

Minutes of the Village of Waterman Board held at Village Hall 215 W. Adams St. Waterman, IL 60556 Tuesday, October 14, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Feitlich, Genslinger, Johanningsmeier, Jay, and Pearson were present. Wade arrived at 6:39pm and Radtke was absent.

Approve Agenda: Village President requested to amend agenda item 4C to "Public Safety Meeting of November 7, 2024." Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0.

Approve Meeting Minutes:

Trustee Pearson motioned to approve the regular Board meeting minutes held on September 9, 2025. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0 with Jay abstaining and Feitlich voting.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on October 2, 2025, Johanningsmeier 2nd with Pearson and Jay abstaining. Unanimous board approval to table due to insufficient quorum.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to table the approval of the meeting minutes of the Public Safety Meeting from November 7, 2024, due to insufficient quorum. Trustee Jay 2nd. Vote passed unanimously.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve the amended meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 12, 2025. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0.

Accept Council Approval Reports: Trustee Pearson motioned to accept the Council Approval Reports as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept Petty Cash Report: Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to approve the petty cash report as published. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept Treasurer's Funds Report: Trustee Pearson motioned to approve the Treasurer's Fund Report as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Mayor's Report: Recognition of Retiring Police Officer, Charles Norris

Request for Consideration: Nothing

Correspondence: Nothing

Public Comment: Larry Mason inquired about Chief Jemison's requirement to relocate to Waterman as per the Village's ordinance and whether we will be replacing lost officers. Response was the application process is ongoing. Alexandra Bee voiced concern about attendance of Village staff for former Chief Breese's wake and funeral. Alexandra also had a strong complaint about the firing of a police officer in the last month. Malina Baine had a complaint about Chief Jemison not being available enough to the residents of the Village. Joe Siciliano made a complaint for the mayor regarding the firing of police, Cpl. Bermudez. Patty Smith asked if the village purchased a vehicle and provided a gas card for Chief Jemison. She also suggested naming a street after Chief Breese. The fire department requested the police department to advise the FD of shift variations for their safety.

Staff Reports

Chief Jemison – Presented September Stats Report for the Board's review. WPD assisted Shabbona FD with a helicopter rescue at US 30 and University Road, and the road was closed for 30 minutes. Responded to a dog bite on Pine St. which resulted in the dog being quarantined; victim went to hospital. The Middle School held an assembly on 9/11/2025 to honor first responders. Chief Jemison led the homecoming parade on 9/19 and assisted with the 14th annual Dekalb Toy Run. Radar speed signs have been repaired on Elm and Garfield and will be collecting data on speeders. Trunk or Treat will be held at the middle school on 10/31/2025. From the entire Village staff, board members, police department and community, prayers go out to family and friends of Chief Breese who passed on 10/3/2025. Applications are being reviewed for police officer hirings with interviews starting next month.

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Village Manager Nykaza – Proud to announce receipt of IDOT's Local Project Funding Grant for \$198,600. These funds will cover the cost of this year's road project. Engineering phase of the Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District is underway. Willette & Hoffman are working on finalizing the zoning map. New slide and tic tac toe board have been ordered for Lion's Park. Working to extend the TIF District Program expiration of 2027 for downtown development and beautification assistance. The Community Building will be getting renovations to make it more desirable for rentals. The fiber optics company, Metrowest, is finished but if any residents notice anything such as sinkholes or something they missed, please reach out to the village. We were awarded the AED grant for all the squad cars, Village Hall, Community Center, and Lions Park. We will also be donating one to the Clinton Township Library. DCCF Economic Development grant was awarded or \$12,500 to go toward economic development of our town. Lennar Homes is closing on 89 lots in Deerfield Crossing soon. Police Department Rules and Regulations policy is now completed; this has been part of a village ordinance that was never created and was pointed out in the Gold Shield Report.

Attorney Nevue – Will update in closed session.

Public Works – Matt Conlin: Leaf collection from 10/20-11/25 tentatively.

Committee Reports

Water & Sewer – Adam Pearson: Nothing

Streets & Alleys – Arnie Johanningsmeier: Requested we notify residents of the village snow plowing/removal ordinance.

Public Safety - Arnie Johanningsmeier: Met on September 22, 2025, to discuss the Police Department Rules and Regulations. Looking to hire full and part-time officers. Trick or treating will be 10/31/2025 from 4-8. Email from a resident thanking Village for speed detector on Elm.

Buildings & Grounds – Alison Genslinger: Nothing

Finance & Personnel – Adam Pearson: Nothing

Economic Development – Sarah Radtke: Nothing

Zoning – Sarah Radtke: Nothing

Special Hiring – Unassigned: Nothing

Planning Commission – John Ecker:

Regional Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nothing

Old Business: Nothing

New Business:

Trustee Genslinger motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2025-07 – Approving 5th Amendment to DeKalb County Enterprise Zone. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2025-08 – Approving Variance to Zoning. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to Approve IMLRMA annual payment in the amount of \$43,668.43. Trustee Jay 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to adopt WPD Rules and Regulations. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

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Trustee Genslinger motioned to Approve Memo of Understanding with ICSD #425 as amended to remove the village's responsibility to maintain the lime on the fields. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to approve reappointing John Ecker, Shawn Blobaum, Rich George, Kyle Hart, and Jolene Willis to the Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Motioned to Approve Reappointing PC/ZBA Members. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to approve trick or treat hours from 4-8p on October 31. Trustee Wade 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to enter executive session pursuant 5 ILCS 120/2 of the open meetings act to discuss the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) 1 and (C) 11 to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court, administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed session meeting pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11). Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Closed Session – Legal & Personnel

Neveu provided updates on open legal matters. Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to exit executive session. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Adjournment:

Having no further business to conduct, Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Penton, Village Clerk

Approved