

Village Board Meeting Minutes
VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042
July 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m.



1. **Call to Order** at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin
2. **Roll Call** Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Wendy Mills and Will Ziegler (remotely). Absent: Trustees Steve Deasey and Thadd Lewis. Also Present: Mayor Richard McLaughlin, Clerk Georgine Cooper, Attorney David McArdle, Police Chief Jennifer Paulus, Public Works Director Chris Carlsen, Treasurer Mike Marro
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Mike Nickels
4. **Public Hearing: Appropriations for the Corporate Purposes of the Village of Island Lake, Lake and McHenry Counties, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May, 2025 and Ending on the 30th Day of April, in the amount of \$ 8,379,933**
Hearing called to order at 7:02 p.m. The hearing was properly published.
Public Comment: none
Motion to close the Public Hearing by Trustee Ziegler, Second by Trustee Mills
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Mills and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.
5. **Public Comment** included: Resident: When we spray for mosquitos, the music of the environment is quiet the day after the spraying as a result; uses a natural cedar product and if works for her; after the fireworks the birds are silent the day after; has a tree of heaven in her yard; they are invasive—like a sumac or black walnut—how to get rid of them?
6. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Public Works: Trustee Mills
 - b. Parks Planning and Development: Trustee Alers
 - c. Business and Economic Development: Mayor McLaughlin in Trustee Deasey's absence
 - d. Building and Zoning: Trustee Cermak
 - e. Police, Public Safety, and Ordinances: Chief Paulus in Trustee Lewis's absence
 - f. Finance and Administration: Trustee Ziegler

Action Items

7. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. **Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$201,272.72**
 - b. **Approve minutes of the 6/26/2025 meeting**
 - c. **Authorize Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (JETSAB) of Lake County and the Village of Island Lake**
Discussion: Trustee Cermak asked a question about Lake Fest proceeds and movie screen on the bill sheet. Treasurer Marro: We made money: approximately \$1,100. Chief Paulus: It's part of National Night Out.
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda a - c as read by Trustee Ziegler, Second by Trustee Alers
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Mills and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.
8. **Ratify the final Island Lake Retailers LLC Sales Tax Rebate Agreement**
Discussion: Attorney McArdle: we approved a version of this prior; paragraph 4 D was refined definition of first year; paragraph 6: they only closed so far on the grocery store, put a provision that if they don't close on those PINs, they don't get rebates; last paragraph: we need to file it with the IDOR as soon as we finish.

Motion to ratify the final Island Lake Retailers LLC Sales Tax Rebate Agreement by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Mills
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Mills and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

- 9. Adopt Ordinance 1710-25 An Ordinance Making Appropriations for the Corporate Purposes of the Village of Island Lake, Lake and McHenry Counties, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May, 2025 and Ending on the 30th Day of April, 2026, in the amount of \$ 8,379,933**

Motion to adopt Ordinance 1710-25 An Ordinance Making Appropriations for the Corporate Purposes of the Village of Island Lake, Lake and McHenry Counties, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May, 2025 and Ending on the 30th Day of April, in the amount of \$ 8,379,933 by Trustee Ziegler, Second by Trustee Alers
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Mills and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

a. E-bike Ordinance

Chief Paulus made a brief presentation; many municipalities are regulating E-bikes and E-scooters
Low speed electrical bike must have operating pedals. 3 Classes: pedals without motor engaging;
Class 2: pedal or throttle, 20 mph; Class 3 pedals, option throttle, speedometer
Rules of the Road apply to E-bikes; must be 16 to operate Class 3. E-scooters are not allowed in a municipality unless enacted. The biggest problem is that younger kids are not aware of traffic safety. No helmet requirement.

