

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held at Village Hall on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. Village President Craig Busch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Rod Molnar called the Roll: Craig Busch "Here," Chuck Apgar "Here," Gail Hedges "Here," Randy Olson "Here," Dianne Brenning "Here," and Julie Rhodes "Here". Also present were Deputy Clerk Tara Kerouac, Superintendent Jeremy Rhodes, and Chief Christian Porter. Trustee Colton McDannald was absent.

A motion was made by Trustee Apgar to approve the minutes of October 22, 2025. Trustee Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Brenning made a motion to approve the bills. Trustee Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Visitors: Bobby Britz, Dirk Rettberg, MacKenzie Canaday

Bobby Britz presented a Business Development Application for NickorBob's and Hilda's Antique Mall. He explained the roofs at both locations were in need replacement. The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$500,000.00 for materials only. No labor was included in the estimate. A separate estimate will be required for labor. Mr. Britz is to supply the Board with the entire estimate for replacing the existing roof at NickorBob's and Hilda's with labor included.

Dirk Rettberg addressed the Board regarding the extension North Henrietta property, inquiring whether the Village plans to purchase parcel. Mayor Busch informed Mr. Rettberg that the Village had just closed on this property. The Village has plans to extend the frontage road out to Henrietta. Once that is completed, the Village will begin marketing the remaining parcel for potential business development opportunities.

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes updated the Board regarding Metro Communications. Metro has run into delays, and work has not started yet. Superintendent Rhodes has completed replacing 220 feet of cast-iron piping within the Village. He also has started hanging all the Christmas decorations for the Village.

Police Department:

Chief Porter presented the side-by-side stickers to the Board for review. The board also discussed proposed updates to the inspection sheet and waiver documents.

Economic Development:

The Board held discussion regarding the Business Development Application for Hilda's Antique Mall and NickorBob's. A financial incentive of up to 25% may be considered. The Board will need a full estimate, including labor, before a decision can be made.

Finance:

The Board discussed an ordinance authorizing the assessment in levying of taxes within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Divernon and other actions in connection therewith. Trustee Brenning made

a motion to approve the annual Tax Levy Ordinance 2025-024. Trustee Apgar seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Brenning reported the Treasurer Jessica Hayes recommended moving \$100,000.00 from the money market account to the sweep account. She would also like to move the Business District accounts out of the sweep account and set up a separate account for those funds. A resolution will be voted on at the next meeting.

Trustee Rhodes reported she did a sweep of the water and gas accounts regarding the delinquent status. There are three accounts with small amounts owed, and utilities are turned off. The properties appear to be empty. There is also one property on North Second Street with a large balance due. The utilities are shut off and there is a lien on the property.

Mayor Busch reported the Village will start receiving grocery tax beginning of January 1, 2026.

Village Grounds:

Mayor Busch reported that PSS Portable Solutions will be picking up all porta-potties and hand-washing stations next week.

Village Ordinances:

The Board discussed amending the Major Recreational Equipment Ordinance regarding campers and trailers within the Village. The purposed amendment would remove the fourteen-day limit in a thirty-day period and replace it with a requirement that residents obtain a temporary permit from the Village for approval of use of any major recreational equipment which includes campers and trailers. The Board also discussed adding an extension process into the camping ordinance for situations where additional time is requested after the permit period expires. Discussion was had; no action was taken.

The Loitering ordinance was discussed. Chief Porter requested to add language to the Loitering ordinance that would address repeated nuisance calls to the police station. He stated that if multiple nuisance calls originate from the same property, the property owner would be held responsible for an resulting ordinance violations. Discussion was held; no action was taken.

The Board discussed ordinance in adapting a procedure for calculating and applying sewer credits for certain water usage. It was discussed the first and last read on the pool meter would be applied for calculating the credit on sewer only.

The Board reviewed the proposed ordinance adopting the Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax. The Village currently has a franchise agreement with Comcast. Attorney Tony Schuering was contacted by phone to provide clarification on the tax and its application. Attorney Schuering explained the permitted tax rate in the Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax Act, how the tax is filed

with the Illinois Department of Revenue, and how the revenues are remitted into the Village's General Fund. This item was for discussion only. No action taken.

The Board reviewed the proposed ordinance imposing fees on cable and video service providers operating within the Village. Attorney Schuering provided an overview of how these fees are assessed and explained the applicable provisions under state law. The Board discussed how the fee structure is

applied to providers and how the revenue is reported to the Village. This item was for discussion only. No action was taken.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Trustee Apgar to adopt Resolution 2023-023, authorizing and adopting the Personnel Manual. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hedges. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board discussed establishing the permit application fee for Non-Highway vehicles authorized to travel Village streets. The permit fee was set at \$75.00 annually, valid for one calendar year. A motion was made by Trustee Hedges to approve Resolution 2025-024. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brenning. The motion passed 4-1. Trustee Olson voted no.

Mackenzie Canaday arrived during the meeting and introduced herself to the Board. She briefly addressed the Board regarding the part-time position.

The Board reviewed the details of the position, with a start date of December 1, 2025. The position will consist of three days per week, at a wage of \$22.00 per hour during the probationary period and \$24.00 per hour after successful completion. A motion was made by Trustee Rhodes to approve Ordinance 2025-025. The motion was seconded by Trustee Olson. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Apgar made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-025 Ratifying the emergency purchase of equipment for the Village pump station and other actions in connection therewith. Trustee Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Old Business:

Trustee Brenning made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-026, accepting an agreement between the Village and MuniBilling; authorizing execution thereof; and other actions in connection therewith. Trustee Apgar seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Apgar made a motion to adjourn at 8:35pm. Trustee Hedges seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed by voice vote.

Craig Busch
Mayor

Tara Kerouac
Deputy Clerk

