



VOT BOARD MEETING Minutes

VILLAGE OF TILTON
3/19/2026 6:00pm
1001 TILTON RD, TILTON IL 61833

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Wear called meeting to order at 6pm
2. ROLL CALL

Attendance

Present:

Members: John Barnes - Board Trustee, Lori Fields - Village Clerk, Bob Finley - Board Trustee, Courtney George - Board Trustee, Tiffany Jones-McClellan - Village Administrator, Virgil Sheets - Board Trustee, Vanessa Sims - Board Trustee, Cassidy Warrick - Treasurer, Billy Wear - Village Mayor, Mike Weidenburner - Board Trustee

Attendance

Present:

Members: Phil Bernardi - Police Chief, Brian Dunavan - IT Director, Butch Fields - EMS Coordinator, TJ George - Director Of Public Works, Chad Kistler - Sewer Superintendant, Chris McMahon - Fire Chief, Tom Overmyer - Village Engineer

3. APPROVE OR AMEND AGENDA PRESENTED

Motion:

REMOVE MARCH 4 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL AND MARCH 4 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. TO BE PRESENTED AT MARCH 26, 2026 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING. Motion moved by Vanessa Sims and motion seconded by Mike Weidenburner. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

4. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTHS BOARD MEETING MINUTES, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES, FINANCE REPORT AND PAY BILLS

Motion:

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF LAST MONTHS BOARD MEETING MINUTES, FINANCE REPORT AND PAY BILLS Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by Virgil Sheets. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

5. AUDIENCE

Laury Conner asked the board if any progress on the War Memorial. Mayor Wear states it is done and James Colby has been put on there. Mayor states waiting for flag pole and the flag which Public Works Director TJ George states they came in today. Also states a neighbor has two large trees that has dead limbs and one fell out during the last wind storm, knocked her power out. Her question is that there are two large limbs that hang over her house. Mayor states that from the property line, straight up, anything on your side is yours.

6. JERROD MCMORRIS-BRIAN BUZBY ILLINOIS SHINES PROGRAM

Brian Buzby -States is an Illinois Program called Illinois Shines Program that is community program that incentivizes solar products and participation with the community. In order for developers and owners of these products, to obtain a return on their investment, they have to give back to the community in the form of a discount on electricity costs. States not looking to build something and just moving to

see if you would like to participate. Gave examples of how the village could benefit. One, subscribing to one of the projects with municipal facilities, with discounts on electricity costs. Another is partnership programs, where they do outreach to residents who are looking for extra help. Those residents can get 20% off the billed credits that are generated by the site, therefore reducing their costs about 20%. There are programs for regular customers who do not fit in the low income category, and that savings is about 15%. Sometimes it just a mailer or letter that goes out, or we can come there and put on a demonstration and residents can sign up, Then when that solar project goes live, they would begin saving money on electricity costs.

Want to add that people who may already be enrolled in any other programs, those programs would limit residents from receiving this additional discount. One program, called _____, where they receive discounts on electrical costs and that is one of the Federal assistance programs that allow people to get this additional savings for the low and moderate income residents.

Another program is doing a _____ to small businesses in the area. They are also eligible to the program with 15% savings in the program. States it is 15% off both the supply and delivery portion of the bill, it is not a supply program, it is a separate state program that allows billed credits generated by the site to offset any charges on the Ameren invoice.

Additional program is we donate \$100 to the municipality for each resident who enrolls in the program.

Asked if there was any questions. Trustee Weidenburner asked if they had a presentation? Brian states he does have some materials that he can share. Brian will send information to Tiffany and she will forward onto the board members.

7. VILLAGE ENGINEER

Engineer Tom Overmyer

8. FARNSWORTH FIRE STATION DRAW

Mayor Wear asked for a motion to have Farnsworth Group draw up plans for an extension to the Fire Station. Trustee Weidenburner asked for the fire station? Trustee Sims states she had a question as people ask her all the time, why the location on Hodge St was turned down. Mayor states that being on east side of town was not a proper place. States if there is a feeling we need a new Fire Station, we need to get a consultant in to determine where it needs to be put. That by adding onto the current fire station, it would also make that if we did build a new fire station, it would make the community center bigger. Trustee Weidenburner states doesn't understand why we would add on to anything without determining if we wanted a new station first. Thought is it is kind of using a band-aid and using TJ's comment back on the November 13th meeting was that we outgrew our Public Works department in 20 years, adding something to current station feel it is a waste of money.

