

**VILLAGE OF MARYVILLE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**

6:01 PM Call to Order

Mayor White called the Caucus meeting of Wednesday, January 14, 2026 to order.

6:01 PM Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

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

6:01 PM Roll Call.

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

Public Comments

There was none.

6:01 PM Minutes – December 10, 2025

Mayor White called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 Caucus meeting.

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

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

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

6:02 PM Fire Pay for Paid On-Call Firefighters (Quarter 4, 2025) – Dankenbring

Chief Dankenbring presented figures for 4th quarter payout.

All were ok with paying on-call firefighters.

6:06 PM Ordinance 2026-XX Amending Paid on Call Duties – Dankenbring

Chief Dankenbring addressed the Board regarding a request to revise the on call duties of Fire Department personnel, which are currently governed by a Village Ordinance. He proposed changing these requirements from an ordinance to a departmental policy. This would allow him to make adjustments based on performance without having to return to the Board for revisions. He emphasized that personnel must be properly trained to mitigate incidents. Trustee Schmidt asked whether the proposal had been discussed with the Assistant Chief or Lieutenant prior to being presented to the Board. Chief Dankenbring confirmed that he had discussed it with the Assistant Chief. Chief Dankenbring further noted that if the policy were changed to focus solely on training, the Village could establish an hourly wage for paid-on-call firefighters, pay them bi-weekly for work performed and hold them accountable for training requirements.

Chief Dankenbring added that firefighters can choose which calls they respond to, but they must be competent and properly trained whenever they do respond.

Trustee Gullledge asked whether the State still mandates minimum service requirements. Chief Dankenbring responded that minimums are suggested, not mandated, and referenced a recommendation of 192 hours per year.

Trustee Clark asked when trainings are held. Chief Dankenbring stated that trainings occur every Tuesday night. Chief Dankenbring added that firefighters who miss Tuesday night training could attend another shift to make up the training.

Trustee Vallino asked whether feedback is received from firefighters when they resign. Chief Dankenbring responded that some do provide feedback.

Trustee Schmidt stated that he believed the ordinance should remain as it currently stands. Trustee Vallino stated that he felt the Village Board should continue to be involved in these matters and that changes should still come before the Board.

Trustee Gulledge commented that it is difficult to recruit volunteers and that participation needs to be enjoyable to some extent. He asked how other smaller communities handle similar situations, noting that many do not have paid personnel. Chief Dankenbring replied that the proposed concept is based on the model used by the City of Wood River.

Trustee Kukla asked Chief Dankenbring to elaborate on how making the requirements a policy rather than an ordinance would be beneficial. Chief Dankenbring explained that it would allow policies to be adjusted more quickly with staff to evaluate effectiveness. He stated that he would still communicate with his Board liaison and include all necessary parties. Attorney Genovese added that these are internal personnel policies, allowing the Board to place trust in the Chief to manage them.

Mayor White recommended that the matter be tabled and revisited at a later date. Trustee Vallino agreed that additional information is needed. The Board agreed to place on hold. The ordinance will remain unchanged at this time.

6:29 PM Holiday Light Decoration Purchase – Keplar/Flannery

Superintendent Keplar approached the Board and requested approval for the Street Department to purchase 32 LED lights for the 2026 Christmas season. This purchase would result in all pole lights being upgraded to new LED lighting.

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

6:32 PM Resolution 2026-XX Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau – Flannery

Administrator Flannery approached the Board to request approval of a Resolution of Support for the Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau for the purpose of certification.

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

6:34 PM PGAV Planners LLC Agreement for Professional Services – Flannery

Administrator Flannery stated that this item would be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Caucus meeting.

6:34 PM Loan to the Friends of the Maryville Heritage Museum – Flannery

Administrator Flannery explained to the Board that this is a reimbursable grant. She stated that the Friends of the Maryville Heritage Museum currently do not have sufficient funds in their account to initiate the project. The grant application allows for a request of an advance of up to

50% of the total grant; therefore, an advance of \$200,000 will be requested. Funds would be disbursed as needed. The initial \$50,000 disbursement would cover services provided by Henderson & Associates, with the Friends of the Maryville Heritage Museum entering into a contract directly with them rather than the Village.

