

VILLAGE OF MARYVILLE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2025
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

6:30 PM Call to Order

Mayor White called the Caucus meeting of Wednesday, July 30th, 2025 to order.

6:30 PM Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Henry opened the meeting with prayer. Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

6:31 PM Roll Call

Trustees Present: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gulledge, Kukla.

Also in attendance were Clerk Henry, Deputy Clerk Warner, Attorney Genovese, Administrator Flannery, Building & Zoning Administrator Fulton, Streets Superintendent Keplar, Fire Chief Dankenbring, Police Chief Manley and 4 guests.

6:31 PM Public Comments

Jaremy Smith addressed the Board, informing them that he, along with his wife and father-in-law purchased Plan, Shop, Live, LLC. He announced their plans to open a new establishment, named Betty Lou's Table and Lucky Liberty where they will serve barbecue. Mr. Smith also shared information about his involvement with a veterans' nonprofit organization.

6:39 PM Minutes – July 9, 2025

Mayor White called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2025 Caucus meeting.

Motion to Approve, Moved by Bell, Seconded by Vallino.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gulledge, Kukla.

6:40 PM Request Approval to send Probationary Firefighter to SWIC Fire Academy – Dankenbring

Chief Dankenbring requested approval to enroll a probationary firefighter in SWIC's Fire Academy, scheduled for August. He explained that attendance at the academy allows participants to earn college credit toward a degree in firefighting.

Trustee Gulledge asked if there were any guarantees the firefighter would remain with the Fire Department after completing the program.

Chief Dankenbring responded that recruits are required to sign a Firefighting Training Agreement prior to enrolling, which commits them to remain with the Fire Department for two years or reimburse the Village on a prorated basis.

Chief Dankenbring also mentioned that the academy requires participants to stay on campus during training.

All were ok to place on agenda for approval at next Board meeting.

6:43 PM Request Approval to Purchase Stryker Equipment for the New Ambulance – Dankenbring

Chief Dankenbring informed the Board that the new ambulance would not arrive until February 2026. He requested approval to order the necessary equipment now in order to remain within budget and avoid anticipated price increases. He noted that delivery can be delayed on equipment, which would in turn delay the payment terms.

Trustee Gulledge asked whether the Village would retain all three ambulances once the new one arrives and if we were within budget.

Chief Dankenbring explained that his plan is to place the Chevrolet ambulance in reserve status. He also advised this was all budgeted. He noted that a grant from DCEO was secured to cover the cost of the new ambulance.

Board was in agreement to place on agenda for next Board meeting for approval.

6:46 PM Building & Zoning Assistant – Fulton

Administrator Fulton announced that an offer for the Building and Zoning Assistant position was extended and accepted. The selected candidate, Jamie Delisle, is scheduled to begin employment on August 11, 2025. He noted that the Village received 8 or 9 applications for the position, and 4 candidates were interviewed.

All were ok to place on agenda for approval at next Board meeting.

Trustee Clark inquired whether the marquee was functioning.

Mayor White recommended bringing in an outside contractor to look at it, noting the sign is used to display many upcoming events.

6:50 PM Financing for a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle – Manley

Chief Manley informed the Board that the two squad cars ordered four to five months ago have arrived. One vehicle was budgeted for a full purchase and the second vehicle was to be financed. He requested approval to proceed with financing through Midwest Members Credit Union, who offered the lowest interest rate.

Trustee Kukla commented that the new vehicle decals were a significant improvement.

All were ok with placing Resolution on agenda for approval at next Board meeting.

6:52 PM Collinsville Township Highway Dept. Intergovernmental Agreement – Flannery

Administrator Flannery informed the Board that she and the Mayor met with Kathy Trucano from Collinsville Township to review and update the intergovernmental agreement. Several services previously included in the agreement were removed, as the township is no longer able to provide them. Administrator Flannery shared a draft of the updated agreement with the Board and noted that the township may be able to assist with installing Christmas decorations on poles.

Following discussion among Board members, the Mayor added that several requests made during the meeting were declined by the township due to staffing limitations.

