

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
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PHONE: 618-/724-9393 FAX: 618/724-7241
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

May 26, 2026

The regular monthly board meeting was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 6:30pm in the ballroom at the village hall. Village president, George Dudzinski called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

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, absent; Rob Blondi, present; Gale Burzynski, present; Marshall Johnson, absent; Jeff Spiller, present, Dwayne Whittington, present and George Dudzinski, Village President present. Other village employees present were code enforcement officer, Derek Parvin and village treasurer, Chris Scroggins arrived late at 6:50 pm.

Jeff Spiller made a motion to approve April 27, 2026 regular board meeting minutes. Second was given by Rob Blondi. Motion carried. All yeas.

Village president, George Dudzinski presented a mayor's report. He stated the fire department has a recall on a vehicle and he will need to investigate it further to see which one it is. The village is developing a list of projects for IDOC to come in and work on in the next several months. George has a meeting scheduled for May 28th to look at grants for the village. He has ordered 4 more stop signs for that project.

Under committee reports, Jeff Spiller reported on behalf of the fire department. They had 3 calls: 1 auto aid to Sesser and 2 medical emergencies.

George reported for the water/sewer department that he ordered a couple pipe pullers from Amazon to use on upcoming projects on Katherine Street.

Derek Parvin presented an ordinance violation report. He had 8 conversations/communications with residents on violations. He also had conversations with Verizon (Frontier Communications) on peddler passes. He instructed them that they need to obtain a peddler pass every time they visit Valier.

No other committee reports were presented at this time. Jeff Spiller made a motion to accept the committee reports. Gale Burzynski seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

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Under old business, George reported that we need to amend the current water/sewer rate ordinance to correct the water bill flat rate up to 1,000 gallons from \$23.07 to \$23.08 and the sewer rate up to the first 1,000 gallons from \$23.07 to \$23.08. The basic sewer rate for each 1,000 gallons should be corrected from \$3.46 to \$3.47. This will be corrected in Section 171.01 Water and Sewage Rates with Ordinance 26-472. This correction was needed due to the LOCIS computer software program's rounding policy. Gale Burzynski made a motion to amend the current ordinance with these corrections. Dwayne Whittington seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

Geroge stated that the village needs to do something about past due water/sewer bills not being paid. Currently, we allow customers to pay a \$50.00 reconnect fee, but they are not making payments to pay down their past due bills. He would like to add to our current ordinance that they will have to set up a payment arrangement on past due bills before we restore service. This will be added to Section 51.29 Reinstatement of Service with Ordinance 26-473. Dwayne Whittington made a motion to add this section to our current ordinance. Gale Burzynski seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas.

Next on the agenda was to discuss whether the village wanted to contribute any funds to the housing rehab grant. Geroge stated the village submitted 28 applications and it is his understanding that they pick about 1 out of 3. He said that would mean only about 8 applications would be approved at the most. After much discussion, no action was made to do anything on this topic, so it became a dead topic.

Derek Parvin presented a copy of an ordinance that the City of Christopher had recently adopted on the nuisance of garbage and debris removal. This would require sending a notice to the owner/resident to remove it within 14 days, and a hearing scheduled to attend. If they do not attend the hearing or remove the nuisance, a voluntary agreement would have to be signed by the owner/resident for the village to remove, otherwise an administrative warrant would need to be obtained by a judge to remove the nuisance. After some discussion, Jeff Spiller made a motion for the village to adopt this ordinance. Rob Blondi seconded the motion. The motion carried. All yeas. This will be Ordinance 26-474.

At this time, Chris Scroggins presented the financial reports through April 30, 2026. He also presented the claims report of bills from April 28 to May 26, 2026. A motion was made by Rob Blondi to accept the reports and pay the claims. Second was given by Dwayne Whittington. Motion carried. All yeas.

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The last item under old business was to discuss a police contract for the village. George presented some demographics on crime in 2025 for Valier. The village had an average crime cost of \$916 per household in 2025 and a B grade which indicates the crime rate is slightly lower than the average city. Valier rates in the 64TH percentile for safety. He has been in contact with Kyle Bacon, the Franklin County Sheriff and 3 other municipalities' mayors to propose a police contract for the Village of Valier and the following municipalities: Coello/North City, Buckner and Orient. They are all onboard to sign the contract. Orient will be voting on this contract on Tuesday, May 27th and the other 2 have already approved it with their boards. The Orient mayor, Jan Segato, said a few words about this contract. He felt it was a good idea for all to gain police protection at a reasonable cost and curtail crime among the communities that often is committed by the same offenders. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office would hire a deputy to only patrol these municipalities for 40 hours a week. A 1-year contract cost per municipality is \$19,355.68, a 2-year contract is \$21,086.94 and a 3-year contract is \$21,762.48. George said he reached out to a few other communities about a police contract, and the cost was going to be significantly more with them. After much discussion, Jeff Spiller made a motion for the village to move forward with this proposed contract. Gale Burzynski seconded the motion. The motion carried. All yeas.

Under new business, George stated the city workers needed an air compressor in the maintenance building. They had been using their own for the village and George stated he did not think they should use their own tools from home. He got their recommendation on what they needed and presented a quote of \$1,823.99 for a Dewalt 80-gallon Ion 2-Stage Air Compressor and a Quincy QT-5 80-gallon Pro Air Compressor at a cost of \$2,000. He stated the city workers would prefer the Quincy air compressor. Gale Burzynski made a motion to approve the purchase of the Quincy air compressor. Rob Blondi seconded the motion. Motion carried. All yeas,

Next on the agenda was discussing the sale of village property. George stated he would like to sell some personal property and a lot on 309 W. Kelso that the village owns. He will need to make an inventory list of the personal property to sell. He would like the board to sell the lot on Kelso St, as we continually lose money on mowing it and it has no real use to the village, Gale Burzynski made a motion to sell the lot. Jeff Spiller seconded the motion. Motion carried, All yeas.

There was no public comment presented.