Village of New Milford – Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Timothy H. Owen

IN ATTENDANCE:

Timothy H. Owens, Deanna Rodgers, Wendy Roop, Ronald Colvin, Eileen Owens, Theresa Merriman, Jim Stevens, Adam Bunge, and Jessica Lang.

Ronald Colvin initiated the motion to accept the evenings agenda, seconded by Eileen Owens. Motion passed.

Chief Scott Schaben addressed the board to introduce new hires to the fire department and their plans to coordinate their October 11th Open House with the Village's movie night. Plans to be determined for additional entertainment and food venders during the event. Chief Schaben also informed the board that the fire department has been restructuring and now has 35 employees on staff.

President Owens brought up parking concerns from the biking event that occurred at Atwood Park on July 19th and 20th, as cars were parked on both sides of the street making it difficult for emergency vehicles to access the park. Organizers of the event did not notify the fire department. Parking for emergency vehicles to be arranged for future events. President Owens presented to the board a list of properties in violation of the Village's vehicle ordinances and animal ordinances. Letters are to be sent to violators and will include copies of the ordinance they are violating, as well as a possible date for a special meeting for specific violations to be discussed. Attorney Stevens will present the formal letters for each type of violation to be sent out at the August board meeting with the intention of them to be distributed by the end of August. President Owens requested from Greg Tucker to remove unutilized playground equipment from Victory Park. Vote to accept the additions to the Village's insurance policy with Railside Insurance tabled until the August board meeting, pending Attorney Stevens review and recommendations. President Owens informed the board that he will not be available for the October 28th Committee meeting and requested that the board move this meeting to Monday October 27th. Confirmation of this change is to be determined. The board was also reminded of the ZBA meeting being held on Thursday, July 24th.

Clerk Jessica Lang informed the board that she has received the new computer for the Village's bookkeeping. ARPA report is in progress to submit. Documents for the Village's yearly audit are also being completed for submission. Ms. Lang also informed the board that the Illinois Municipal Legue, in honor of America's 250th anniversary in 2026, is requesting small items or messages from Illinois municipalities to submit for a time capsule to be opened on July 4, 2076. If the Village wishes to participate, items will need to be submitted by December 31, 2025.

Adam Bunge provided the final recommendation for payment to Stenstrom and the revised invoice for C.E.S. for previously agreed upon amounts to be voted upon at the next board meeting. Mr. Bunge also informed the board that the notice to contractors for the 10th Street overlay will be published on Friday. Recommendations received will be presented at the August board meeting.

Attorney Jim Stevens reviewed with the board the proposed grocery tax ordinance to be voted upon at the August board meeting. Mr. Stevens informed the board that the lease for the solar farm on the 62-acre parcel was signed by President Owens and attested by Clerk Jessica Lang. Mr. Stevens also informed the board that the solar farm on Ryberg has made changes to their size of operation and is being reviewed. These documents will be provided to the board to review once they have completed. Trustee Deanna Rodgers requested suggestions for times to show the movie on October 11th as well as film recommendations. A post will be made on the Village's Facebook page for community recommendations as well.

Trustees Eileen Owens and Theresa Merriman presented their findings of current ordinances in place for Victory Park Pavillion rentals. Further information is being gathered to decide on future pricing for rentals that will cover the costs of the park's maintenance. costs are to be voted on at the August board meeting, with full procedure to be discussed at the August committee meeting.

Ron Colvin informed the board that he is in the progress of setting up the Village's new computer for the town hall sign and Trustee needs.

Wendy Roop requested that the board consider adding a dog waste bag dispenser at Victory Park. She also informed the board that during heavy rains, sand is being swept into the port-a-potty floor, requiring extra cleaning. President Owens volunteered to investigate how to fix this issue.

There being no further business to come before the board, Theresa Merriman initiated the motion to adjourn, seconded by Wendy Roop. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Transcribed 07/23/2025 by Jessica Lang