

VILLAGE OF LAKE ODESSA

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2025
PAGE MEMORIAL BUILDING
839 FOURTH AVENUE
LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN 48849

Meeting called to order at 7:02 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 Neena Rush

Council absent: Trustee Martha Yoder

Staff present: Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Forman, Police Chief Kendra Backing, DPW Director Jesse Trout

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES

Motion by Green, supported by Brighton, to approve the minutes from the regular Village Council meeting of December 15, 2025 and from the special Village Council meeting of January 6, 2026. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

BILLS

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to approve expenditures equal to or less than \$3,000.00 for the period 12/1/2025 through 12/31/2025. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Halfmann, supported by Rush, to approve bills in excess of \$3,000 as submitted. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes from the special Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission meeting of November 13, 2025
- b) Minutes from the special Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission meeting of December 11, 2025
- c) Minutes from the regular Downtown Development Authority meeting of November 11, 2025

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Village Manager: Report submitted.
Police Department: Report submitted.
Department of Public Works: Report submitted.
Finance: Report submitted.
Zoning: Report submitted.

Trustee Martha Yoder arrived at 7:08 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Proposed Resolution 2026-02: Approving the Appointment List

Motion by DeJong, supported by Rush, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-02. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: DeJong, Rush, Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

b) Proposed Resolution 2026-03: Authorizing the Village Clerk/Treasurer to Execute Documents Related to Grant 26EX11831

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-03. 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 2026-04: Approving the Setting of a Public Hearing for the Adoption of the FY 2026-2027 Village of Lake Odessa Budget and Millage Rates

Motion by Yoder, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-04. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Yoder, Halfmann, Brighton, DeJong, Green, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

d) Proposed Resolution 2026-05: Selecting Bendzinski & Co. Municipal Finance Advisors as Registered Municipal Advisor for the Issuance of 2026 Capital Improvement Bonds

Motion by Rush, supported by Brighton, to adopt Resolution 2026-05. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Rush, Brighton, DeJong, Green, Halfmann, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

e) Proposed Resolution 2026-06: Approving Request to Utilize Municipal Beach to Stage a Paddle Board, Kayak, and Canoe Race on Jordan Lake on June 6, 2026

Motion by DeJong, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-06. 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.

f) Proposed Resolution 2026-07: Authorizing Purchase of Trash Receptacles from Polly Products

Motion by Green, supported by Yoder, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-07. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, Yoder, Brighton, DeJong, Halfmann, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

g) Proposed Ordinance 2026-08: Referring Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments Regarding Building Design Standards to the Planning Commission for Public Hearing

Motion by Rush, supported by DeJong, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-08. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Rush, DeJong, Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- h) Proposed Resolution 2026-09: Approving Quotation for Removal of Trees in Advance of 2026 Street Improvement Program

Motion by Green, supported by Yoder, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-09. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, Yoder, Brighton, DeJong, Halfmann, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

- i) Proposed Ordinance 2025-07: An Ordinance to Amend Section 36-66 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Lake Odessa to Address Minor Site Plan Amendments and Revisions.

Motion by DeJong, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Ordinance 2025-07. 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.

- j) Discuss Village Manager Candidates

Council members discussed the two candidates, Mark Borden and Patti Caudill.

Motion by Yoder, supported by DeJong, to authorize President Banks and Village Manager Guetschow to make a conditional offer to Mark Borden for the Village Manager position. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Yoder, DeJong, Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Banks; No: None; Absent: None; Abstain: None. Motion carried 7-0.

President Banks thanked both candidates.

The transfer from Gregg Guetschow to Mark Borden was discussed. A timeline will be determined at the next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

- a) ICEA Thank You

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Banks – Concurred with everyone else’s comments.

Brighton – Thanked council and appreciated the open discussion.

DeJong – Enjoyed this round of interviews, would like to work on the Master Plan again.

Green – Thanked department heads and council, looking forward to our new manager starting.

Halfmann – Thanked department heads and council members.

Rush – Excited to be here, enjoyed the interview process.

Yoder – Thanked department heads for their conversations and the public for comments she received.

Appreciated the two strong candidates and their interest in the position.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Beth Barrone – Concerned about all the trees being removed from Johnson Street for the upcoming street project.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Forman
Village Clerk / Treasurer