

Village of Soldiers Grove – Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 12, 2025

Location: Village Hall

Public Hearing: 6:00 PM

Regular Board Meeting: Immediately following public hearing

Board Members Present:

Shayne Chapman, Vicki Campbell, Sarah Kemp, and Marla Walsh. **Absent:** Harrison Heilman

PUBLIC HEARING (6:00 PM)

Discussion: Vacation/Abandonment of Platted Alleyways

A public hearing was held regarding the proposed vacation of four platted alleyways. One question was received from resident Mickey Keeley, who asked about the original purpose of the alleyways. President Chapman explained that the alleyways were platted many decades ago, their intended purpose is unclear, several run through existing homes, and none have ever been developed. The Village believes returning them to adjacent property owners is in the best interest of all parties.

2026 Proposed Budgets

No questions or comments were received from the public.

Ordinance 2025-15: Amendment to Chapter 62-1(a)

No public comments. This ordinance updates meeting schedule language to:

"Regular board meetings of the Village Board shall be held on the second Wednesday of each calendar month, commencing at 6:30 pm. Any regular meeting falling on a legal holiday shall be held on the next following Wednesday at the same hour and place."

Adjournment of Public Hearing

Motion: Campbell, **Second:** Walsh to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:15 PM. All present aye, motion carried.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

REPORTS

School District Presentation

Brandon Munson presented an overview of the school district's budget, explaining that an approximate \$350,000 reduction in state funding required the district to raise its levy limit for the year.

Fire Department Report – Chief Jeannette McCormick

- The department is conducting its annual Toy Drive and Food Drive for families in need.
 - The school donated approximately 4.5 bags of toys for Toys for Tots.
 - Monetary donations for the toy drive are due December 19, 2025.
 - The Pancake Supper fundraiser raised approximately \$1,000, with all supplies donated, resulting in full profit for the department.
 - Annual officer elections on 11/5 resulted in no changes:
 - The department has responded to 38 calls year-to-date, the highest total in many years.
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CDC Report

- The Old Oak Inn remains delinquent on room tax payments.
 - Campbell recommended sending another notice outlining the amount due and potential penalties for continued non-payment.
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Public Works Report

- Snow equipment preparation is underway; new brushes installed on the sidewalk sweeper, the one-ton truck is scheduled for service (oil change and new shocks) on 11/13, bushes removed behind the old Strang building; additional removals planned above the Desperados parking lot, blower motor at the sewer plant locked up; repairs are underway to avoid replacement.
 - Multiple issues encountered with the ongoing road construction project:
 - Sewer main at the end of Atley Street was struck six times by road crews.
 - Both sewer and water mains at the intersection required lowering due to road/sidewalk elevation changes not communicated to the Village.
 - Storm sewer work caused damage to a resident's lateral, resulting in sewage backup; the Village completed repairs.
 - Two additional laterals required relocation near the retaining wall by the Lutheran Church—work not included in the original plans.
 - Delta 3 Engineering recommends televising sewer and water mains along Church Street (Hwy 131) to ensure no additional damage.
 - Baker Creek Project scheduled to begin 11/13.
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MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-15: Amendment to Chapter 62-1(a)

Motion: Campbell, Second: Kemp to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-15. All present aye, motion carried.

Vacation/Abandonment of Platted Alleyways

1. Kidd's Addition (Blocks 1-3)

- Motion: Kemp, Second: Walsh. All present aye, motion carried.

2. Peterson's 2nd Addition – Block 1 (Lots 1-10)

- Motion: Walsh, Second: Campbell. All present aye, motion carried.

3. Peterson's 2nd Addition – Block 2 (Lots 1-14)

- Motion: Campbell, Second: Kemp. All present aye, motion carried.

4. School Addition – Block 2 (Lots 5-10, 13-16)

- Motion: Kemp, Second: Walsh. All present aye, motion carried.

Adoption of 2026 Budgets

General, Fire, Water, Sewer, and Library budgets.

Motion: Campbell, Second: Kemp. All present aye, motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes

October 2 and October 8 meeting minutes.

Motion: Campbell, Second: Walsh. All present aye, motion carried.

Approval of Monthly Bills

- General: \$15,783.41, Fire: \$409.99, Sewer: \$9,703.33, Water: \$458.94, and Library: \$6,223.15.

Motion: Campbell, Second: Walsh. All present aye, motion carried.

Donation to American Legion Post 220

\$250 for Thanksgiving Dinner.

Motion: Kemp, Second: Walsh. All present aye, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Kemp, Second: Campbell to adjourn at 7:00 PM. All present aye, motion carried.