Superintendent Keplar expressed his interest in continuing to utilize the township's assistance with cleanup after oil and chip projects, noting that their larger street sweeper speeds up the process.

Attorney Genovese clarified that, by statute, the township is not legally required to provide any of these services to the Village.

All agreed to place the Ordinance approving the agreement on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

7:05 PM Implementation of a Grocery Tax – Flannery

Administrator Flannery requested implementation of a 1% Municipal Grocery Sales Tax and Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax. She clarified that this would replace the grocery tax the State will no longer collect as of January 1, 2026, and emphasized that it does **not** represent a new or increased tax, only a continuation at the current rate. Based on data and a formula provided by the Treasurers Association, Administrator Flannery estimated the Village collects approximately \$165,000 annually from the 1% tax. Without this measure, the Village stands to lose that revenue from the current budget. She also noted that the Ordinance must be submitted to the Department of Revenue by October 1, 2025, for the tax to take effect in January 2026.

The Mayor reinforced that this proposal does not raise taxes, but simply maintains the existing rate.

All were ok with placing the Ordinance on the agenda for next Board meeting for approval.

7:09 PM Calendar Updates

8/2 Museum open; 8/2 Concert in Park; 8/4 Community Improvement Board meeting; 8/6 Board meeting; 8/7 Fire & Police Board meeting; 8/13 Caucus meeting; 8/16 Museum open; 8/16 Concert in Park; 8/18 Museum Committee meeting; 8/18 Fire Pension Board meeting; 8/18 Parks & Rec meeting; 8/20 Board meeting; 8/25 Planning Commission meeting; 8/27 Caucus meeting

7:11 PM Trustee Comments

7:11 PM Trustee Bell reminded everyone to stay hydrated. He also shared that he was informed of two air monitoring stations in the area. One is located in East St. Louis and the other at the maintenance shed at Drost Park. He noted that they are used to monitor air pollution levels.

7:13 PM Trustee Clark reminded the Board that she will be absent from next week's meeting. She also reported that despite the heat, there were 341 pickleball reservations last month. She commented that the Movie in the Park event held two weeks ago was a huge success, bringing in approximately 150-200 attendees. She noted that attendance this past Saturday was lower with approximately 50-75 people. Trustee Clark expressed her appreciation to Mike Spillers and his family for their assistance.

7:14 PM Trustee Gulledge expressed concern regarding a property on Oak Hill, noting several code violations. He mentioned that a resident reached out, expressing that any action the Village could take would be greatly appreciated.

Administrator Flannery reported that she spoke with the property owner and reviewed the requirements necessary for compliance. She noted that given the current condition of the property, it was agreed to allow 30 days for corrective action instead of the usual 7 days.

7:18 PM Trustee Kukla inquired whether there were any Ordinances related to siding, noting that some homes in the Keebler Oaks subdivision have visible hail damage and are missing siding. He also expressed support for the new restaurant owner and his aspirations, but noted the importance of monitoring the situation.

7:23 PM Mayor Comments

Attorney Genovese informed the Board that the demolitions are at various stages. She noted that one property is close to default, and a few others are in earlier phases. Overall, she indicated that progress is being made, though the process will take time.

Mayor White addressed complaints regarding a property on W. Main located in unincorporated territory. He reported that he visited the site with Madison County Code Enforcement and emphasized that code enforcement remains a priority and efforts will continue in that direction. Mayor White noted that Senator Harriss toured the Police Department and Village Hall earlier in the day. She pledged her support to assist the Village with funding to the best of her ability. Mayor White also mentioned that FGM will be providing information in the future regarding potential sites for new facilities.

7:33 PM Closed Session - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) – The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.

Motion to Enter Closed Session, Moved by Vallino, Seconded by Schmidt.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gulledge, Kukla.

7:54 PM Motion to Come out of Closed Session, Moved by Schmidt, Seconded by Kukla.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gulledge, Kukla.

7:55 PM Adjournment

There being no more business to come before this meeting, Mayor White called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn, Moved by Bell, Seconded by Clark.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gulledge, Kukla.

7:55 PM Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Warner
Deputy Clerk