

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, March 19, 2026, at the Jerome Civic Center, 2901 Leonard Street, Jerome, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by President Lopez, followed by Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:
Mike Lopez, Village President
Joe Cannella, Trustee of Public Works
Kathy DeHart, Trustee Public Health
Leigh Irons, Trustee of Public Safety
Ralph Irons, Trustee of Water Department
Dale Lael, Trustee of Building & Zoning

Also Present:

Jason Brokaw, Attorney, Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, PC
Emily Snow, Village Treasurer
Lisa Cave, Village Clerk
Steve Roth, Executive Assistant

Absent:

Katrina Christofilakos, Trustee of Public Property

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: President Lopez asked whether the Board had reviewed the March 5, 2026, Meeting Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments. President Lopez asked the March 5, 2026, minutes would stand approved as presented.

Motion to approve the March 5, 2026, Meeting Minutes as presented by:
Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee DeHart
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; Trustee Ralph Irons voted present

MOTION PASSES.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS: President Lopez asked whether the board had reviewed Warrant List 26-22 dated March 19, 2026, totaling \$42,923.23. Treasurer Snow stated the breakdown of the amount of \$14,318.15 will be paid from the General Revenue Fund, \$464.70 will be paid out of the 1% Fund, \$136.00 will be paid out of Road and Bridge, \$852.65 will be paid out of the Cannabis Fund and \$27,151.73 will be paid from the Water Account. President Lopez asked for a motion to approve Warrant List 26-22 as presented.

Motion to Approve the Warrant List 26-22 totaling \$42,923.23 as presented
by: Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee Ralph Irons
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

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

Clerk Cave stated no public comments had been received. The portion of the meeting closed at 6:37 pm.

President Lopez stated that the Bulletin will be going out soon. Clerk Cave stated they are at the printers and soon to be at the post office. President Lopez stated that Chief Houston will be joining him when he is available to the Community Outreach of Macarthur Boulevard meetings the 2nd Thursday of each month.

REPORTS:

Trustee DeHart stated that the Easter Egg Hunt will be on March 29, 2026, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Trustee DeHart stated they could still use some donations of candy and volunteers for that day. Trustee DeHart wanted to thank the Jerome Methodist Church for stuffing the eggs. Trustee DeHart is contacting residents from complaints, on leaves, junk vehicles in driveways on Vernon Ave. Trustee Cannella stated he was on West Grand Court and spoke with the property owners that that is their yard and not the responsibility of Jerome.

Trustee Cannella stated that the Street Sweeper is out and about, and they have begun cleaning up from the winter storms by adding grass seed and straw to various right of ways.

Trustee Christofilakos was absent.

Trustee Lael had nothing to report.

Trustee Leigh Irons stated with the warmer weather please make sure residents lock their doors to the cars, houses and any outbuilding.

Trustee Ralph Irons stated that Public Works has been clearing drains.

Treasurer Snow had nothing to report.

Clerk Cave had nothing to report.

Attorney Brokaw had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: President Lopez asked if there were any questions on Ordinance 26-08 Approving the Tax Increment Redevelopment Plan and Project for the Jerome TIF. President Lopez stated that the ordinances regarding the TIF will be on the agenda in April. President Lopez asked to table until the next meeting.

President Lopez asked if there were any questions on Ordinance 26-09 Designating the Jerome TIF. President Lopez asked to table until the next meeting.

President Lopez asked if there were any questions on Ordinance 26-10 Adopting Tax Increment Financing for the Jerome TIF. President Lopez asked to table until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: President Lopez asked for discussion and approval of Resolution 05-26 Approving & Authorizing Execution and Delivery of an Agreement for Engineering Services with Benton Engineering. Trustee Ralph Irons stated that this agreement would be for water testing. The water service agreement will be for a total of \$1,200.00 per month.

Motion to Approve Resolution 05-26 Approving & Authorizing Execution and Delivery of an Agreement for Engineering Services with Benton Engineering, as presented by: Trustee Ralph Irons and 2nd by Trustee Cannella
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;
MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez asked for discussion and approval of Ordinance 26-20 Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property.

Motion to Ordinance 26-20 Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property, as presented by: Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee Ralph Irons
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;
MOTION PASSES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Leigh Irons 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 DeHart seconded the motion.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:51 pm.
The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:16 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, President Lopez asked for a motion to close the meeting at 7:17 pm. Motion was made by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee Lael.

PREPARED BY: Lisa Cave, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: April 2, 2026

Village Clerk

Date