

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

MARCH 9, 2026

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. ATTENDANCE: ***Begeman, Daniel, McLean, Monroe, Streeter, Stuut***
ABSENT: ***Gurley***
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: *Manager McGrew, Clerk Storm-Artis, Attorney Graham, Chief Mansfield*
Motion by Begeman, seconded by Daniel to excuse member Gurley due to a prior personal commitment. All members voted in favor.
4. WELCOME TO PUBLIC
5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING BEING RECORDED
6. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Special Council and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2026 6:00 PM
 2. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2026 7:00 PM
 3. Bills in the amount of \$106,856.37 + \$63,046.65 = \$169,903.02***Items 1, 2, 3 approved without objection.***
7. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA *None*
8. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion by McLean, seconded by Streeter to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
9. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM *None*
10. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
11. STAFF REPORTS
 - A. ENGINEER'S REPORT - *Engineer Woodhams not present*
 - B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – *Attorney Graham stated he had been researching a nuisance issue and was working with Manager McGrew to move forward.*

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. WORKFORCE HOUSING ORDINANCE

Discussion took place.

Motion by Streeter, seconded by Monroe that discussion regarding a workforce housing ordinance be postponed indefinitely. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Daniel, McLean, Monroe, Streeter, and Stuut voted yes. Motion carried 6-0.

B. MANAGER MCGREW AND DEPARTMENT HEADS CONTRACTS

President Stuut stated there were written requests from all employees with contracts under consideration to discuss this item in closed session that would take place at the end of the meeting.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. DDA REQUEST TO CONTROL 2026 MEMORIAL DAY, CONCERT IN THE PARK, MATTAWAN DAYS, AND WINTER HOLIDAY EVENTS – *Chair Brooks*

The DDA requested the Village Council approve allowing them to control these events in 2026 during meeting on February 17, 2026

Motion by Daniel, seconded by Begeman to approve DDA request to control the 2026 Memorial Day, Concert in the park, Mattawan Days, and Winter Holiday events contingent on approval of use of Village resources. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

B. BID POLICY – *Member Streeter*

Discussion took place regarding how this policy had been applied in the past and Attorney Graham clarified reasons this was put in place in 2020.

Motion by Stuut, seconded by Streeter to send item to policy and personnel committee for review and possible updating with recommendation from Manager McGrew. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

C. FIRE DEPARTMENT WATER USAGE RATE – *Member Streeter*

Short discussion took place regarding mutual support with other municipalities and the Mattawan Fire Department being completely volunteer.

No action taken.

D. APPROVE LOA WITH POLC FOR 2026-2027 WAGES

Motion by Daniel, seconded by Monroe to approve the LOA with POLC for 2026-2027 wages. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

E. EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY CHANGES

Discussion took place.

Motion by Daniel, seconded by Monroe to approve the updated expense policy changes with adjustment of lodging distance to 100 miles instead of the presented 75 miles. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

- F. 2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PRESENTATION AND SETTING OF WORKSHOPS/SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR REVIEW – *Clerk Storm-Artis*
Clerk Storm-Artis presented the budget as a whole.

Motion by Stuut, seconded by Begeman to set a special council meeting to discuss the budget in more detail. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

14. COMMUNICATIONS

Master Plan Grants have been submitted working with MCKENNA Documents to update 2026 W-4 Council Member Pay

15. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS *None*

16. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

President Stuut spoke about the line painting on Front Ave. Manager McGrew stated Tom had reached out to the painting company and was following up with this to make sure this is done as soon as possible. There were also issues with cars parking in the right turn lane near the stop sign at Front Ave. and Main St that the Mattawan Police Department was handling.

President Stuut also spoke about the situation with Elizabeth Vaughn's fence. Manager McGrew stated a certified letter regarding the fence being installed in the road right of way and close to the sidewalk in violation of the Fence ordinance and giving a date to move the fence by to become compliant. The fence was damaged by DPW during sidewalk clearing, where it was discovered to be in violation. There was discussion as to when this fence was installed to the edge of the sidewalk.

Manager McGrew stated he examined other properties in the area and found other properties in violation that notices are being sent.

Clerk Storm-Artis clarified that she was not involved in any conversations directly regarding this issue and the process within the office is to send the fence ordinance. Discussion continued involving can the fence be properly installed with the right of way setback and what liability the Village has for paying for the damage.

Attorney Graham clarified the council has the discretion to pay for the damaged portion after the fence is moved, but the Village is under no obligation due to the fence not being in compliance with the ordinance. The amount would be de minimis and therefore is under the discretion of the council but should inform the resident as soon as possible.

Manager McGrew clarified that the other properties not in compliance will also be forced to move their fences and should the Village need to remove the fence due to non-compliance the resident will be billed for the cost.

No action was taken at this time.

Member Begeman asked about the relocated tree in the park. Manager McGrew stated that DPW would be re-strapping the tree and this spring would be checking for stability.

Motion by McLean, seconded by Begeman to enter closed session to discuss employment contracts. All members Voted in favor. Motion carried.

Entered Closed Session 8:02 PM.

***Motion by Daniel, seconded by McLean to return to open session. All members voted in favor.
Motion carried.***

Returned to Open Session 8:40 PM

17. **ADJOURNMENT @ 8:41 PM**
Adjourned without objection.

DRAFT