Trustee Cermak: What are officers doing? Would recommend ticketing for disobeying traffic laws.
Response: Talk to the kids and the parents. 9 out of 10 comply after that. Mayor: What are other municipalities doing? Response: 16 – 18 year olds. Attorney McArdle: IML has a draft ordinance on their site. A bill passed without tort immunity; there is none if someone gets hurt if you limit operation locations; may want to let it gel a while; may want to limit age and locations; watch what suburbs are doing. Chief: We can ticket and have awareness campaign. Elk Grove Village wrote into their ordinance that the child needs to be picked up by parents at the site. Trustee Alers: Age restriction would be appropriate. Trustee Mills: Some restrict use at night.
Board direction: Monitor for two weeks.

b. Water rates

Trustee Mills: Last month in budget presentation, Consultant Kevin Lockhart recommended that rates should increase; had Public Works Committee Meeting last week; we are significantly below surrounding areas; many raised rates in 2025 and will again in 2026; Island Lake is the only one below \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons; it has affected ability to do water system improvements. Met with Trustee Ziegler to assess rates; will update at next meeting. Did an analysis of similar surrounding areas. Mayor McLaughlin: Met with Robinson Engineering today about study. Director Carlsen: Robinson is currently looking long range at water system. Trustee Ziegler: Work that Trustee Mills has done allows us to consider short term changes; Robinson is looking at system and what it takes long range to improve that; we haven't done that. Trustee Mills: Not sure residents want to pay for that. Trustee Cermak: System has to pay for itself. Attorney McArdle: How cost of capital improvements affect rates; have we done a needs assessment for water system? Ask what we will get for the study. Director Carlsen: We have a 10-year capital plan. Robinson asked if we need a comprehensive study of what the system needs. Attorney McArdle: Works with Marengo and they are short for capital improvements. Director Carlsen: We need to get to \$10.50 as soon as possible. Trustee Ziegler: We need to notify residents; Trustee Cermak: Will need to do it incrementally; need to prepare an ordinance to start with October billing.

c. Robinson Engineering Water Rate Study Task Order: Consider scope

Engineer Zehner: See Item b Needs direction for the Board if more comprehensive study is needed.

- 10. Mayor Comments** included: Ball fields look good; Eastway pavilion is going up; Lions working on it; disc golf course was busy over the weekend; Director Carlsen is looking to reline basketball court at

Vista Park.

- 11. Trustee and Staff Comments** included: Trustee Alers: 4th of July parade was great and picnic had a good turnout. E-bikes are going down Burnett at dangerous speeds; we need to address safety issue. Trustee Cermak: Hope all saw and enjoyed fireworks; Mayor McLaughlin did a great job getting funding and fireworks were excellent; if people of the Village want them, they should donate. Trustee Lewis (via Clerk Cooper): He's sorry that he is not here today, as he is still recovering from surgery; would like to thank the residents who came out for the 4th of July parade and all the participants who made the parade fun. Special thanks to Lacey Lewis for all her time and effort getting the parade off the ground. Thanks to Public Works for all the work they did to clean up and prepare the route and the Public Works folks who volunteered to participate; the Police Department for their work—both on the day of the parade and the day before to make sure it was safe for participants and spectators; and finally, the Emergency Management team for their help to keep the roads safe and for directing traffic on the outskirts of the parade. Thank you all. Trustee Mills: Asked for a moment of silence for the death of Officer Matias's son Marcos; we are like a family and this was a big loss. Water meter replacements need to happen to get accurate water billing and accurate proper funds; we need to move forward with water rates fairly and productively; will be meeting with Trustee Alers about parks; am monitoring literature and ordinances on E-bikes; it's a big safety issue; appreciates the support of the Police Department. Trustee Ziegler: Working on getting new Internet and phone system; we are currently unsupported in the software for our phone system; Computer Help Key is working on it; Police Department body cams require larger file capacity; working with Mayor McLaughlin on employee review procedure; will work with Department Heads for ideas; will email Engineer Zehner about water rate study.

Chief Paulus: National Night Out on August 5 at Converse Park; donation of popcorn and sweet corn; DJ with karaoke and movie trivia; showing *Wild Robot*. Director Carlsen: Road project schedule will be set next week; rubber chips at Village hall will go to another park. Clerk Cooper: Grateful to all the folks from the Village who gave a warm welcome and honor to the veterans from Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center and to Mayor McLaughlin for arranging the visit and providing a special meal for them; praise to TIGRIS for their vigilance in assessing and treating the lake; Eastway pavilion going up thanks to Lions; last weekend was a work weekend to get the frame up; Director Carlsen—a Lion, as well—helped.

- 12. Adjournment**
Motion to adjourn by Trustee Alers, Second by Trustee Cermak
All were in favor. Motion carried at 7:59 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper