcement agencies across Lake County, including the Lake Villa Police Department and the Grayslake Police Department, will participate in fundraising initiatives supporting Special Olympics Illinois.

**New Business:** **Motion to Approve and Authorize the Village Administrator to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Teska Associates, Inc. for Professional Village Planning and Zoning Services.** Trustee Bartlett motioned and Trustee Savell seconded the Motion to Approve and Authorize the Village Administrator to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Teska Associates, Inc. for Professional Village Planning and Zoning Services.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-02-01: A Resolution for Construction on State Highways between the Village of Lake Villa and Illinois Department of Transportation.** Trustee Cramond motioned and Trustee Nielsen seconded the Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-02-01: A Resolution for Construction on State Highways between the Village of Lake Villa and Illinois Department of Transportation.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Old Business:** Motion to Approve Ordinance Version D 2026-02-01: An Ordinance Version D Amending the Village Code and Establishing a Tobacco Licensing Program. Trustee Bartlett motioned and Trustee Cramond seconded the motion to Approve Ordinance Version D 2026-02-01: An Ordinance Amending the Village Code and Establishing a Tobacco Licensing Program.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

Motion to move into Executive Session for Pending Litigation and Litigation which is probable or imminent, Personnel updates and Land Acquisition. Trustee Barbato motioned and Trustee Nielsen seconded the motion to move into Executive Session for Pending Litigation and Litigation which is probable or imminent, Personnel updates and Land Acquisition at 8:22pm.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

Motion to reconvene at 9:22pm. Trustee Savell motioned and Trustee Barbato seconded the motion to reconvene.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Adjournment:** Trustee Nielsen motioned and Trustee Barbato seconded the motion to adjourn at 9:22pm.

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVED BY ME THIS 23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

  
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JAMES MCDONALD, MAYOR

  
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CONNIE OLKER, CLERK