

Village of Herscher Board Meeting May 19, 2025 7:00P.M.

Village President Shannon Sweeney called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following Trustees were present: Jeremy Bauer, Mike Bruner, Gayle Landeck, Andy Cotter, and Mike Bruner. Trustee Skip Grigas was absent. Also, present Village Clerk Heather Meredith, Police Chief Kurt Quick (arrived at 7:33pm), Public Works Employee Keith Witheft, Village Attorney Chris Bohlen, Janet Mau from Herscher Pilot. Resident Lauren Ruel

Jeremy Bauer moved to approve the Regular minutes of April 21, 2025; Gayle Landeck seconded. All in favor; Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mike Bruner presented the Accounts Payable Report totaling \$91,245.79 to the Board for payment. Mike Bruner moved to accept the accounts payable as presented. Jeremy Bauer- seconded. Roll call taken Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Gayle Landeck-aye, Skip Grigas-absent, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Payroll presented totaled \$44,536.21. Mike Bruner moved to accept payroll as presented, Jacob Wagner - seconded. Roll call taken Gayle Landeck-aye, Skip Grigas-absent, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Jacob Wagner-aye, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion to adjourn Sine Die by Mike Bruner. Second, by Andy Cotter. All in favor, motion carried.
7:05 pm

Shannon Sweeney was sworn in as Village President by Village Clerk Heather Meredith.

Village President Shannon Sweeney swore in Village Trustees: Andy Cotter, Gayle Landeck, Jacob Wagner, Village Clerk Heather Meredith, and Village Treasurer Laura Peters.

Village President, Shannon Sweeney called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm with the following Trustees present: Jermey Bauer, Gayle Landeck, Jacob Wagner, Andy Cotter, and Mike Bruner, also present: Village Clerk Heather Meredith, Police Chief Kurt Quick, Village Attorney Chris Bohlen, Public Works Employee Keith Witheft, Janet Mau from Herscher Pilot, and resident Lauren Ruel.

Roll call taken: Village President Shannon Sweeney-present, Mike Bruner-present, Andy Cotter-present, Jacob Wagner-present, Skip Grigas-absent, Gayle Landeck-present, and Jeremy Bauer-present.

Village President, Shannon Sweeney appointed as follows:

Trustee Committee Appointments:

Finance Chairman: Mike Bruner- second Jeremy Bauer

Police Chairman: Skip Grigas- second Gayle Landeck

Parks Chairman: Andy Cotter- second Skip Grigas

Ordinance Chairman: Gayle Landeck- second Jacob Wagner

Streets Chairman: Jacob Wagner- second Andy Cotter

Water/Sewer Chairman: Jeremy Bauer- second Mike Bruner

Jacob Wagner moved to accept the recommendations by Village President Shannon Sweeney of appointments. Andy Cotter seconded. Roll call taken: Skip Grigas-absent, Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Gayle Landeck-aye, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

To be reappointed for 4 Year Term by Village President Shannon Sweeney
Chief of Police: Kurt Quick, Village Clerk: Heather Meredith, and Deputy Clerk / Water Clerk
Vannessa Weaver

Mike Bruner moved to accept the recommendations by Village President Shannon Sweeney of appointments for four (4) years. Jacob Wagner seconded. Roll call taken: Skip Grigas-absent, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Gayle Landeck-aye, Jacob Wagner-aye, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Reappointments by Village President Shannon Sweeney for a four (4) year term:

Village Attorney: Chris Bohlen

Treasurer: Laura Peters

Superintendent of Public Works: Keith Witheft

Electrical Inspector: Brennan O'Connor

Plumbing Inspector: Andy Kelson

Building Inspector: Jeff Fieldman

Code Officer: Paul Berge

Jacob Wagner moved to accept the recommendations by Village President Shannon Sweeney of appointments for four (4) years. Gayle Landeck seconded. Roll call taken Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Jeremy Bauer-aye, Skip Grigas-absent, and Gayle Landeck-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Village Planning and Zoning Board:

4-year terms

Dave Riordan, Chairman

Todd Datweiler, Corey Eich, and Tim Feller Members

2-year term

Mike Mosier, John Wakey, and Dan Peters

Jacob Wagner moved to accept appointments of the Village Planning and Zoning Board. Andy Cotter seconded. Roll call taken: Skip Grigas-absent, Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Jeremy Bauer-aye, and Gayle Landeck-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mike Bruner said that garbage rates will be increasing on May 1. They will be increasing \$.70.

