

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF POPLAR BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2026

The Board Meeting was called to order by Trustee Dan Bergsten at 6:26 p.m.

In attendance: John Pooler, Adam DeMeyer, Bruce Bergsten

Clerk: Gina Ormond

Treasurer: Wendy Lauenstein

Absent: Leo Naumann
Kory Gilderman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPEAKERS:

- Mark Liebaert – Not present
- Karen Nevin - Northwestern Youth Softball would like to use the village baseball field for practice. For now they want to use the field for practices, but they may need to have games there. Karen Nevin requested that they will be able to remove the mound and also have priority use of the field. The Northwestern Girls teams would volunteer to help remove the mound and order lime for the ballfield. A motion was made by Bruce Bergsten, second John Pooler to let the Northwestern Youth Softball have priority scheduling for the ballfield. Motion carried without negative vote.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

- Approve Minutes: A motion was made by Bruce Bergsten, second Adam DeMeyer to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2025 meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.

Pay Bills: A motion was made by Bruce Bergsten, second Adam DeMeyer to pay the bills for December 2025. Motion carried without negative vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion for the Fire Chief compensation was tabled until the February 10, 2026 Board Meeting.
- Discussion for compensation for members of the fire department was tabled until the February 10, 2026 Board Meeting.
- Discussion to set up an account at Benevity to handle the grant money for the fire department was tabled until the February 10, 2026 Board Meeting.
- A motion was made by Adam DeMeyer, second John Pooler not to make a donation to Superior Days. Motion carried without negative vote.
- Discussion to transfer of the land that a billboard is on to Brooke Hefner was tabled until the February 10, 2026 Board Meeting.

CLERKS REPORT: The W2s are completed for the year.

TREASURERS REPORT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Waste Water Commission*- A draft of the January 6, 2026 meeting was included in the packet. John Kamrath was present at the meeting to suggest solutions to replacing and maintain grinder pumps that are owned by private homes. The commission is also working on the plans for finding an electrician that can work on the control panels.
- *Fire Department*- John Pooler gave a report on the number of calls that the fire department has responded to. There will be a state audit done on February 3, 2026. John Pooler will be attending several trainings in the next few months.
- *Cemetery*- There has been one winter burial. Dan Bergsten will try not to do anymore winter burials.
- *Parks & Recreation* – The community hill is being used a lot this winter. With the warmer weather, the ice-skating rink hasn't frozen over yet.
- *Building & Grounds* - None
- *Roads & Culverts* – Paul Abrahamzon has been plowing the snow. There has been only one complaint so far this winter.
- *Land Use Permit Applications* - None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Discuss Fire Chief compensation
- Discuss compensation for fire department members
- Discuss setting up an account at Benevity to handle grant money for the fire department.
- Discuss transfer of the land that a billboard is on to Brooke Hefner.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Bruce Bergsten, second Adam DeMeyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Motion carried without negative vote.

Dan Bergsten, Trustee

Gina Ormond, Clerk

Date