

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:**

Gina Shurtz  
VILLAGE CLERK

Chris Scroggins  
VILLAGE TREASURER

Rodney Potts, PSC Engineers  
VILLAGE ENGINEERS

Jonathan R. Cantrell  
VILLAGE ATTORNEY

**Village of Valier**

400 East Main Street – PO Box C  
Valier, Illinois 62891  
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cityofvalier@outlook.com

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

George Dudzinski  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Kelly J. Bate  
Rob Blondi  
William Gale Burzynski  
Marshall Johnson  
Jeff Spiller  
William Dwayne Whittington

June 22, 2026

The regular monthly board meeting was held on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 6:30pm in the ballroom at the village hall. Village president, George Dudzinski called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

The village president asked trustee Gale Burzynski to give an invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by the public body.

Roll Call was as follows: Kelly Bate, present; Rob Blondi, present; Gale Burzynski, present; Marshall Johnson, present; Jeff Spiller, present, Dwayne Whittington, present and George Dudzinski, Village President present. Other village employees present were the village treasurer, Chris Scroggins.

Rob Blondi made a motion to approve May 26, 2026 regular board meeting minutes and executive meeting minutes. Jeff Spiller seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

Chris Scroggins presented the financial reports as of May 31, 2026. He also presented the claims report of bills from May 27 to June 21, 2026. A motion was made by Kelly Bate to accept the reports and pay the claims. Rob Blondi seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

Village president, George Dudzinski presented correspondence from RMA insurance. The village has a personal injury claim they have received and a response has been sent on the matter. George will provide updates on the case as he gets them.

George has been in contact with Liz Lively regarding a \$50,000 grant on energy transition, as well as looking into sidewalk grants that will be opening for application in July up to years. George is also seeking bids for work on the fire department building. He had a quote from Mike Williams that is from February 2025 and asked for a new quote from him. He has yet to receive one.

George mentioned the breakfast held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and the speaker, Pat Padgett from Paris, Illinois. He wished to express his gratitude to him for taking his time and traveling to share his story about bringing lettuce seeds from Italy from over 60 years ago.

Under committee reports, Jeff Spiller reported on behalf of the fire department. They had 2 calls: 1 auto aid to Sesser and 1 out-of-town field fire.

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George reported on projects for the water/sewer department. He stated that they were able to repair a service line out in the Valier Patch and half of the motor fuel tax project was done.

Under street/alley, George reported that he was ordering 4 more stop signs to complete that project. George also mentioned that one of the air conditioning units needs to be repaired or replaced at city hall since it is over 20 years old. He will be seeking bids on it.

Derek Parvin presented an ordinance violation report. He had 9 notices/citations/communications with residents on violations. He also mentioned that he had a conversation with 2 other property owners regarding violations.

No other committee reports were presented at this time. Gale Burzynski made a motion to accept the committee's reports. Dwayne Whittington seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

Under old business, George presented a contract for a deputy policeman from the Franklin County Sheriff's department. This would be shared with 3 other municipalities: Coello/North City, Buckner, and Orient. All costs incurred would be shared equally; 25% to each municipality. If a municipality terminated the contract within the first 90 days, the other municipalities would have to incur those costs equally. The contract was for a 3-year term, and several board members voiced that they wanted a contract period for 1 year and then renegotiated after that 1 year. They did not want to commit to the 3-year contract. Kelly Bate asked if George had ever advertised for a police officer. He stated he had advertised it on the village website. Marshall Johnson and her felt it should have been advertised on other social media platforms as well. George stated that due to the Safety Act, small municipalities like ours can't afford to maintain a police department. He felt this contract was the most economical plan for the village, and he reminded the board that they voted to move forward with it at the last meeting. George said he would have the contract rewritten for the 1-year term and presented at the next meeting.

Under new business, George was going to present a proposal to give the Franklin County Sheriff's office the current police car and equipment to pay for the first year of services presented in the Franklin County police contract. Some of the board members voiced opposition to doing this. George stated that we would wait to get the contract in order first before we considered the police car and equipment so this was tabled.

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Next on the agenda was purchasing baby changing stations for the 2 restrooms at the village hall. George presented 3 quotes: Amazon for \$106.69 each, Lowes for \$191.74 each, and Grainger for \$249.36 each. George recommended that the village should hire a licensed contractor to professionally install them with liability insurance. Marshall Johnson made a motion to purchase 2 from Amazon and have a licensed contractor install them. Rob Blondi seconded the motion. Motion carried, All yeas. George said he would get quotes on a contractor and present them at a future meeting.

George recommended that the city hall and the fire department have a regular cleaning service. He stated he would seek bids if the board agreed. The board told him to proceed with getting quotes and bring them to the next meeting to review.

Next topic discussed was occupants living in campers/motor homes on residential property in the village. Derek Parvin mentioned that there was nothing in the new codebook that addresses this issue. Kelly Bate stated there was an ordinance in the old code book regarding this, but the village clerk stated she could not find anything regarding this topic. After discussion, Rob Blondi stated he would investigate it and report back at the next meeting on what he finds out.

At this time, George read a resignation letter from Mike Guley as fire chief for the village effective June 30, 2026. Mike has dedicated 42 years of service to the Valier Fire Department, with 18 serving as fire chief. His recommendation was for Joseph Burgess to succeed him as fire chief. Kelly Bate made a motion to accept this recommendation. Marshall Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

The last item under new business was to discuss no parking in this block signs and no truck signs in the 300 block of East Main Street. Rebecca McKinnes spoke on this as a resident that owns the property in that block on the south side of the street. She would like to use the lots she owns for commercial use and feels she is being discriminated against. She asked the board to consider removing the signs. Kelly Bate stated she was told that the signs were there because the city hall parking area is used for Life Flight emergencies. Emergency services had requested the signs be put up to keep people from parking there when they are landing the Life Flight helicopter and transporting patients to the helicopter. It was also stated that the lots in question were rezoned residential according to the zoning map. This topic was tabled until more research and information could be obtained.

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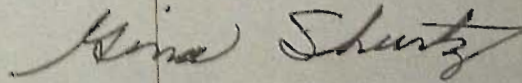
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George presented a mayor's report discussing transparency and accuracy. He mentioned several projects in his first year of service as the village president and work that the village was responsible in getting done throughout the year.

Under public comments, Rebecca McKinnes from the Community Action Committee (CAC) presented a report on the Friday food truck attendance: 1<sup>st</sup> one – 70, 2<sup>nd</sup> one – 48, 3<sup>rd</sup> one 64 and 4<sup>th</sup> one -76. The monthly breakfast attendance was as follows: April – 81, May – 73, and June – 44. She felt June was attended poorly due to the Sesser Homecoming. They are planning more food truck Friday events and a farmers' market. The Fall Festival has been scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Jeff Spiller made a motion to adjourn. Rob Blondi seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.



Gina Shurtz, Village Clerk