

Village of Fall Creek
Minutes for Regular Village Board Meeting
February 10, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 p.m., Village Hall Meeting Room, 122 E Lincoln Ave., Fall Creek
2. **Roll Call:** Members Present: Village President Tim Raap, Trustees Ryan Aylesworth, Bryan Kaatz, Josiah Kleven, Matt Mattoon, Curt Strasburg. Members Absent: Karen Herbison. Staff Present: Village Administrator/Public Works Director Jared McKee, Clerk/Treasurer Renee Roemhild. Also Present: 3 citizens.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Certify Open Meeting Law Requirements Have Been Met:** A notice of the meeting including the agenda was posted at the three public places and local newspapers were notified.
5. **Adopt Agenda:**
 - MOTION (Strasburg/Kaatz) to adopt the agenda. PASSED, without negative vote.
6. **Recognition of Visitors/Citizen Input/Correspondence:**
 - Vern Ming, 133 E Randall, gave his views regarding what he thought the speed limits on various roads in the Village should be.
 - Correspondence was read from Karen Strasburg regarding promoting Fall Creek by using our new pickleball courts to participate in the first-ever Wisconsin Professional Pickleball Challenger Tournament to be held July 24-27, 2025 in areas around the Chippewa Valley.
7. **Approval of Minutes**
 - MOTION (Aylesworth/Kaatz) to approve the 1/13/25 Regular Village Board & 2/4/25 Plan Commission meeting minutes. PASSED, without negative vote.
8. **Financial Report**
 - A. **2024 Year-End Review:** Administrator Jared McKee gave an extensive review of the 2024 year-end financials, stating there could be some changes because the audit is not quite complete. Items highlighted included:
 - General Fund:**
 - Revenue:** Generally, we received revenues as expected along with having higher interest earnings than budgeted.
 - Expenses:** Overall, we did a good job of staying under budget in most categories.
 - Special Revenue Funds:**
 - FC Library:** Generally, the standard budgeted items stayed within budget. Due to receiving additional donation revenue, extra items were purchased as the designated by the donors.
 - Inland Lake:** The fund ended the year as expected being able to increase its fund balance by approximately \$10,000. This will be used for future capital needs.
 - Debt Service:** The fund ended the year as expected.
 - Capital Projects:**
 - Capital Projects Fund (CPF):** Revenues were higher due to the recording of the ARPA money and the DNR grant funds, as well as expenses higher due to the park improvements.
 - Capital Equipment/Repairs Fund:** Both a police squad and public works truck were purchased in 2024.
 - Tax Increment Districts:** TID #1: 2024 is the last debt payment for TID #1. The district will close once it has recovered funds. TID#2: The construction of the road and utility extension is complete; we are still waiting for an invoice for the streetlights.
 - Library/Village Center Fund:** This is a new fund to keep the project funds separate from our regular accounting records.

Enterprise Funds:

Water Fund: The utility ended the year in a positive position.

Sewer Fund: The utility ended the year in a negative position. Hence, the rate increase that went into effect on January 1 was needed.

Garbage Fund: The fund basically broke even.

McKee reviewed the Village's cash position in detail, both at year-end 2024 and current, while relating it to the Village's cash management resolutions.

- MOTION (Mattoon/Aylesworth) to approve the 12/31/24 Budget Comparison Report. Roll call vote: Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes, Kaatz-yes. PASSED.

B. Monthly Review:

- MOTION (Mattoon/Kleven) to approve the 1/31/25 Budget Comparison Report. Roll call vote: Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes. PASSED.

9. Approval of Bills:

- MOTION (Aylesworth/Kaatz) to accept the Invoice Listing and Payroll Pay Summary Reports of 1/14/25-2/10/25, including the invoice from Fund 450 for Lien & Peterson. Roll call vote: Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes. PASSED.

10. Report of Village Administrator: Administrator Jared McKee gave his monthly report highlighting the duties accomplished by each department since the last regular board meeting.

11. Committee Reports: None.

12. Unfinished Business: None.

13. New Business

A. Request of Village of Fall Creek to Rezone Part of Parcel #127-1044-10-050 from Urban Transitional District (UTD) to Twin-Home District (R2-TH) and Single Family Residential Higher Population Density District (R1A): President Tim Raap stated the Village still owns this land, so we are the requestor. At the January regular board meeting, the Board approved the real estate purchase agreement & developer's agreement with CMJM Properties LLC for turning this parcel of land into a residential development. Raap reported the Plan Commission recommended approval of the zoning request.

- MOTION (Aylesworth/Kaatz) to approve the rezoning for the above parcels from UT to R2-TH & R1A as shown in the application. Roll call vote: Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes, Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes. PASSED.

B. Inland Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Quarterly Discussion: McKee reported the application for the Eau Claire funding typically comes out in March. We haven't seen it yet but will bring it before the board when it becomes available. We could be seeking funding to assist in either dredging the pond or purchasing land to create another sediment trap upstream.

C. Discussion on Lift Station West of Fall Creek Pond: Much discussion took place on whether this was the appropriate time to put in a lift station west of the pond. McKee stated we've talked about doing this for a long time and we know it will be necessary for any development on that side of the Village. The reason for discussing it now is the upcoming construction of the library. As the library/village center project currently has a budget of approximately \$45,000 - 50,000 for construction of a sewer drain field, would it be better to spend those funds for a proportionate share in the cost of a lift station? Raap stated we have been hearing that contractors are hungry right now and bid prices are coming in low; we know construction costs only increase over time. We could spend the funds to have the engineer prepare the bid

documents, go out for bid, and see if we get good bid prices. The engineer design process would be straightforward so if the bid prices came in too high, we would be able to decide this is not the best time to do the project, and the engineering plans should be able to be used later.

- MOTION (Aylesworth/Mattoon) giving Administrator McKee the authority to seek engineering services at a cost of approximately \$42,000 or less so we will be able to go out for bid. McKee asked for clarification that he would try to go with our Village engineer, Ayres & Associates, but would seek other firms if he felt the prices were not in line. The Board concurred. Roll call vote: Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes, Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes. PASSED.

D. Resolution re: Lowering Speed Limit on CTH K:

- MOTION (Aylesworth/Strasburg) to approve RESOLUTION #2025-0210A requesting the Eau Claire County Highway Department and the Eau Claire County Board approve the following adjustment to the speed limit on CTH “K”:
 - a decrease in the speed limit on CTH “K” from the Village’s southern corporate limits to the intersection of Randall Road from 55 mph to 35 mph, and
 - a decrease in the speed limit on CTH “K” from the intersection of Randall Road to the intersection of Tyler Avenue from 35 mph to 25 mph.

Roll call vote: Aylesworth-yes, Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes. PASSED.

E. Resolution re: Lowering Speed Limit on Hwy 12:

- MOTION (Aylesworth/Kaatz) to approve RESOLUTION #2025-0210B requesting the Wisconsin Department of Transportation approve the following adjustment to the speed limit on HWY 12:
 - a decrease in the speed limit on HWY 12 from the intersection with Water Tower Road to the driveway approximately 800' west of the Fall Creek Mill Pond bridge from 55 mph to 35 mph, and
 - a decrease in the speed limit on HWY 12 from that driveway to the Fall Creek Mill Pond bridge from 35 mph to 30 mph or lower.

Roll call vote: Kaatz-yes, Kleven-yes, Mattoon-yes, Raap-yes, Strasburg-yes, Aylesworth-yes. PASSED.

14. Committee Recommendations: None.

15. Possible Assignment to Committee: None.

16. Adjournment: @ 8:15 p.m.

Renee Roemhild, Clerk/Treasurer