

# 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 October 13, 2025

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

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING – September 08, 2025: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session Meeting September 08, 2025.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 – yeas, 0 – nays, 2 – abstain; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was reviewed.

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

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Toennies, resident and Park Board President, was in attendance to discuss park operations. Dave Wellen, resident, was in attendance to observe.

President Schomaker thanked all our veterans, especially those honored on the most recent Land of Lincoln Honor Flight. Veteran's flying to Washington D.C. via Springfield, IL, were recognized as they drove through Albers today; students of Albers Elementary School, residents and supporters lined the route to cheer the veterans.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer Chairman: Athmer had nothing to report, he asked Mr. Toennies to update the Board on park events and operations. Mr. Toennies reported Grass Masters will be donating equipment and labor to seed newly constructed ball fields and he thanked them for their

*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*



generosity. Mr. Toennies also noted the park bathrooms will be closed soon for the winter.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann Chairman: Behrmann had nothing to report.

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

Chief Vielweber reminded everyone that the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Rx National Take Back program will be accepting unneeded medication for safe disposal Saturday, October 25 at designated offices, including the Albers Village Hall. Chief Vielweber reminded everyone unneeded medications may be dropped off at Albers Village Hall anytime.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that a Special Liquor License (Class F) has been issued for Behrmann's Meat & Processing 2025 Customer Appreciation Day on Saturday, November 01.

Chief Vielweber asked the Board to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation per Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (11). President Schomaker noted entering Executive Session would be addressed after regular business at the end of the meeting.

WATER & SEWER AND TECHNOLOGY - Kevin Kenow Chairman: Kenow updated the Board that Clearwave Fiber would begin installing services in the Village of Albers on Wednesday, October 15, around the intersection of North Franklin Street and Memorial Drive.

Kenow updated the Board that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Engineering Plan is being submitted on behalf of the Village of Albers by Curry & Associates Engineers, noting that all information requested from the Village of Albers for the plan has been submitted.

Kenow updated the Board that sewer pond daily readings are being recorded and show improvement, including decreasing odors and increasing oxygen levels.

Kenow noted the sewer plant testing equipment has been installed and is operational. Results from testing will provide better information to address and improve pond maintenance. Superintendent Deimeke is building an enclosure to protect the equipment.

Kenow asked the Board to consider participating in the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network. The network consolidates efforts during emergency situations with other local and state departments in the event that mutual aid is needed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow participate in the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network for \$100.00 per year. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

Kenow asked anyone requiring assistance updating to new email addresses to please contact him as soon as possible as officials are transferring to @albersil.org addresses.

Water & Sewer Superintendent Report: Superintendent Horstmann reported -10.67% water gain for September with a -4.88% loss year to date.

Superintendent Horstmann presented a bid for updating meter reading from touch-reading to radio-reading. Kenow thanked Superintendent Horstmann, noting the update will be discussed at upcoming committee meetings.

Superintendent Horstmann updated the Board that he is working on scheduling the tank inspection.

FINANCE - Mike McDermid Chairman: McDermid updated the Board 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 Homefield 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 presented the draft tax levy ordinance for first review and discussion. McDermid reminded the Board that the final levy will be presented for review and vote at the November meeting.

McDermid updated the Board on the Lookingglass Ambulance District, noting the independent ambulance district includes Albers, Damiansville, New Baden and Lookingglass Township. McDermid noted that the ambulance district is opening a checking account and is in the process of setting up operations.

McDermid updated the Board on a recent request form the Lookingglass Ambulance District to donate \$3,000.00 per entity to offset costs of engine repair for one of the ambulances, the Board discussed the proposal.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay \$3,000.00 to the Lookingglass Ambulance District. Kennedy seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

McDermid presented invoices to be paid, the Board reviewed the invoices.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$86,708.74. Kenow 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. Kennedy seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

ZONING Sean Kennedy Chairman: Kennedy updated the Board that the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Grant was denied to the Village of Albers. Kennedy noted that the reason for denial is being investigated with new plans being discussed for funding.

Kennedy reported recent conversations with HMG Engineers concerning updating the current zoning maps and that more information will be shared as it becomes available.

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

STREETS & LIGHTING – Jeff Timmermann Chairman: Timmermann presented a bid for the purchase of a new backhoe from Fabick Cat in Salem, IL for \$119,124.62 (\$155,124.62 list price - \$36,000.00 trade in). Pricing was based upon State of Illinois procurement bids, eliminating the need for requesting bids from dealers.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to purchase a new backhoe from Fabick Cat for total price of \$119,124.62. Athmer seconded motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

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

Timmermann updated the Board that 210' of curbing is scheduled to be replaced on Debra Drive using previously approved Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funding.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report Blake Deimeke: Superintendent Deimeke reported street sweeping is being scheduled for the upcoming weeks, depending on weather.

Superintendent Deimeke noted crosswalks were marked at the intersections of North Franklin Street at Park Avenue and Park Avenue at Bradford Drive. President Schomaker thanked Crissy Toennies, resident, for suggesting the crosswalk markings.

Superintendent Deimeke updated the Board that he will be attending Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) informational training session sponsored by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) on Wednesday, October 15.

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. He presented Resolution #10132025

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve Resolution #10132025 announcing the Village of Albers' commitment to participating in Illinois America250 Commemoration celebrating the United States' upcoming anniversary in 2026. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker invited everyone to the Behrmann Meats & Processing Customer Appreciation Day on Saturday, November 01.

President Schomaker invited everyone to the 2025 Clinton County Veterans Day Celebration in New Baden on Tuesday, November 11.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100.00 donation to the 2025 Clinton County Veterans Day Celebration in New Baden on Tuesday, November 11.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to donate \$100.00 to the 2025 Clinton County Veterans Day Celebration in New Baden from the tourism fund. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation per Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (11) at 7:34p.m. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker; Trustees Athmer, Berhmann, Kennedy, Kenow, McDermid and Timmermann; Chief Vielweber, Attorney Bruckert and Clerk Morris entered Executive Session; all other officials and guests exited the meeting.

Executive Session was held.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to exit Executive Session at 7:50p.m. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

The public and all officials were invited to return to the meeting.

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*