

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF WARDSVILLE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 07, 2026  
1825 ALBERT PLACE  
COMMUNITY BUILDING  
6:30 P.M.

The Board of Trustees may enter Closed Session at any time during the meeting upon a majority vote of the Board of Trustees under Section 610.021 RSMo for issues pertaining to personnel, real estate, possible litigation and/or to receive advice of counsel.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board Chairman William (Bill) Gratz, those present were, Paul Stonner, Co-Chairman, Rick Taube Treasurer, Brian Schrimpf Board Member, and Rachel Busche Board Member. Bill Gratz certified a quorum was present. In attendance were, Libby Chipman, Village Clerk, David Bandre' Village Legal Counsel, Gary Frank, Maintenance Director, Don Welch, Planning & Zoning Chairman, Jon Stambaugh Village Resident and Matthew McFarland from the News Tribune.

Bill asked that the minutes be approved from the December 3, 2025, meeting, Rachel Bushe made a motion to approve, Paul Stonner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Bill asked that the treasurer report be approved from Libby for December 2025, Paul Stonner made motion to approve Rick Taube seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Report from Chairman Bill Gratz**

Bill spoke about the accident that happened in Taos on Christmas Eve, it was noted that we have a sign, a light and crosswalk at the church on Highway W, and there is nothing more that we can do. Bill questioned Gary if he purchased power washer for cleaning truck after running salt, Gary said it was ordered. Brian mentioned making sure no dirt gets into hoses.

**Report by Paul Stonner**

Paul said that he was contacted by neighbor in South Oaks that several streetlights were out, he said he told them to contact Libby, no one has contacted the Clerk, Gary Frank will go by in the evening and check and get the numbers off the poles and take care of it.

**Report by Rick Taube**

Nothing to Report

**Report by Brian Schrimpf**

Nothing to Report

**Report by Rachel Busche**

Rachel will put a committee together to see what we might want to do as a Village for this 4<sup>th</sup> of July, it is the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday for the Country, would we like to do something to celebrate? She will get back with the Board after putting a committee together.

Rachel also spoke about the people that received the Awards for the Christmas Contest, and how appreciate they were, but no committee was actually for this, because it was too short of a notice. However, Darrell Matel and Rachel will meet in July about Christmas 2026

**Report from David Bandre'**

Dave, who gave the Crime Stats report from the Sheriff's Office, for December 2025,

**December Stats**

Assist Citizen-5

Traffic Stops-11

Security Patrol-1

Disturbance-3

Assist Ambulance-1

Follow-up-1

Suspicious Activity-3

Civil Documents-1

Burglary Alarm (False)

Well Being-2

Research-1

Harassment-1

Narcotics-1

Dave spoke about the Dumpster issue, and said it has somehow become a problem, so he will be looking at the Trash Ordinance and seeing what it says about the Dumpster (Construction type) and maybe it back to the Board with revision to vote on. He said there if a container in the front yard on Friendship, Gary will check this out, also that there is a dumpster on the street on Steeplegate, Gary will get address. Also, Brian Schrimpf said the Blair Oaks school never cleaned up the tall grass, Dave said he will reach out to them again.

**Report from Gary Frank**

Nothing to Report

**Report from Don Welch**

Nothing to Report

### **Report from Libby Chipman/Village Clerk**

We spoke about the CD renewal, and we will put them in longer CD, because as Dave said we haven't touch the money, and Don Welch said he knows that MidAmerica will match anything Central Bank is offering just to keep the CD here. Libby asked about who maintained the storm sirens, Jon said he would send the information to Libby, but it was 99% that Cole County maintains.

Libby asked about the MO Coalition for Children wanting to use the Hall, it was decided they could use it for their Board meeting in April, which is on a Tuesday, but they also wanted to use it on Saturdays for exercise, and that was an absolutely no. Some Board members suggested they contact the Knights of Columbus. Libby spoke about Andy from Cole County coming out today, and going over their permits, and how to pull them on their website, so she can use some of their permits for example to put on our website. She asked if everyone got the letter from our website people, giving her an A+ for the first 6 months of our website.

### **Old Business**

Libby asked Dave about the Business License Ordinance revision, and we are waiting for some information.

### **New Business**

None

### **Payment of Bills**

Rick Taube made a motion to approve paying the bills, Rachel Bushe seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Paul Stonner made motion that we close the meeting, Brian Schrimpf seconded, motion carried unanimously, meeting closed at 7:13 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM AND COULD BE CHANGED BEFORE APPROVED AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Respectfully submitted



Libby Chipman-Village Clerk

