Village of Versailles

Last month’s meeting minutes

Held May 5, 2025 @ 6:30

*This meeting is being held on June 2nd, 2025*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Board Members Absent: Bob Howard, Trustee

Employees Present:; Charlotte Hannig, Treasurer; Chrissy Ruble, Village Clerk, Brian Gossage

Guests: Liann Bauch, Brisyn Hohenbery, Mark Sides, Bill Koch & wife, Andrea Fink and family, Jared Pruden, Megan Pruden, Justin Oliver, Attr. Dustin Clark, Donald Jackson, Sandy Fry

Virtual Guests:

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM. Dave Newell led the Pledge of Allegiance with the rest of the Board. The following board members were sworn in to take office:

* Jacob Fink – Mayor
* Chrissy Ruble – Clerk
* Jared Pruden – Trustee, 4 yr
* Lauren Vinlove – Trustee, 4 yr
* Molly Lenover – Trustee, 4 yr
* Greg DeWitt – Trustee, 2 yr

Roll Call was given with 6 Trustees present.

Communication to the Board:

Suzy Parn with the Versailles Growth Committee wanted to thank past and present board members for their work and shared cupcakes and gift cards.

Approval of Minutes:

L. Vinlove made a motion to approve minutes (as amended) and special meeting minutes. J. Pruden 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

Corrections: The IT tech’s name is Brandon Gallaher, rather than Brian as listed in the minutes.

Treasurer’s Report: Charlotte shared her reports. J. Pruden made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report as presented. M. Lenover 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

Corrections:

Clerk’s Presentation of Bills Paid:

L. Vinlove made the motion to pay bills. E. Cooley 2nd the motion. 6 y & 0 n.

Corrections:

Committee Reports:

Finance – D. Hoelscher and L. Vinlove joined as Committee Chairs. J. Fink discussed the sewer and surcharge, but wanted to wait to discuss it more until Ali Taylor was in the office to advise further. They shared the estimates on the transfers and how they reached the number by multiplying by the number of accounts. Charlotte advised that Surcharge does not change unless someone in town moves and that Sewer does fluctuate each month.

Police – Nothing

Streets and Alleys – J. Fink discussed with Brad Smith and he shared that IDOT will not be replacing Route 99 this year although no letter has been received confirming.

Water and Sewer – J. Pruden shared that he would get with the Water workers to get caught up to speed. Brian shared that they are working on new readers and software that will allow them to read without even leaving the shed. MuniLink was ran last week with a few hiccups, but should be ironed out by next run.

Ordinances, Public Service and Ordinances – Nothing

Cemetery - Nothing

Parks and Recreation – L. Vinlove asked about funds being moved with a grant. D. Hoelscher stated it was a repayment. J. Fink guessed that Amanda had closed out the Dot pool grant. J. Fink shared that he was still working on the walkway between the pavilion and a gate. L. Vinlove asked about the electrical at the pool. J. Fink shared that some small plumbing fixes were also needed.

Building and Grounds – L. Vinlove made a motion to add Equipment on to the Building & Grounds committee. J. Pruden 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n. Brian shared that the village is in need of a four-wheel drive vehicle to get out to the wells.

Personnel – Billy Parn was hired on a 6-month probationary period and started on 4-28-2025. J. Fink shared that he wanted to get all employees’ job descriptions. Fink asked about seasonal workers and rehiring them. The village is going to talk to the Frys and see if they were still interested in mowing. J. Pruden made a motion to put an ad in the paper for part time work, conditional on the Frys’ response. L. Vinlove 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

OLD BUSINESS:

* City cleanup: All three dumpsters were hauled off on the morning of 5/5/2025. Some residents complained about not
* The Community Foundation grant for new pea gravel at the parks was submitted last month.
* Attr. Dustin Clark shared that he wrote up the agreement and is working to finalize soon. The agreement clarifies that the village has some sort of indemnification if something were to go wrong.
* Bill Koch asked if he could use the park on August 16th for his retirement party. They are having a band and it would be open to the public. J. Pruden ensured that there would be no alcohol. The board approved and shared that the park was first-come first-serve, but would put up a Reserved sign that night prior.
* The Dot Charitable Committee application

J. Fink suggested we decline the $2,500 offer and pursue some other ideas to possibly get a better award. J. Pruden shared that he had been looking into replacing the concrete on the basketball court and had received a few bids. The next application review cycle will be in about four weeks. J. Pruden made a motion to turn down the original grant application in favor of going after bigger amounts. G. DeWitt 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0n.

NEW BUSINESS:

* C. Ruble reminded board members to turn in their Statement of Economic Interest this meeting.
* S. Fry urged the board to the village to abandon the alley and allow the neighborhood to maintain by splitting the alleyway in half and giving each to the landowners. Attr. Dustin Clark shared that the process would be very involved to complete and urged the Sidewalks and Alleys committee to investigate it. The board tabled the decision to give time to look at the alley. Sandy shared that they had laid 10 ton of gravel because they owned half of the alley and the other half was blocked.
* Library demolition: Chuck Northcutt shared that it would be a bit before VFD could come in and do a controlled burn to clean it up. Brian suggested getting a dumpster to clean up the mess.
* Sale of Retired Police Car: The Versailles Fire Department is interested in the new vehicle for quick response. Brian shared that the battery dies often, possibly due to the police equipment being in it. J. Oliver suggested a switch.
* New auditor search: The company is no longer offering services, so the village needs to find a new auditor. J. Fink suggested the committees follow what Mount Sterling does. J. Fink will call Zumbahlen to see if they have a recommendation for the appropriation ordinance.
* Committees: J. Fink shared that he wants to have regular committee meetings so that business can be conducted more smoothly while at board meetings. This information will be posted in three spots in town at least three working days prior to the meeting.
* D. Clark shared that Illinois law states if the water is being kept off due to request of landlord, that is not sufficient. The water can be turned on ONCE the deposit has been paid, as well as the outstanding amount. The village cannot deny turning on the water once those items have been met. J. Oliver shared that he would investigate further.
* G. DeWitt asked about ordinance violations. D. Clark stated that any violation could be processed without the necessity of warning letters. J. Oliver shared that a dog that was put down was in fact not. Jackson was told to write a complaint, and that Oliver would cite them for the dog loose.
* Donald Jackson also brought up some tall grass on 306 N Chestnut.
* J. Fink suggested that the village switch to a cellular phone instead of the landline phone to limit issues with signing in to two-way authentication on websites. J. Fink suggested going with a Verizon smartphone and transferring the phone number. G. DeWitt made the motion. L. Vinlove 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

L. Vinlove made the motion to adjourn at 8:21pm.