

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAURENS
March 4, 2025
REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Acting Mayor Kovacs

Present: Acting Mayor Frank Kovacs, Trustee Tom Halstead, Trustee Jonathan Heelein, Trustee Justin Hughes, Trustee Lois VanAlstine, Water Superintendent Dale Bullock, Assistant Water Superintendent Jarrett Hotaling, Clerk Erica LaBuz

Other:

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: The February minutes were accepted as presented with a motion by Trustee VanAlstine, seconded by Trustee Halstead.

Financial Reports: The January financial report was reviewed.

Motion to approve the financial report and Abstract #10 for payment was made by Trustee VanAlstine, seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 5-0

Proposed 2025-26 Budget: Mayor Kovacs reviewed the proposed 2025-26 budget.

For the Water Fund, there was discussion about the stipends for the water superintendent and the assistant water superintendent. Dale Bullock will be stepping down from that position and will become the assistant. Jarrett Hotaling will become the water superintendent on June 1, 2025. The initial proposal for this change was high and was lowered to \$9,000.00 for the superintendent and \$6,000.00 for the assistant. The two positions rely on each other and it was felt that those amounts were too low. The budget was modified to \$9,600.00 for the superintendent and \$8,400.00 per month for the assistant.

In the General Fund, \$8,435.91 is from fund balance. This is due to the CHIPS funds that will be received in the current fiscal year will be applied to sidewalk replacement in 25-26. The budget for sidewalk replacement is \$7,000.00. Funding for a deputy clerk was added so the funds are available in the event that the Village Clerk retires. Trustee Heelein made a motion to approve the modified tentative 2025-26 budget. Seconded by Trustee VanAlstine. Approved 5-0.

Trustee Halstead made a motion to set the public hearing for the 2025-26 budget for April 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM. Seconded by Trustee VanAlstine. Approved 5-0

Water Report – Water superintendent Dale Bullock gave his report. The Village used 474,000 gallons of water in February. Nitrate testing will be done soon. Meter reads will be on March 14th.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kovacs will contact the Job Corps regarding sidewalk work this summer.

Committee Reports

Parks, Property & Sidewalks –

Community Engagement – The Easter Hunt will be on April 19th at the Mt. Vision Garden Center. The sponsors are Laurens Together and the Mt. Vision Garden Center. The arts grant application for the concerts has been submitted. Into the Streets will be on May 3. One of the projects will be to remove the grass in between the stones at the park.

Correspondence

Public Comment

Adjournment: The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica LaBuz
Village Clerk