Trustee Schmidt asked whether there is documentation stating that the grant has been awarded. Administrator Flannery responded that there is a state allocation showing \$400,000 has been appropriated. She explained that once allocated by the legislature, the funds are transferred to the Department of Commerce, and the recipient must then apply for the funds and complete the full grant process and requirements. Attorney Genovese added the legislature has already approved the funding through the appropriation bill. The State's role is to ensure the required paperwork is completed and that the project aligns with what was approved in the appropriation budget. Mayor White encouraged all to move forward. All were ok to place on agenda for next Board meeting.

6:45 PM EWG Road Grant Phase IV – Flannery

Administrator Flannery requested approval from the Board to submit an application to the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council for project funding for Keebler Road Phase IV. She stated that the application is the same as the one completed for Keebler Road Phase III. She noted that there is an application fee of \$4,005.24, which would be refunded if the project is not awarded funding. Phase IV would extend from West Main Street to Calico Lane. She also noted that a Phase V is anticipated in the future.

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

6:47 PM Discussion of No Parking Signs on Renee Drive – Manley

Chief Manley approached the Board regarding parking concerns on Renee Drive. Based on safety considerations, resident feedback, and school traffic impacts, he recommended eliminating parking on one side of the street to improve traffic flow. Specifically, he recommended placing a "No parking" restriction on the west side of Renee Drive during school hours. Parking would be allowed during evenings, weekends, and summer months. He stated that the school recently implemented a new drop-off and pick-up program which began the previous week and has been improving daily, with traffic flow continuing to get better. Chief Manley also discussed the enforcement approach, emphasizing education over citations. He recommended working collaboratively with the school and Village Hall to communicate the changes and using police outreach and social media to educate residents and parents. He also referenced a "No Parking Here to Corner" sign on Main Street. Administrator Flannery will provide the Board with pictures of signage to be ordered.

The Board agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

6:59 PM Calendar Updates

1/17 Museum open; 1/18 Discovery flower arranging; 1/19 MLK Day; 1/21 Board meeting; 1/26 Museum Committee meeting; 1/28 Caucus meeting;

7:00 PM Trustee Comments

7:01 PM Trustee Bell asked who the contractor was for the pavilion.

Mayor White responded that it was Boeker.

7:02 PM Trustee Gullledge inquired about the status of the properties on Stonebridge Golf, W. Perry, and Dogwood. Attorney Genovese responded that demolition cases have been filed. Mayor White added that ordinance citations are being issued and noted that he has requested the Zoning Department provide a detailed breakdown of their report by specific property.

7:04 PM Mayor Comments

Mayor White informed the Board that the Mayor's Notes and Museum Notes are included in the meeting packet. He encouraged Board members to reach out to him or Administrator Flannery with any questions. Additionally, a checklist of potential goals for the calendar year 2026 was included for review.

He also commented that the trees on the nuisance property by Casey's are scheduled to be removed within the next 7–10 days.

Mayor White stated that Fulton has researched options for a new digital sign. The preference is to use a company that is local as possible and manufactures American-made products. One company in Danville meets these requirements. Trustee Gullledge asked if an estimate had been provided. Mayor White responded that the projected cost is approximately \$40,000. He noted that this is just to inform the Board, and a formal recommendation for a new digital marquee may be presented in the near future. Trustee Vallino asked why the current marquee is not working. Mayor White responded that the issue is related to the motherboard. Trustee Bell suggested exploring whether the existing panels could be reused to reduce costs.

7:06 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 Clark, Seconded by Vallino

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

Yes: Vallino, Schmidt, Bell, Clark, Gullledge, Kukla

7:11 PM Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Warner
Deputy Clerk