

STATE OF ILLINOIS	}	REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN	} SS.	June 1, 2026
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON	}	

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

The Meeting was called to order by President Bruce Dowdy with the following Members present:

Trustees: Tara Ramsey, Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Jeff Graham, Caleb Grover, and Scott Kuntzman

Clerk: Jill Gilpin

Office Manager/Treasurer: Kari Scott

Superintendent: Jake Heberling

Village Engineer: Mark Bingham (Absent)

Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)

Chief of Police: Travis Peden (Absent)

Zoning Officer: John LeVault (Absent)

Others in attendance: Steve Campbell, Village resident; Kelly & Jeff Walker, Village residents; Mike Hughes, Village resident; Kim Brown, Village resident; Rev. David Knoblich, Joy Assembly; Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal

Minutes from May 4, 2026, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Treasurer's Report was presented for the month of May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, that the Treasurer's Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Gas Report was presented for the month of May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Grover, seconded by Callan, that the Gas Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Water Report was presented for the month of May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Ramsey, that the Water Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Sewer Report was presented for the month of May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, that the Sewer Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Police Report was presented for the month of May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Graham, seconded by Ramsey, that the Police Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Bills against the Village were presented for the approval of the Board. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, to approve and issue warrants for all bills. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer LeVault issued no zoning permits in the month of May.

President's Report: President Dowdy welcomed Steve Campbell who wanted to make sure he is still on the list for sidewalk repairs. President Dowdy acknowledged that the sidewalk is still on the list and explained sidewalk repairs are prioritized based on severity and the amount of money that is budgeted for the repairs.

Mr. Campbell also discussed an incident his son was involved in at the Park involving his golf cart and Chief of Police Travis Peden. President Dowdy said he would investigate the incident.

President Dowdy welcomed Mike Hughes who spoke on behalf of Jeff and Kelly Walker. He stated the new sidewalk construction near Spruce and Birch has caused some drainage issues in front of the Walker's home and is now a flood plain. Superintendent Heberling stated he had a video of the water in front of their home and will address the problem.

The Walker's have concerns about the flooding / standing water in front of their home. They have a new sidewalk that is usually covered when it rains. Superintendent Heberling and President Dowdy have noticed this and think they have a solution.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-711, An Ordinance Appropriating Taxes for And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1st Day Of May 2026 And Ending On The 30th Day Of April 2027. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to approve Ordinance No. 26-711. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy re-addressed proposed Ordinance No. 26-710 for the bulk sewer rates since there was a miscalculation when the Ordinance was proposed. After much Board discussion, the proposed bulk sewer rates will increase from \$7.33 per 1,000 gallons to \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons. The proposed Ordinance 26-710 will be updated and put on the July agenda for approval.

President Dowdy stated he discussed with Village Attorney Scott Garwood about changing vacation time to personal time and Scott's opinion was we would not gain anything by reorganizing it as personal time. After much discussion vacation time will not be changed to personal time and vacation time and sick time will be allowed to be

used in 1 hour increments instead of full days. This will be on the July agenda for formal approval.

President Dowdy welcomed Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal to discuss his concerns regarding the recent change in compensatory time. After much discussion, the Board considered reinstating compensatory time for all employees with the limits unchanged. This will be on the July agenda for formal approval.

President Dowdy started the discussion on the Jake Brake ordinance that was submitted from Village Attorney Scott Garwood. After much discussion, President Dowdy is going to reach out to Scott for some clarification of the ordinance and make sure it is an engine brake not air brake.

Superintendent Heberling requested to purchase a spare flow meter for the water plant and provided a quote from R.E. Pedrotti Company, Inc. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, to approve the purchase of a flow meter up to the amount of \$1,800.00. Motion passed with 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Heberling also reported that Edinburg is pulling a lot of water. He inquired if a portion of the water revenue that is received from Edinburg could be used to pay down the mini excavator loan. The Board approved his request.

Superintendent Heberling discussed with the Board a conversation that he had with Sharpsburg about their meter reads slowing starting to die on their system and the discussion of cellular reads. He wanted the Board to know Sharpsburg stated they are interested in splitting half the cost of the initial program.

President Dowdy informed the Board that he would be attending the Christian County Economic Development meeting Tuesday night.

Trustee Ramsey stated the longest returning food vendor to Summerfest will be staying in their camper during Summerfest and has asked if the Village would give them access to electricity. It was approved they could use electricity from the Village shop.

Village Engineer Report: Nothing to report.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling stated they would check to see how much TIF money can be used towards the new flow meter and he inquired how much of extra water revenue can be used toward the mini excavator loan. President Dowdy suggested 50% can be used toward the mini excavator loan.

WATER – The Water Report for April 1 – April 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for April 1 – April 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for April 1 – April 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey inquired about the sidewalk that used to go over the tracks and it getting replaced.

Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal stated that it is technically trespassing on the railroad and could be issued a ticket and that you can only walk across the tracks at the railroad crossing.

Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal reported there are three yards left in town that have tall grass.

President Dowdy stated the Village Attorney sent a letter last week to the owner of the property located by the elevator about getting the property cleaned up. After two weeks, the Village can go on the property and start cutting the brush and weeds and then a lien can be put on the property. The Village Attorney has also started the process of condemning the property.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Trustee Wilson inquired if the Village Works have started spraying for mosquitoes yet.

Superintendent Heberling stated the machine has been tested and has not started yet.

WATER – Trustee Callan voiced his concern about another property since the owner has passed away. Trustee Callan also inquired if the squad car has been fixed.

Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal stated it is in the garage and said seems to be fixed since it is not smoking anymore.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Nothing to report.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the July Regular Meeting as July 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Kuntzman, seconded by Grover, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk