

**VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN
24221 FRONT AVE.
MATTAWAN, MI 49071
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

FEBRUARY 23, 2026

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:03 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. ATTENDANCE: **Begeman, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Monroe, Streeter, Stuit**
OTHERS PRESENT: *Manager McGrew, Clerk Storm-Artis, Lieutenant Britton, Attorney Graham, Engineer Woodhams*
4. WELCOME TO PUBLIC
5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING BEING RECORDED
6. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE POLICE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT MILLAGE
Motion by Begeman, seconded by Daniel to open the public hearing to receive comment on the police special assessment millage. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
7. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Lieutenant Britton discussed the budget needed to maintain current staff with overtime cuts, and the information from the packet provided by Chief Mansfield. Benefit costs unknown at this time, so that could change financial needs and will be fully discussed during budget meetings. There were 471 calls so far in 2026. He spoke about mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement entities.

Manager McGrew explained further budget cuts would require layoffs of officers and community services.

Lieutenant Britton explained the only other thing that can be cut is personnel. The overtime cuts will impact coverage and personnel morale. Overtime cannot be completely eliminated as there are situations such as court appearances, calls near the end of shifts, and support for community events that require officers' presence causing overtime hours to be worked. Cuts would affect 24-hour police coverage where the county would be the only coverage for the area, delaying response time up to several hours. This delay is due to those departments' staffing levels and availability due to calls they may already be responding to. Local coverage and response is much faster and provides better service to residents.

8. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING
Motion by Daniel, seconded by McLean to close the public hearing. All members voted in favor. Motin carried.
9. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Amended Council Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2026
 2. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026
 3. Special Council and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2026
 4. Bills in the amount of \$ 56,886.28 + 22,209.40 = \$79,095.68**Consent agenda items 1-4 approved without objection.**
10. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
President Stuut added New Business F-Bidding Policy and G-Fire Department Water Usage Rate
11. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion by McLean, seconded by Daniel to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
12. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM *None*
13. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. DDA – *Chair Brooks not present, President Stuut stated the DDA had agreed to pay for the parks and rec master plan*
Meeting 2/17/2026 – Minutes included in packet
 - B. PLANNING COMMISSION – *Liaison Streeter discussed*
Meeting 2/18/2026 – Minutes included in packet
14. STAFF REPORTS
 - A. ENGINEER’S REPORT - *Engineer Woodhams discussed North Main repaving project being in preliminary phase, Front Ave survey work for 2027 project, AMTRAK bridge project delays and tree removal for NEPA, Market Van Buren and the Stefani property, and Concord Rd reconstruction*
 - B. ATTORNEY’S REPORT – *Attorney Graham stated all his items were on the agenda*
15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. REVIEW HEADLEY OVERRIDE BALLOT PROPOSAL LANGUAGE
Motion by Daniel, seconded by Gurley to postpone this item to be presented with updates after the L-4034 with the Headlee Rollback amounts. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

- B. VILLAGE MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REQUEST OFF POLICY
Motion by Daniel, seconded by Streeter to approve the policy with a change to the word or in section C. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

16. NEW BUSINESS

- A. ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SPECIAL POLICE ASSESSMENT MILLAGE RATE FOR 2026 TO 2027 FISCAL YEAR
Motion by Daniel, seconded by Begeman to adopt the resolution approve the special police assessment millage at a rate of 6.0 mils for the 2026 to 2027 fiscal year. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Monroe, Streeter, and Stuut voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.
- B. SEWER RELIEF REQUEST FROM DAWN STEINAGEL FOR PROPERTY AT 52484 NORTH POINT DRIVE FOR LEAK
Motion by Daniel, seconded by Monroe to approve sewer relief in the amount of \$254.09 for property at 52484 N. Point Dr. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- C. APPROVAL FOR CIVICA ENGINEERING INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,125.00 FOR USDA WATERMAIN PROJECT
Motion by Stuut, seconded by Daniel to approve payment of the Civica Engineering invoice in the amount of \$5,125.00. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Monroe, Streeter, and Stuut voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.
- D. APPROVAL FOR CIVICA ENGINEERING INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,858.00 FOR CONCORD FARMS PHASE 4
Discussion took place regarding previous billing back to Allen Edwin for Phases 2 and 3.
Motion by Stuut, seconded by Streeter to approve payment of the Civica Engineering invoice for work on Concord Farms Phase 3 with amount to be billed to Allen Edwin. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Monroe, Streeter and Stuut voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.
- E. WORKFORCE HOUSING
Extensive discussion took place.
Motion by Streeter, seconded by Begeman to have the office staff create an ordinance draft to include the State of Michigan maximum amount of 10% for the PILOT program and present for further discussion and review at the next regular council meeting on March 9, 2026 at 7:00 PM. Voice vote taken. Opposition heard. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Monroe, and Streeter voted yes. Stuut voted no. Motion carried 6-1.
- F. BIDDING POLICY
Motion by Streeter, seconded by McLean to postpone items F and G to the next regular council meeting on March 9, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT WATER USAGE

17. COMMUNICATIONS

Petitions for re-election are available at any time at the Antwerp Township Clerk's office.
Due date is July 21, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Members up for reelection

Jon Daniel (4-year term)

Mason Monroe (4-year term)

Terron McLean (4-year term)

Jessalyn Stuut (4-year term)

Sarah Gurley (2-year term)

DDA approved covering the cost of the invoice to complete Parks and Rec master plan.

18. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS *None*

19. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Member Begeman asked about the potholes on Main St. DPW Technician Beau Brooks explained that they had filled, however with the recent change in the weather, all of the patch work was negated.

Member Monroe thanked the DDA for their approval of payment the Parks Master Plan. He also spoke about the how raising MPD Special assessment will maintain our police department which he feels the community is in favor of and will help with the long term health of the Village.

Clerk Storm-Artis stated the cloud upgrade was completed and to continue to be patient with the staff as we navigate and learn the new technology.

20. ADJOURNMENT @ **9:13 PM**
Meeting adjourned without objection.