Mayor asked if everyone wanted to go with a new station, the reason is to reach out for a consultant to determine where the best location would be. Trustee Weidenburner states is tired of spending money on engineers and believe need to have conversation and not just two people. Mayor states we had a raffle last year that's why the thought to build a shell and then move forward with the fire station, that way if a new fire station is what everyone wishes to have, then that would make that community center.

Trustee Weidenburner states he understands that was an idea that I presented, but don't know if that is even feasible now. Mayor states this wasn't going to be engineering type but more of this is how you can park trucks until the the board decided if they wanted to build a new station.

Engineer Overmyer states we could ask them what would a new station cost based on the stations that have built in the last 5-6 years. States it is going to be millions of dollars.

EMS Coordinator Butch Fields states that a building was previously designed by the people who was going to be in it, using it, that fit every need of the fire department and every need of the ambulance service. It was not just for now, but also future growth because of the size. If you want to move forward, you find a place to put that, that is suitable for that square footage of a building.

City Administrator Tiffany Jones-McClellan states our bond will be paid off next year, so that will open up a few doors in the way of financing. Mayor asked when could numbers be put together and City Administrator states can do an amortization schedule tomorrow. Trustee Weidenburner asked about the previous \$4 million loan possibility and City Administrator states the bonding is not the same thing. Maybe even do a USDA 30 year loans that are lower interest rate. Trustee Weidenburner didn't know if it would be just a loan, just a bond, combination and all. City Administrator states would have to go through all the options and the bonding requires a credit rating and other requirements, but is a better deal. But if went through the bank, and it is a low interest rate, it could be a better deal.

Trustee Finley asked how long it would take to get this together and City Administrator says can give a couple finance options, they won't be guaranteed until the plan is finalized. States can put other things into the bond as well.

Mayor asked consensus to allow City Administrator time to get this worked out and have a special meeting. Verbal consensus was to go forward. Mayor states he will have City Administrator and Treasurer get information together and then call for a special board meeting.

Engineer Overmyer states keep in mind that throwing a number out there, it is going to be more than you think. If you want a real financial plan, you need to have real estimate of what it is going to cost. Discussion of the previous drawn plans was had and Mayor asked if Farnsworth could give an estimate of what this building would cost and he stated yes.

Mayor asked for to allow Farnsworth to take the drawing EMS Chief is talking about and give a good hard estimate of what it would cost, so Tiffany and Cass has a number to work with when they go looking for different options for financing.

After discussion, Mayor asked EMS Chief to send the drawing to all board members and will bring up at next Special Board Meeting.

9. FIRE

Fire Chief Chris McMahon remoted and gave report as presented.

9.1. BOF TRAINING

Chris states wanting online BOF (Basic Operations Firefighter) classes for fireman to be state certified. There are 3 modules, first two are \$500 and third is free. Requesting \$15,000.00 in order to get everybody certified. Trustee Sims asked how much per person and Chris states \$1,000.00 per person. Chris says he added a buffer in case it is needed for supplies. Trustee Sheets asked where this would be and Chris states online and then the practical's would be held in Tilton, Bismarck or Westville to get everybody certified. Mayor confirmed that everyone that

attends will sign an agreement to pay the village back if they do not complete it. Trustee Weidenburner asked if this was a state requirement? Chris states that the state requires that members of the department are BOF, however, they do not really enforce it too much because they have not been able to get everybody involved.

Motion:

MOTION FOR BOF TRAINING FOR \$1,000.00 PER FIREFIGHTER NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000.00

Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by John Barnes. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

Trustee Weidenburner inquired from Chief McMahon the MABAS situation where they requested the light tower recently and how does it work? Chris states that what happens with the MABAS, with any deployment, the Red Center contacted me by email and Brian as he is the second contact. At that time, I didn't have my phone on me so they set off our tones and I called back and got it. Aroma Park was requesting the services of MABAS due to a natural disaster. They needed generator and power as the entire town was without power. The light tower does have a generator and they use it as a light tower. Last heard, it is still being used.

Our responsibility is to get it to them, which we did. We asked if they needed any more help and then we cleared and we came back home. Trustee Weidenburner states he wanted to know because he believes there was calls right after that. So the concern when he seen the guys who responded to the MABAS page, was 6 guys sent to take a light tower and then we don't have personnel. Chris states no, we hired back. States did take 4 guys because wasn't sure exactly what they needed. States contacted other departments and they had personnel on standby and we had 6 still at our station until we got back. Made sure we was covered and called Danville and advised them that if we had a fire they needed to send Engine 1.

