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VILLAGE OF SOLON SPRINGS BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 27, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Solon Springs Community Center, 11523 S. Business Hwy. 53, Solon Springs, WI 54873

President: Ben Evans

Trustees: Melissa Johnson, Todd Gilbert, Chris Morgan and Carl Wahl

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Village Trustee Todd Gilbert called the Village Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**
   Clerk called roll call with the following trustees present: Carl Wahl, Melissa Johnson and Todd Gilbert and Chris Morgan via phone, Evans arrived after roll call absent/excused: none Staff present: Clerk Kathy Burger, village operator Chad Spinner and Solon Springs School Superintendent Kelly Ryder
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
   Motion by Wahl second by Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
   Kelly Ryder introduced herself as the new superintendent for the Solon Springs School District. She shared her professional background, including 30 years in public education and prior roles in Cumberland, Barron County Boys & Girls Clubs, consulting with DPI, and the Hayward Community School District.
6. **CONSENT AGENDA** - *there will be no separate action on these items unless a board member utilizes a vote. All licenses are contingent upon meeting village code and board approval.*
   Motion by Wahl second by Morgan to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.
   6.1 Approval of minutes for the regular monthly meeting 6/22/26.
   6.2 Treasurers report for June – profit and loss and reconciliation detail
   6.3 Approval for payments for general & sewer fund checking on expenditure report: 7/27/26
   6.4 Approval of zoning permit applications:
   - Ryan Nelson – storage container
   - Todd Gilbert – utility shed
   - Chris & Cynthia Morgan – permit #2021 renewal; interior remodel, electrical, heating windows and well
   - Yorman-Nickel Trust – replace existing fence
   - Dustin Nelson – 8x16 greenhouse

   6.5 Approval of licenses:

- Operator licensed issued: Andrew Saari, Hannah Saari & Michael LaJoie for Village Pump
- Consideration & approval of published liquor license applications: none
- Consideration & approval of Class “B”/Picnic license applications: none
- Consideration & approval of cigarette license: none

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 **Set public hearing date for DNR floodplain ordinance**

Motion by Johnson second by Morgan to set public hearing date of August 24, 2026 at 7:00 pm to adopt the DNR floodplain ordinance. Motion carried.

7.2 **Business 53 update**

Continued discussion on the Business 53 project with the county. Evans stated the village's responsibility for engineering a walkway path along Business 53 is estimated at $67,000, which is for engineering only, not construction. There was confusion about the high cost, especially since a sidewalk already exists for most of the route. A follow-up meeting with Jason Jackman from the county and the engineers is needed to clarify costs. Evans cannot attend, but Morgan is available.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 **New truck purchase**

Evans discussed new truck replacement and selling of 2025 truck. Bids received from Benna Ford and Timber Ford. Evans will reach out to Kolar as well. Will likely sell 2025 truck with plow. Public works will get pricing on new plow.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 **Buildings and Grounds** – no updates

9.2 **Public Works/Sanitary Sewer** –Wahl discussed the draft contract with the Upper St. Croix Lake Sanitary District. Changes from the first draft were incorporated and will be returned to the attorney for proper contract formatting. Updates since 1987 include the village installing its own meter at the point of entry and identifying interceptor points with GPS. The rate-setting approach will keep rates out of the contract, managing them via a fee schedule with annual review language. The current rate, unchanged since 2013, was in the draft for review only. A separate updated contract is also needed with Gordon.

9.3 **Fire Commission** – Morgan reported Evans was attending an airport commission meeting for an ambulance discussion with Essentia. The building inspection at the fire hall is pending, and an inspection date has not yet been scheduled.

9.4 **Community Center Commission** – no updates

9.5 **Airport Commission** – Evans announced the airport is being explored as a potential location for an ambulance service, with discussions in the very early stages with Essentia. The proximity to the helipad is a key benefit. The timeline is fast-moving, with an ideal setup by the end of August. Immediate needs include a garage with a small kitchenette and restroom. The airport commission will confirm feasibility with the FAA. Neil Matheson and John Hall resigned, and their resignations were approved. Jon Dauplaise joined as a new member. Neil’s resignation creates a gap in fuel oversight. Liability insurance from Titan requires daily fuel testing and documentation. Town and village staff will obtain Titan certification via an online course to handle daily tests on a rotating schedule.

9.6 **Planning Commission** – Wahl gave an update on recent court hearings for ordinance violations on two properties in the village. A judge reviewed photos, found the property unsuitable, and scheduled the next hearing for August 24th. Another case is scheduled for August 13th. Some cleanup was acknowledged, but further remediation is required. New photos will be taken closer to the hearing dates.

9.7 **Development Commission** – no updates

9.8 **Recycling Commission** – Wahl reported the electronics collection event was a success. An upcoming hazardous waste event is scheduled for August 5. It will accept chemicals and paints.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Gilbert, second by Wahl to adjourn this Village Board Meeting. Motion carried.

This Village Board Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:
Kathy Burger, Village Clerk