

VILLAGE OF LAKE ODESSA  
MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 20, 2025  
PAGE MEMORIAL BUILDING  
839 FOURTH AVENUE  
LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN 48849

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Village President Karen Banks.

**ROLL CALL**

Council present: President Karen Banks, Trustee Mike Brighton, Trustee Ben DeJong, Trustee Bob Green, Trustee Roy Halfmann, Trustee Martha Yoder

Council absent: None

Staff present: Manager Gregg Guetschow, Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Forman

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to approve the agenda. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**FILLING COUNCIL VACANCY**

The three candidates were each given five minutes to introduce themselves and talk about one of the topics from the Village Manager Profile. Neena Rush, Barry Hoven and Rob Young were the candidates present.

President Banks opened the floor for nominations at 7:15 pm. Trustee Yoder nominated Neena Rush, Trustee DeJong nominated Barry Hoven and Trustee Green nominated Rob Young. Nominations were closed at 7:19 pm.

President Banks asked each trustee to choose one of the nominees in Round 1 of voting. The vote was Neena Rush – 5, Barry Hoven – 1, Rob Young – 0.

Neena Rush was sworn in by Clerk/Treasurer Forman and took a seat at the dais.

**MINUTES**

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to approve the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 4, 2025 the regular Village Council meeting of September 15, 2025, and the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 7, 2025. All ayes; motion carried 7-0.

**BILLS**

Motion by Green, supported by Yoder, to approve expenditures equal to or less than \$3,000.00 for the period 9/1/2025 through 9/30/2025. All ayes; motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Yoder, supported by Brighton, to approve bills in excess of \$3,000 as submitted. All ayes; motion carried 7-0.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Minutes from the regular Planning Commission meeting of July 28, 2025
- b) Minutes from the regular Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission meeting of August 11, 2025
- c) Minutes from the regular Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission meeting of September 8, 2025

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to approve the consent agenda. All ayes; motion carried, 7-0.

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Village Manager: Report submitted.

Police Department: Report submitted.

Department of Public Works: Report submitted.

Finance: Report submitted. A verbal report was given about the MMTA Fall Conference that was attended in September.

Zoning: Report submitted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Proposed Resolution 2025-34: Authorizing Purchasing and Upgrading Computers to Run Windows 11 Operation System.

Motion by Yoder, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Resolution 2025-34. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Yoder, Brighton, DeJong, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- b) Proposed Resolution 2025-35: Regarding the Future Capture of Village Street Millage Increments.

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to adopt proposed Resolution 2025-35. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, DeJong, Brighton, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- c) Proposed Resolution 2025-36: Setting a Public Hearing Regarding a Dangerous Structure at 1323 Ionia Street.

Motion by Yoder, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Resolution 2025-36. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Yoder, Brighton, DeJong, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- d) Proposed Resolution 2025-37: Referring Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendments to the Planning Commission for Public Hearing.

Motion by Green, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2025-37. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, Halfmann, Brighton, DeJong, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- e) Proposed Resolution 2025-38: Approving Setting the Date and Hours for Trick or Treating in the Village of Lake Odessa for 2025.

Motion by DeJong, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Resolution 2025-38. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: DeJong, Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

## **MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

Banks – Welcomed Neena to the Village Council. Parking Restrictions start November 1<sup>st</sup>. Reminded everyone that UTVs and Golf Carts are not allowed on village streets after dark.

Brighton – Welcomed Neena to the Village Council.

DeJong – Welcomed Neena to the Village Council.

Green – Thanked all applicants for the open trustee position. Welcomed Neena to the Village Council.

Halfmann – Welcomed Neena to the Village Council. Thanked Kathy for the conference update.

Rush – Thanked Village Council for the opportunity to be a Trustee.

Yoder – Thanked all candidates interested in the trustee position. Welcomed Neena to the Village Council.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Rob Young – Spoke about the parking restrictions. He would like to see the restrictions changed.
2. Pam Swiler – Welcomed Neena to the Village Council.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by DeJong, supported by Brighton, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes: motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Forman  
Village Clerk / Treasurer