

# Village of Albers

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*"Providing security and services to improve the quality of life for our residents."*

PRESIDENT, Steve Schomaker

TRUSTEES: Scott Athmer

Cliff Behrmann

Sean Kennedy

Kevin Kenow

Mike McDermid

Jeff Timmermann

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ALBERS PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON July 14, 2025

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: President Steve Schomaker called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Athmer, Behrmann, Kennedy, McDermid and Timmermann were present at roll call. Kenow was present via phone.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING – June 09, 2025: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session Meeting June 09, 2025.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Kennedy seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas, 0 – nays; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was reviewed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approve the agenda as presented. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

OTHER VILLAGE OFFICIALS: Attorney Terry Bruckert, Clerk Morris, Chief Vielweber, and John Horstmann of Certop, Inc. were in attendance. Treasurer Hubert, Streets & Lighting Superintendent Deimeke, Water & Sewer Superintendent Horstmann and Zoning Administrator Brendel were absent, their absences were excused.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Wellen, resident, was in attendance to observe.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer Chairman: Athmer presented Ordinance #621-07142025, Return to Work / Light Duty Policy for review and vote. The Board discussed the ordinance that is recommended by the Illinois Municipal League to be passed by all municipalities.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to approve Ordinance #621-07142025, Return to Work / Light Duty Policy, for first reading and vote. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Athmer updated the Board on park improvements. He noted that the new ball diamond lights have been

*Stephen Schomaker - Village President*

*Trustees - Scott Athmer, Cliff Behrmann, Sean Kennedy, Kevin Kenow, Mike McDermid and Jeff Timmermann*

*Brenda Morris - Village Clerk*

*Brian Vielweber - Police Chief*

*Cindy Hubert - Village Treasurer*

*Blake Deimeke - Streets & Lighting Superintendent*

*Jeannie Brendel - Zoning Administrator*

*Chris Horstmann - Water & Sewer Superintendent*



installed and are operational. Moving the small ball diamond is being planned with construction beginning August 01, 2025.

Athmer asked the Board to consider \$50,000.00 be paid to All Purpose Erectors for a portion of lighting improvements at Lehrter/JC Park, the Board discussed the expense.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to approve \$50,000.00 to All Purpose Erectors for lighting improvements at Lehrter/JC Park. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann Chairman: Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber to report on behalf of the police department.

Chief Vielweber asked 'Adding Stop Signs' to be tabled for future discussions.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that Brad Higgins will be graduating from the police academy in the upcoming week and has agreed to be a part-time Albers Police Officer for a minimum of two years while serving full-time as a Aviston Police Officer. Costs of Officer Higgins' attendance at police academy will be split evenly between the two municipalities.

Police Chief's Report - Chief Brian Vielweber: Chief Vielweber presented the Police Chief Report.

WATER & SEWER AND TECHNOLOGY - Kevin Kenow Chairman: Kenow noted no new communication from Clearwave Communications. The signed right of way agreement with Clearwave Communications has been submitted and a reply from Clearwave Communications is expected in the near future.

Kenow updated the Board that the contract with Certop, Inc. expired March 31, 2025. He asked the Board to review the proposed contract and noted new testing requirements have been included in the contract. The Board discussed the contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approved the proposed contract with Certop, Inc. Kennedy seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Kenow updated the Board that improvements managing the sewer pond are being recorded, including decreasing odors and increasing oxygen levels. He noted the addition of a filter screen installed by Spaeth Welding and reduction of trash are helping clear the system. Kenow noted recent meetings with Curry & Associates identified specific concerns and plans for maintaining the system are being considered. Sewer testing equipment has been ordered and will be used to more closely monitor the sewer system. Mr. Horstmann recommended recirculating the contents between ponds to remedy any issues and improve oxygen levels.

Kenow reminded all residents to keep meters visible and accessible for meter reading and maintenance.

Water & Sewer Superintendent Report: Superintendent Horstmann reported -5.85% water loss for June with a -5.64% loss year to date.

FINANCE - Mike McDermid Chairman: McDermid updated the Board that the new electrical aggregation contract is being prepared and will be presented soon. A current contract has been signed with Homefield Energy at a rate of \$0.11948/kWh. The Village of Albers entered into the electrical aggregation contract on behalf of all residents, authorizing Homefield Energy as the electric supplier for all residential accounts. McDermid recommends residents remain with Homefield Energy as current rates are lower than AmerenIL. Residents may opt-out of the program by contacting AmerenIL or

Hopefield Energy. McDermid referred to a letter sent to residents concerning the rates update reminding all residents to remain vigilant when managing their residential account and asked all residents to contact him or Village Hall with any questions.

McDermid also noted that municipal solar discounts are being reviewed and more information will be available at upcoming meetings.

McDermid updated the Board on the Lookingglass Ambulance District, noting the independent ambulance district includes Albers, Damiansville, New Baden and Lookingglass Township. McDermid noted the newly purchased ambulance is in service and fully operational.

McDermid presented invoices to be paid, the Board reviewed the invoices. He noted the \$50,000.00 payment to All Purpose Erectors is included in the total.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$119,263.85. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Cindy Hubert Treasurer: Treasurer Hubert was absent; her absence was excused. McDermid presented the Treasurer's Report in Treasurer Hubert's absence.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to accept the Treasurer's Report. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

ZONING Sean Kennedy Chairman: Kennedy noted conversations with HMG Engineers concerning updating the current zoning maps and that more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Kennedy informed the Board that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Insurance Program has been updated.

Zoning Administrator's Report - Jeannie Brendel Administrator: Administrator Brendel was absent, her absence was excused.

STREETS & LIGHTING – Jeff Timmermann Chairman: Timmermann updated the Board that work by the Clinton County Highway Department has started on County Road #8, with crews installing culverts and addressing other repairs this summer. The project is expected to be complete in the upcoming week.

Timmermann updated the Board that the sidewalk extension on North Commercial Street is currently on hold and funding for the project is expected to be funded through grants.

Timmermann announced streets are scheduled to be oiled Wednesday, September 10, 2025, with a map of included streets available soon.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report Blake Deimeke: Superintendent Deimeke was absent, his absence was excused.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker announced the Illinois America250 Commemoration will be celebrating the United States' upcoming anniversary in 2026 and that the Village of Albers will be participating in the celebration.

President Schomaker announced Music in the Park every Thursday this summer at Lehrter/JC Park Stage. Local bands will be playing 7p.m.-9p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend this fun, free,

family friendly night every Thursday this summer.

President Schomaker invited everyone to Albers Germanfest at the final Music in the Park at Lehrter/JC Stage and JC Hall on Thursday, August 07 from 4p.m. to 7p.m.

President Schomaker thanked everyone for supporting the 2025 Albers Blast-Off Parade & Fireworks! The event was a huge success and plans are being made for next year.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100.00 donation to the Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) Golf Scramble.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kennedy to donate \$100.00 to the CCFD Golf Scramble from the Tourism Fund. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100.00 donation to the Community Link Buddy Walk.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kennedy to donate \$100.00 to the Community Link Buddy Walk from the Tourism Fund. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100.00 donation to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Tournament.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Behrmann to donate \$100.00 to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Tournament from the Tourism Fund. Kennedy seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT: A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kennedy to adjourn the meeting. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

*Brenda Morris, Village Clerk*