

## MALVERN VILLAGE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 21, 2026

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Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor DeLong, Burgess, McCort, Hubbard, Wackerly, Holmes, and Wadsworth were in attendance. Kaltenbaugh and Neading were also in attendance with Murdock attending via Zoom.

Motion by Holmes, second by Burgess to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 5, 2026. All council members approved.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

### **LEGISLATURE:**

**PARK:** Hubbard asked if there was any information regarding the “turfing” incident that occurred in the park. It was discussed that there is no information. Wackerly did speak with the coaches and they spoke with the students and said they would keep a watch.

**FISCAL OFFICER/TAX DEPARTMENT:** Neading provided council with the RITA, Fund Status, Payments and Receipts as of 1/21/2026. She also reported that 1099-NEC information was submitted to the IRS. She discussed that the Census Report of Building or Zoning Permits Issued for New Privately-Owned Housing Units and reported that it was submitted. Neading included the 2025 Credit Card Usage Report. She also noted that she reviewed the EPA Brownfield Grant information. She explained that the deadline is in November and the Village would have to have fully engineered plans. Kaltenbaugh added that they would need to be completed by a firm such as Engineering Associates and would be expensive.

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:** Kaltenbaugh reported that the Service Department has been working on patching holes with cold patch, as weather permits, and they have been keeping up with plowing as needed. There is an issue with the salt spreader/auger that is being fixed by Cross Equipment. He discussed that Morges Road has a lot of holes and he has instructed the service department to get them patched. He also discussed that the trees have all been removed from the canals and stumps will need to be ground in the spring. He contacted EOG regarding the waterline extension loan, they were going to get back to him. He also tried to reach out to Advanced Power, but did not speak with anyone. He discussed that OMEGA recently had a meeting and the parking lot and walking track in the park were discussed. He also noted that the Muskingum Watershed would be having a grant opportunity that could be used for the walking track.

Burgess made a motion to enter into executive session for the purchase of Real Property, second by Holmes. All council members approved. Council, Mayor DeLong, Kaltenbaugh, Murdock, and Neading entered into executive session at 7:06. The meeting resumed at 7:25, and no further action was taken.

Kaltenbaugh discussed equipment upgrades for 2026. He provided a quote from Lincoln Way Trailer for a 20-foot trailer, that would allow for the transportation of the mini-excavator and mowers. The cost is \$7,900.00. Burgess made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the 20-foot equipment trailer from Lincoln Way Trailer not to exceed \$8,000.00, second by Holmes. All council members approved. He further discussed pricing for a new loader from Case, which would be approximately \$94,000 and a backhoe which would be \$140,000. He noted that a skid steer

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would be approximately \$50,000, but would not be able to lift high enough to fill the trucks with salt. He recommended the Village consider purchasing the loader and various attachments for the equipment. Council had concerns with not having a backhoe for waterline repairs. It will be further discussed at the next meeting. Kaltenbaugh also noted that we need to start selling old equipment, such as the old water truck, the old dump truck and old backhoe on govdeal.com.

McCort asked if the USDA still did equipment funding and grants for equipment. Kaltenbaugh will reach out to the USDA and explore options.

**MAYOR:** Mayor DeLong discussed the street lights. He explained that Foster reports any lights that are out, but they do not provide a time frame for repairs. McCort discussed that he called AEP and the Village does not have an assigned representative. They explained that pole numbers and a nearby address should be submitted and a work order will be created. McCort offered to go through town after dark and mark poles with caution tape for any lights that are not working, and then the Service Department could get pole numbers and addresses during working hours.

It was also discussed that there are holes on the bridge on Morges Road. Kaltenbaugh explained that the County is working on a solution for the bridge.

DeLong asked Kaltenbaugh if the well and pump at the Water Plant had been repaired. Kaltenbaugh explained that the well was cleaned and the necessary repairs were made to the pump.

DeLong discussed looking into replacing the salt spreader that is having issues with a new salt box after this season. He also noted that the plow blade will need replaced.

**COUNCIL:** Holmes discussed that the Ordinance Committee met prior to the council meeting to discuss the handbook and address unpaid time off to help with the current absenteeism issues. Holmes made a motion to amend the employee handbook to clarify that paid vacation, personal days, sick time, or comp time must be used prior to taking unpaid leave, second by Burgess. All council members approved.

Hubbard discussed the possibility of having a more detailed report from the Service Department on the work they are completing. She has been asked by community members on what is being done week to week and she is unable to provide details. Hubbard also reported that she attended the most recent Fire Board Meeting. There had been 12 incidents since the last meeting. They anticipate starting work on the new station (former Colfor Building), which will be completed in phases. They anticipate having more information at the next meeting. She further discussed the recycling station and explained that the pole in question is actually a Frontier pole and they are now waiting for Frontier to address the concerns.

McCort discussed the lights on the bridge. He noted that the county had approved the light fixtures when they were purchased and had selected them based on the fixture type and function. He asked if they had a solution as to why the lights are now not working properly. Kaltenbaugh explained that the bridge was checked several times by the County and deemed to be in proper working order. He also asked about the CDBG Grant through the Commissioners Office and asked Council to think of a project they would like to see completed for the Village. He

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asked if the Service Department was prepared for the possible storm coming over the weekend. Kaltenbaugh ensured that they will be prepared.

Wadsworth discussed the idea of potentially applying for a grant for an LED sign for in the park to advertise events.

**FINANCE:** Motion by Burgess, second by Hubbard to pay the village bills from the appropriate funds for: \$40,466.04 approved by the Finance Committee 1/21/26. Also, bi-weekly payroll of \$6,302.09 paid 1/15/26 and \$12,540.00 in monthly payrolls paid on 1/30/26. All council members approved.

**QUESTIONS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Wackerly, second by Holmes to adjourn. All council members approved.

**Next regular council meeting will be Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Malvern Village Hall.**

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Mayor

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Fiscal Officer