

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the
Village of Jerome Board

CALL TO ORDER: The President and the Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at the Jerome Civic Center, 2901 Leonard Street, Jerome, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Lopez, followed by Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:
Mike Lopez, Village President
Kathy DeHart, Trustee Public Health
Leigh Irons, Trustee of Public Safety (via phone @ 6:36pm)
Dale Lael, Trustee of Building & Zoning
Phil Raftis, Trustee of Public Works

Also Present:
Lisa Cave, Village Clerk
Emily Snow, Village Treasurer

Absent:
Katrina Christofilakos, Trustee of Public Property
Ralph Irons, Trustee of Water Department
Steve Roth, Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: President Lopez asked whether the Board had reviewed the February 6, 2025, Meeting Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments. President Lopez asked the February 6, 2025, minutes would stand approved as presented.

Motion to approve the February 6, 2025, Meeting Minutes as presented by:
Trustee Raftis and 2nd by Trustee DeHart

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; including President Lopez

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez asked whether the Board had reviewed the January 16, 2025, Executive Meeting Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments. President Lopez asked the January 16, 2025, executive minutes would stand approved as presented.

Motion to approve the January 16, 2025, Executive Meeting Minutes as
presented by: Trustee DeHart and 2nd by Trustee Lael

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; including President Lopez

MOTION PASSES.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS: President Lopez asked whether the board had reviewed Warrant List 25-19 dated February 20, 2025, totaling \$40,062.31. Treasurer Snow stated the breakdown of the amount that \$14,307.20 will be paid from the General Revenue Fund and \$25,755.11 will be paid from the Water Account. President Lopez asked for a motion to approve Warrant List 25-19 as presented.

Motion to Approve the Warrant List 25-19 totaling \$40,062.31 as presented
by: Trustee Lael and 2nd by Trustee DeHart

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; including President Lopez

MOTION PASSES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: President Lopez opened the Visitors Acknowledgement portion of the meeting at 6:36 pm.

Greg Moore on Alberta stated he has noticed a lot more traffic on Alberta and asked about possible speed humps be installed, similar to Iles Ave.

Dan Williams on Reed wanted to thank Public Works for clearing the roads of the snow this last month.

President Lopez closed the Visitors Acknowledgement portion of the meeting at 6:40 pm.

President Lopez stated Early Voting has started today.

REPORTS:

Trustee DeHart stated Jerome Methodist Church will help with the Easter Egg Hunt, the couch is gone on Iles, and she has reached out to one more property for cleanup. Trustee DeHart stated she was contacted on an easement issue on Reed that backs up to Homewood.

Trustee Raftis had nothing to report.

Trustee Christofilakos was absent.

Trustee Lael stated the Village will need to hold a zoning meeting in the near future regarding 1636 Jerome to change the zoning from R1 to R2. Trustee Lael stated that he tried to catch a tree trimmer that cut a tree down by driving through a neighbor's property and they tore up the yard. He was unable to catch them.

Trustee Leigh Irons had nothing to report.

Trustee Ralph Irons had nothing to report.

Treasurer Snow had nothing to report.

Clerk Cave reminded the Trustees for any dates that need to go into the Bulletin to send them to her as soon as possible.

Attorney Brokaw had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: President Lopez stated that the Animal Ordinance is tabled until the next meeting.

President Lopez stated the discussion and approval of hiring Police Officers is tabled until the next meeting.

President Lopez stated that discussion and approval of Public Works Compensation will be discussed after Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Raftis to go into Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1)); minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act for purposes of approval by the Body (5ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Trustee Leigh Irons seconded the motion.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:56 pm.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:12 pm.

NEW BUSINESS: President Lopez opened discussion of the Ordinance 2025-21 Amending Section 100.6-1d Regarding the Village Water Clerk Position. Attorney Brokaw stated that the current ordinances specify that the Water Clerk position is part time, less than 999 hours not less than \$15.00 per hour. This Ordinance allows the Village to hire full-time or part-time depending on the needs of the Village.

Motion to Approve Ordinance 2025-21 Amending Section 100.6-1d Regarding the Village Water Clerk Position by Trustee DeHart and 2nd by Trustee Leigh Irons

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez opened discussion of the Hiring of Water Clerk/Office Assistant.

Motion to Approve the Hiring of Gloria Sparks for the Water Clerk/Office Assistant pending reference checks and background from 9am to 3 pm Monday through Friday 30 hours a week by Trustee Lael and 2nd by Trustee Raftis

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez opened discussion and approval of Hiring of Jacob Gilbert for the Public Works Laborer Position.

Motion to Approve the Hiring of Jacob Gilbert for the Public Works Laborer Position @ \$23.00 per hour pending background check by Trustee Raftis and 2nd by Trustee DeHart

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez opened discussion and approval of Public Works Compensation.

Motion to Approve Matt Turner's hourly rate to \$23.00 per hour at the start date of the Public Works Laborer Jacob Gilbert by Trustee Raftis and 2nd by Trustee Lael

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez opened discussion of the Jerome Library and Civic Center Events for 2025. President Lopez recommended tabling this discussion until Trustee Christofilakos is here to discuss. President Lopez stated that Trustee Christofilakos wanted to discuss the events with the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, President Lopez asked for a motion to close the meeting at 8:21 pm. Motion was made by Trustee Raftis and 2nd by Trustee Leigh Irons.

PREPARED BY: Lisa Cave, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: March 6, 2025

Village Clerk

Date