10. EMS

EMS Coordinator Butch Fields gave report as presented

11. PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director TJ George gave report as presented.

11.1. MOWER

Motion:

MOTION TO PURCHASE LAWN MOWER FROM AHW FOR \$23,062.59

Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by Mike Weidenburner. 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED

11.2. SURPLUS SPREADER WESTERN Spreader, 7' 1.5 cu yd Striker™-Stainless Steel Hopper

Motion:

MOTION TO SURPLUS SPREADER FOR MINIMUM BID OF \$3,000.00

Motion moved by Virgil Sheets and motion seconded by John Barnes. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

11.3. HIRING

Public Works Director TJ George states has had several interviews and discussions with City Administrator on a public works person as they are short staffed. States this is not replacing a person who is off on medical leave. Recommending Jerrid Barney for full time hire.

Motion:

MOTION TO HIRE JERRID BARNEY FULL TIME PUBLIC WORKS

Motion moved by Vanessa Sims and motion seconded by Courtney George. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES,
MOTION PASSED

12. POLICE

Police Chief Phil Bernardi gave report as presented

12.1. HIRING

Chief Bernardi states is asking to hire two full time officers to replace the two lost in September. There is an opening at the PTI in Champaign for a non experienced person set for first of May. Requests to hire one to send to the academy, that is 4 months and then 8 months for field training. The class is reimbursable but will not be until January, as July is cutoff and class doesn't complete until August. Would use PNT to pay for academy, and uniforms.

Asking to replace what was lost and not adding. The second would be a lateral transfer, who we interviewed and interested in. Still pending background, physical and psychological on both. Would like to move forward with the academy position, since we have to commit to it in advance. Trustee Finley asked about if they quit or dropped out of class and the reimbursement. Chief states that they sign a 3 year contract that they will have to reimburse the village. Also if we are able to hire the 2nd officer, we can use PNT to outfit him as well. Trustee Sims states she was told that we are payroll poor, City Administrator agreed. Chief states that the village created the 10 officer positions that we have and that is what is trying to replace.

Discussion of how many officers on shift, how Middlefork school pays 9 months of salary for that position. Chief also states that cars are not needed as there are two available at this time. Trustee Sims asked if with two more officers, would that cut the overtime down and Chief states yes. But still has late calls, court appearances and such that officers have to do.

States some coverage would be needed to cover time off, though do drop to one officer when someone is off, may have to cover if something comes up.

Discussion as to being budgeted for 10 officers and Treasurer states the budget is a guideline and if we do not have the money coming in, there is no money in the general fund to pay.

Trustee Weidenburner asked if there was a Police Committee Meeting to discuss all this and Tiffany stated no. Chief states this a replace of what was already there, not an addition.

Discussion of where equipment for police can come out of is Home Rule and since the police do not need equipment at this time, then transfer from Home Rule into General Fund can be a possibility. Trustee Weidenburner states that if they are happy using PNT and not buying any equipment, don't need any equipment, have cars sitting there, then would make a motion to hire two officers. Trustee Sims states she would second as long as it can be budgeted in for next year too.

Motion:

MOTION TO HIRE TWO FULL TIME OFFICERS

Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by Vanessa Sims. 5 AYES, 1 NAY-
TRUSTEE GEORGE, MOTION PASSED

13. SEWER

Sewer Director Chad Kistler

13.1. MOWER SEWER PLANT

Motion:

MOTION FOR ALLOW OF PURCHASE OF MOWER FOR SEWER PLANT FOR NO MORE THAN
\$4,200.00

Motion moved by Virgil Sheets and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

13.2. GRIT REMOVER WASH WATER VALVE

Motion:

MOTION FOR ANDERSON ELECTRIC OF \$4,000.00

Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by Mike Weidenburner. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

14. ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Enforcement Officer Biggerstaff states had an Ordinance committee meeting and came up with an ordinance to address the camper issues. It is at the attorney and is reviewing. Hoping to have at the next board meeting.

States the IWORQ's program purchased in the fall has everything loaded into it. States every address that has a case is in and you can see the notes where information is being entered about conversations, citations issued, warnings sent, etc.

