

VILLAGE OF BISMARCK

County of Vermilion, State of Illinois

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 16, 2025

1. At 6:30 p.m. in the Village office located at 106 E. Holloway, Bismarck, Illinois, President Brown opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Clerk Brandye Kizer took the roll call. Board members present were Trustees Sheila Switzer, Kris Kizer, Terry Light, Ryan Smalley, Misty Hillard, Jeff Beukelman, and President Mike Brown. Treasurer Adam Muehl was in attendance. A quorum was established. Audience members in attendance were PCC Rick Kentner and residents Amanda Potter, and Tom Kentner. Village Attorney Brian Lawlyes was also present.
3. Approval of agenda was made on a motion by Trustee Ryan Smalley and second by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by acclamation.
4. Approval of the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on August 18, 2025, was made on a motion by Trustee Kris Kizer and a second by Trustee Terry Light. Motion passed by acclamation.
5. Public Comments/Questions: None
6. President's Comments: President Brown welcomed everyone. No questions noted.
7. Correspondence: None

8. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Muehl presented the Treasurer's report. Most of the bills paid out this month are for regular and recurring bills, including monthly payroll. Trustee Ryan Smalley made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and bills as presented, with a second by Trustee Terry Light. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- Yea	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

Clerk Kizer requested approval to transfer from the Old General Fund to the New General Fund. Trustee Jeff Beukelman made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve the transfer of funds as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- Yea	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

9. Reports of committees and assignments

a. **Liquor Commission Committee** -None to report

b. **Planning Commission Committee/Zoning Board of Appeals**

i. A building permit request by Mr. and Mrs. Darby at 2690 N Rd. for ground residential solar at his property was presented by PCC Chair Mr. Rick Kentner. All documents were reviewed and questions answered by PCC Rick Kentner to the Village Board. PCC chair Rick Kentner stated that it is the recommendation of the Village of Bismarck Planning Committee Commission to recommend the building permit for the ground solar residential be approved as presented.

c. Ordinance

i. Attorney Lawlyes discussed the Municipal Grocery Retailers Occupation Tax and Service Occupation Tax and the decision that is needed by the Board by October 1st, 2025. Trustee Terry Light discussed his conversation with administrative personnel at the State of Illinois recommendation. It was explained this is not a new tax, but one that is currently existing but will not be collected unless a municipality agrees to accept it. A municipal grocery tax is a local tax, specifically up to 1% in Illinois, that many towns can now impose after the state's 1% grocery tax expires on January 1, 2026. This local tax is enacted by a simple ordinance, not requiring a referendum, to replace the revenue municipalities previously received from the statewide tax. As a result, the total sales tax on groceries in many areas will remain the same, even though the state tax is being eliminated. Trustee Ryan Smalley made a motion to approve An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers Occupation Tax and Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax for the Village of Bismarck, Illinois (Ordinance No. 2025-9-16) , with a second by Trustee Misty Hillard, as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- Yea	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

ii. Clerk Kizer discussed that Chase Wittich from Summit Ridge Energy has been in contact with the Village asking about the commercial solar ordinance and wanting to have a meeting with the board. He was unable to meet at tonight's board meeting but sent a list of questions. These questions were given to the Village Attorney. Clerk informed Mr. Wittich they would get back to him as soon as possible once the attorney replies.

d. Health and Safety

i. Discussed village properties within the Village that are currently in the court process. Trustee Terry Light stated that a \$250 fine and 21 day to abate were given to the following: 111 E. South St; 216 Center St; 9 E. Holloway; 27518 N 1800 East Rd; 12 E. South St; 13 Maiden Lane; and 205 E. Holloway. The property at 8 E. South St was given additional time and placed on hold as the owner has recently passed away and the Village wants to give the family or estate time to do what is right for the property. The residence at 206 W. Holloway was given until November 4th, 2025 to complete the work they stated they were going to have completed this weekend. The court has asked that we keep them updated on progress. The Trustees asked what is the next step and the Attorney stated once it has moved through Municipal Court and a judgement has been made, it can then be brought to the Circuit Clerk. The Trustees discussed that assistance has been offered in the past to help with no response from the owner or tenant. It is becoming a hazard for the residents surrounding this property with an influx of possums, mosquitoes, and raccoons hibernating at the property, as well as a health and safety concern for the children living in the home.

The property at 103 W. South St was closed as the owner is now in compliance with having stickers for his vehicles housed at the property.

ii. No new notices at this time.

e. Budget and Finance

i. Discussion on recommendation and hiring a new CPA for audits was discussed with Treasurer Adam Muehl. Options included Greg Tissler/ Kerry Barrett. The treasurer stated that he has contacted Greg Tissler and he is waiting on a response. Mr. Tissler requested documents to see what was all involved. Will be placed on next month's agenda.

ii. Discussed a notice regarding another grant for the unsewered community project. Motion was made by Trustee Jeff Beukelman, with a second made by Trustee Ryan Smalley to see if there is anything we can apply for but we will not spend any money at that time. Attorney Lawlyes will reach out to a contact to inquire about the grant and assistance as the village Board keeps spending money on these grants and then gets denied or no funds allotted and they are questioning if it is even something to keep reconsidering and wasting money on.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- yes	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

iii. Clerk Kizer presented an invoice for ink from LazersEdge for the printer for a total of \$791.55. Motion to approve and pay invoice was made by Trustee Jeff Beukelman, with a second made by Trustee Misty Hillard. Motion approved by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Abstain	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- Yea	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

iv. Clerk Kizer and trustee Terry Light discussed Ameren Energy Efficient Clean Lighting Act Incentives. Trustee Terry Light has made contact with Ameren and a representative and he is just waiting for the quote of what the grant will cover and what the Village will have to pay. Asked to keep on agenda for next month.

f. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

i. Clerk presented a proposed TIF application and some examples of surrounding communities. The Village Board asked for a committee to get together to go over and create a TIF application to be proposed at the next board meeting. Members to review are : Ryan Smalley, Jeff Beukelman, Kris Kizer, Misty Hillard, and Terry Light as a back-up.

g. Public Works/Municipal Projects (Roads, Drainage, other improvements)-MFT Funded Projects

h. Public Works (non-MFT Funds)

i. Permits/Zoning/Liquor Applications

i. Trustee Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Jeff Beukelman to approve building permit for Mr. and Mrs. Darby for residential ground solar on his property at 2690 N. Rd.. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Misty Hillard- Yea	Ryan Smalley- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

j. Keep Bismarck Beautiful

10. Closed Session: Trustee Terry Light made a motion to go into closed session, with a second by Jeff Beukelman, to discuss personnel matters. Session was reopened with a motion by Trustee Terry Light, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer.

11. Old Business

12. New Business

i. Discussed trick or treat hours will be from 5p-8pm this year since it is on a friday.

ii. Trustee Jeff Beukelman discussed a presentation that he attended regarding the VanHyfte Lab where they can help with finding and writing grants. He wanted to know if the Village Board would like to get her on the agenda for a presentation. They agreed this would be very beneficial.

13. Consideration of such matters as may lawfully come before the Board, or which are a result of public comments or questions. And/or are the result of an executive/closed session.

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting –The next regular meeting will be held at the Village Office in Bismarck, Illinois, at 6:30

p.m. on October 21st, 2025. Bills to be considered for payment and items for the agenda are to be submitted by October 17, 2025, to the Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.

15. Adjournment – With no further business to come before the current Board at this time, upon motion by Trustee Misty Hillard, with a second by Trustee Jeff Beukelman, the meeting was adjourned. The motion passed by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED 10/21/2025 _____

Brandye Kizer, Clerk