Gayle Landeck moved to approve an increase in garbage rates \$.70 per resident per month starting May 1, 2025, to be reflected on the June 1 bill. Jacob Wagner-seconded. Roll call taken: Gayle Landeck-aye, Jacob Wagner-aye, Skip Grigas-absent, Jeremy Bauer-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, and Andy Cotter-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Mike added that water and sewer rates will be going up as well. The new rates will be reflected on the June 1st water bills.

Village Treasurer Laura Peters presented the April 2025 Treasurer Report. She asked if anyone had suggestions on the way they want the report done.

STREETS:

Jacob Wagner said the new benches are moving forward and he plans on placing some on Main Street then open to suggestions on where to place. He said that we will require sidewalks along Clyde Street. He also has a few trees around town that need to be cut down.

FINANCE:

Mike Bruner says that he and Heather and Vannessa will start to work on the Appropriation Ordinance for FY 25-26.

PARKS:

Andy Cotter says that John Wakey has said he is not able to help us mow seasonally in the Parks. Andy Cotter moved to hire Drew Boudreau as a Seasonal Parks employee to work as needed. Jacob Wagner seconded. Roll call taken: Skip Grigas-absent, Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Gayle Landeck-aye, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

We are working on a grant from ComEd to get new LED Ballfield lights. Andy is going to reach out to Lisa Aprati our ComEd representative.

WATER AND SEWER:

Jeremy Bauer moved to approve hiring Sean Culver as a new Public Works Employee with a starting salary of \$75,000. Jacob Wagner seconded. Roll call taken: Skip Grigas-absent, Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Gayle Landeck-aye, and Jeremy Bauer-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Public Works Superintendent Keith Witheft said that there was a service line leak at Mulberry. They ended up moving the buffalo box while fixing the leak.

ORDINANCE:

Gayle Landeck says that 4 permits are issued in the month of April for \$300. She says that 233 S Oak rental looks awful, and we are going to have it mowed and place a lien on the property. Gayle, suggest we make landlords register rental properties with us so that we have a way to contact them if issues arise. She said that Paul is doing a great job and has worked with over 40 properties on property maintenance.

POLICE:

Mike Bruner moved to approve the purchase of a new squad in the amount of \$52,000. Gayle Landeck seconded. Roll call taken Jacob Wagner-aye, Mike Bruner-aye, Andy Cotter-aye, Jeremy Bauer-aye, Skip Grigas-absent, and Gayle Landeck-aye. All in favor; motion carried.

Chief Quick says that he plans to get rid of the 2013 squad once we get the new one. He thinks he can get around \$6,000 for it.

President Sweeney, suggest we reconsider doing the adjudication court on our own verse going in with Kankakee. If we do it on our own Gayle Landeck says we need to fast track it since we were pretty much set to go in with Kankakee other than the intergovernmental agreement. Shannon suggests that Gayle and Vannessa go to Kankakee to see how the process works to make sure it is something we can handle. Attorney Bohlen wanted to note that if we decide to take this on it will be more work for the officer girls, we will have to appoint a hearing officer and figure out the process. Jacob Wagner, Gayle Landeck, and Jeremy Bauer think we just need to stay with Kankakee City. After some discussion it was decided that Vanessa and Gayle will go shadow with Kankakee City to see if this is something we want to start or not.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Mike Bruner informed the Board that the 1% Grocery Tax that the Village receives will be eliminated by the state unless we pass an Ordinance to keep it. He says that the Village receives roughly \$36,000 annual from it. He says that more than 50 communities in the state have passed it so far. Attorney Bohlen handed out the Ordinance that will allow us to keep the tax to be passed at the next meeting in June.

Motion to adjourn by Jeremy Bauer. Second is by Gayle Landeck. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Meredith, Village Clerk