14.1. 1916 S WASHINGTON AND 1012 GLENDALE DEMOLITION

Motion:

MOTION FOR 1916 S WASHINGTON AND 1012 GLENDALE DEMOLITION AFTER MARCH 24

Motion moved by Virgil Sheets and motion seconded by Mike Weidenburner. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

14.1.1. 1916 S WASHINGTON DEMO

THOMAS EXCAVATING QUOTE \$18,000.00

Motion:

MOTION FOR THOMAS EXCAVATING DEMO OF 1916 S WASHINGTON FOR \$18,000.00

Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

14.1.2. 1012 GLENDALE DEMO

THOMAS EXCAVATING QUOTE \$22,500.00

Motion:

MOTION FOR THOMAS EXCAVATION DEMO OF 1012 GLENDALE FOR \$22,500.00

Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by John Barnes. 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED

15. IT DEPARTMENT

Brian Dunavan

15.1. PROVEN IT CUTTER AND MEDIA SUPPLIES

Motion:

MOTION FOR PROVEN IT ADD ON FOR \$5,700.00

Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by John Barnes. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

16. CLERK

Clerk Lori Fields gave report as presented

Clerk Lori Fields gave information that Adams Memorials is increasing engraving costs for Columbarium face plates. Have met with Committee and they are recommending to increase to \$1,500.00.

- 16.1. SONGER CEMETERY COLUMBARIUM PRICES
Motion:
MOTION TO INCREASE COLUMBARIUM NICHE COST TO \$1500.00
Motion moved by Virgil Sheets and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED
17. CITY ADMINISTRATOR
City Administrator Tiffany Jones-McClellan gave report as presented.
18. TREASURER
Treasurer Cassidy Warrick gave report as presented
States the FY27 Budget is attached, is a draft and not final, for review and any questions. Plan to have on next months agenda for display after meeting with all department heads.
- 18.1. FYE2027 BUDGET
19. MAYOR REPORT
Mayor Wear reported met with Attorney Wesner to discuss Solar Ordinance draft. Had Special Board Meeting, Land Use Map meeting. States been speaking to a gentleman about bringing a wellness and fitness center and a person about a possible funeral home. Spoke with someone about a tattoo parlor.
20. O2026-0319 AN ORDINANCE CREATING ARTICLE III OF THE VILLAGE CODE PERTAINING TO RULES AND ORDER
Motion:
MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O2026-0319 AN ORDINANCE CREATING ARTICLE III OF THE VILLAGE CODE PERTAINING TO RULES AND ORDER
Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by John Barnes. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED
21. R2026-0319 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE DESIGNATION OF AREAS OF REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREAS
Motion:
R2026-0319 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE DESIGNATION OF AREAS OF REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREAS
Motion moved by Mike Weidenburner and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED
22. ZONING COMMISSION
Motion:
MOTION TO REZONE 1729 S WASHINGTON FROM R2 RESIDENTIAL TO R3 MULTIFAMILY
Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by John Barnes. 5 AYES, 0 NAYES, 1 ABSTAIN
TRUSTEE WEIDENBURNER - CONFLICT OF INTEREST, MOTION PASSED
23. COMMITTEE REPORTS – IF ANY PRESENTED
- 23.1. FEBRUARY 25, 2026 SEWER, PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Motion:
MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 25, 2026 SEWER, PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Motion moved by Bob Finley and motion seconded by John Barnes. 2 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

23.2. FEBRUARY 25, 2026 TIF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Motion:

MOTION TO APPROVE FEBRUARY 25, 2026 TIF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Motion moved by Virgil Sheets and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 3 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

23.3. MARCH 4, 2026 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

REMOVE APPROVAL--WILL PRESENT MARCH 26, 2025

24. TENTS

Motion:

MOTION FOR PARTY ON RENTAL TENTS FOR \$25,745.00

Motion moved by Vanessa Sims and motion seconded by Mike Weidenburner. 4 AYES, 2 NAYES SHEETS, BARNES, MOTION PASSED

25. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED) PERSONNEL 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) OR PROPERTY 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (6)

None requested

26. ADJOURN

Motion:

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:16

Motion moved by Vanessa Sims and motion seconded by Bob Finley. 6 AYES, 0 NAYES, MOTION PASSED

LORI FIELDS-CLERK SUBMITTED APRIL 16, 2026

4-16-2026
APPROVED

