

VILLAGE OF LAKE ODESSA

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026  
PAGE MEMORIAL BUILDING  
839 FOURTH AVENUE  
LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN 48849

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Village President Pro-Tem Martha Yoder.

**ROLL CALL**

Council present: Trustee Ben DeJong, Trustee Bob Green, Trustee Roy Halfmann, Trustee Neena Rush, President Pro-Tem/Trustee Martha Yoder

Council absent: President Karen Banks, Trustee Mike Brighton

Staff present: Village 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 5-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mark Miller asked about the alley rules for the village.

**MINUTES**

Motion by Halfmann, supported by DeJong, to approve the minutes from the regular Village Council meeting of January 21, 2026 and from the special Village Council meeting of February 2, 2026. All ayes; motion carried 5-0.

**BILLS**

Motion by Green, supported by Halfmann, to approve expenditures equal to or less than \$3,000.00 for the period 1/1/2026 through 1/31/2026. All ayes; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Rush, supported by Halfmann, to approve bills in excess of \$3,000 as submitted. All ayes; motion carried 5-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Minutes from the regular Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission meeting of January 12, 2026
- b) Minutes from the regular Lake Odessa Planning Commission meeting of November 24, 2025

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to approve the consent agenda. All ayes; motion carried, 5-0.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

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

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

- a) Proposed 2026-2027 Proposed Village of Lake Odessa Budget

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to open the Public Hearing regarding the 2026-2027 Proposed Village of Lake Odessa Budget. All ayes; motion carried, 5-0.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:13 pm.

President Pro-Tem Yoder asked for public comment, none was heard. The Public Hearing was noticed per state law, and no public comment has been received.

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to close the Public Hearing. All ayes; motion carried 5-0.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:14 pm.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Proposed Resolution 2026-10: Adopting FY 2026-27 Budget

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-10.

Council discussed the budget and Rush asked about lights for the tree in front of the Page Memorial Building for Christmas.

Motion by Rush, supported by Green, to add up to \$1,000 to the proposed budget for the purchase of lights for the tree in front of the office for Christmas decorations. All ayes; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-10 as amended. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: DeJong, Halfmann, Green, Rush, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- b) Proposed Resolution 2026-11: Adopting FY 2026-27 General Appropriations Act

Motion by Green, supported by Rush, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-11 as amended by previous motion. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, Rush, DeJong, Halfmann, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- c) Proposed Resolution 2026-12: Adopting 2026-2032 Capital Improvements Plan

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-12. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: DeJong, Halfmann, Green, Rush, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- d) Proposed Resolution 2026-13: Establishing Committed Fund Balance for New Patrol Car

Motion by Green, supported by Rush, to adopt Resolution 2026-13. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, Rush, DeJong, Halfmann, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0

- e) Proposed Resolution 2026-14: Approving FY 2025-26 Budget Amendment

Motion by Halfmann, supported by DeJong, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-14. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Halfmann, DeJong, Green, Rush, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- f) Proposed Resolution 2026-15: Terminating Contract with Gregg Guidance, LLC

Motion by Rush, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-15. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Rush, Halfmann, DeJong, Green, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- g) Proposed Ordinance 2026-01: Roof Pitch Requirements

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Ordinance 2026-01. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: DeJong, Halfmann, Green, Rush, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- h) Proposed Ordinance 2026-02: Manufactured Housing Communities

Motion by Rush, supported by Halfmann, to adopt proposed Ordinance 2026-02. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Rush, Halfmann, DeJong, Green, Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- i) Proposed Ordinance 2026-03: Repealing Village Manager Residency Requirement

Motion by Green, supported by DeJong, to adopt proposed Ordinance 2026-03. Yoder called for a roll call vote. Yes: Green, DeJong, Halfmann, Rush Yoder; No: None; Absent: Banks, Brighton; Abstain: None. Motion carried 5-0.

- j) Discussion Regarding Setting a Special Meeting

Manager Guetschow explained that the bids received for the street program came in higher than expected. A special meeting should be established to approve the construction contract with Wightman, set water rates for the year, and accept the construction bid. President Banks will call for a meeting when she returns from her trip. February 24, 2026 at 5:30 was a date that is possible.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE**

None

#### **TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

DeJong – Welcomed new Village Manager Mark Borden who was in attendance.

Green – Thank you to Gregg Guetschow for his leadership. Proud of council and the work on the budget.

Halfmann – Concurred with everyone’s comments. Announced John French, a previous Village Manager for Lake Odessa, passed away.

Rush – Agreed with everyone else’s comments. Thanked DPW.

Yoder – Thank you to Gregg Guetschow.

Gregg Guetschow thanked the council. Expressed that this was a great organization to work in, a talented and dedicated group from the top down.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by DeJong, supported by Halfmann, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes: motion carried 5-0.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Forman  
Village Clerk / Treasurer