

**VILLAGE OF PARK RIDGE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: President Steve Menzel called the Park Ridge Village Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Village Board meeting was held in person at the Village Hall. After recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by those present, roll call was taken. Trustees Gordon Renfert, Dan Holloway, Kristin Paulson, Joe Thompson, and President Steve Menzel were present. Clerk Anne Arndt and Treasurer Melissa Clark also present.

Others attending were Tori Jennings, Jim LaMar, Dave Franzen, Christine Neidlein, Shawn Paulson, Carl Chase, Cathy Chase, Sean Ruppert, Elissa Ruppert, Scott Prince, Marjie Bell, Bob Gifford, Aaron Kadoch, Ken Vogel, Lee Willis. Kenneth Chesney attended via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM # 1 - APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER AGENDA: Motion Holloway, second by Thompson to approve the agenda with no changes. Holloway requested items 10 and 11 be discussed in reverse order. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 2 – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – AGENDA ITEMS: No public comments on specific agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM # 3 - PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No one present requested to comment on non-agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM # 4 – REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2025: Motion Holloway second Renfert to accept the September 15th minutes as printed. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 5 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion Renfert, second Holloway to accept the September Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote taken: Thompson – yes; Menzel – yes; Holloway – yes; Paulson – yes; Renfert – yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 6 – REVIEW AND APPROVE SEPTEMBER /OCTOBER BILLS / PAYMENTS: Motion by Paulson, second by Holloway to approve September/October bills/payments. Roll call was taken; Menzel – yes; Holloway – yes; Renfert -yes; Thompson – yes; Paulson – yes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

AGENDA ITEM # 7 –DISCUSS PRELIMINARY 2026 BUDGET: President Menzel reviewed the preliminary budget. Tori Jennings stated she thought Tree City USA was to be included in the budget. Menzel stated the budgeted amount could be revised to include it. Holloway asked if engineering costs incurred in 2026 for a potential new road project in 2027 was included. Treasurer Clark stated those costs could be taken from the unbudgeted funds or outlay line items in the budget. Motion Holloway, second Renfert to approve the preliminary budget as revised. A roll call vote was taken: Renfert – yes; Paulson – yes; Holloway – yes; Thompson – yes; Menzel – yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 8 – REVIEW AND APPROVE QUARTERLY REPORTS: Reports presented were typical of last quarter. The Clerk will check with the City of Stevens Point water department to compare addresses of water connections to the permits filed with the Village. Motion Thompson, second Holloway to approve the three quarterly reports. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 9 – HILLCREST DRIVE / GREENBRIAR AVENUE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:
(provided by Tom Turchi, MSA)

A-1 Excavating has completed all underground work for the project. Van Ert has installed all conduit and electrical wiring, and the base for the new cabinet is now in place.

Approximately 80% of the gravel has been placed, and American Asphalt's grading crew is scheduled to begin fine grading for the asphalt surface on Wednesday. If all goes as planned, they intend to place the binder course across the entire project on Friday or Saturday. The following week, they plan to install the surface layer.

After paving, A-1 Excavating will use a process called "Mr. Manhole" to set the nine manhole covers. Once that is complete, they will place the crushed aggregate base course for the shoulders and finish all topsoil work in preparation for hydroseeding and dormant seed mix.

Coordination has been made with the City of Stevens Point to close the exit to Iverson Park to allow final grading and paving to be completed.

We'd like to remind residents to avoid accessing the project area until the asphalt has cooled for at least 24 to 48 hours.

Substantial completion is scheduled for October 28, with final completion due by November 11. Van Ert is still awaiting delivery of the nine light poles and bases, which are expected to arrive by November 6.

Payment number 2 is being approved this evening which accounts for about 52% of the overall project even though I estimate the project being in approximately 80%.

AGENDA ITEM # 10 – The Board discussed the differences between speed humps and speed bumps. It was recommended to delay any purchases of these devices until the speed study is completed.

AGENDA ITEM # 11 – TRAFFIC STUDY - CONSIDERATION OF 20 IS PLENTY

Crash Data (Excluding State Highway 66): Over the past five years, the Village of Park Ridge experienced 13 crashes: 2 involved injuries; 11 resulted in property damage; No fatalities were reported. The Village has approximately 5 miles of roadway (excluding STH 66), resulting in: A crash density of 0.5 crashes per mile. An average of 2.6 crashes per year across the community. *Note: State Highway 66 was excluded from this analysis because it falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Stevens Point.*

A resident asked what he could do in front of his own house to reduce speeding. He suggested putting his own speed bump in front of his house. The Board's opinion is that it is not appropriate for a private citizen to be modifying things on a public street.

"20 is Plenty" Program Overview: The Village is considering the "20 is Plenty" initiative, which promotes a 20 MPH speed limit on local residential streets. The goal is to enhance safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists by reducing vehicle speeds in neighborhoods. This program is specifically intended for local streets and not for higher-volume roadways.

Current Traffic Control Conditions: 73 STOP signs; 7 all-way STOP intersections; 33 two-way STOP intersections; 2 signalized intersections. All local speed limits are currently 25 MPH, except for STH 66.

Speed Study Recommendations: Four locations have been recommended for a speed study to gather data supporting the implementation of 20 MPH residential speed limits. However, it was advised **not** to reduce speed limits on Sunset Blvd. and Green Ave. north of STH 66 due to their roadway characteristics and atypical residential traffic patterns.

AGENDA ITEM # 12 – REVIEW AND APPROVE PAY APPLICATION No. 2: A-1 EXCAVATING: Motion Holloway, second Renfert to approve Pay Application No. 2 from A-1 Excavating. A roll call vote was taken: Thompson – yes; Menzel – yes; Holloway – yes; Paulson – yes; Renfert – yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 13 – RIDGEWOOD / GREENBRIAR SOUTH PROJECT UPDATE: Menzel reviewed the history of the project. A strategic plan was developed and public input gathered. The two top priorities were improving streets and ensuring quality water supply. Two grants were applied for and granted. The federal grant was for eighty percent of the Ridgewood / Greenbriar project cost. This fall the village requested statement of qualifications proposal from engineering firms, which are due October 24, 2025. Holloway stated with this type of project there is a lot longer planning and design process. There is more structure. The Village has committed to move forward with construction in fiscal year 2027. The entire project must be completed by June 2033. He suggests the Village go ahead with the road and water main construction. The City of Stevens Point has not made efforts to consolidate with the Village. Not accepting this grant would be irresponsible. About six residents expressed concerns or objections to the planned street reconstruction on Ridgewood and Greenbriar South, which included responses and clarifications from the board.

AGENDA ITEM # 14 – CONSIDER RESIGNATION OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT: Menzel has submitted a resignation letter effective December 31, 2025. He reviewed the process of filling the vacancy which is outlined in WI State Statutes 17.24. Tori Jennings offered her name for consideration as Trustee as did Kenneth Chesney.

AGENDA ITEM # 15 – SUSTAINABILITY AND SHARED SERVICES FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS: The revised study is now published on the village's website. Menzel encouraged all residents to read the study. Trustee Thompson encouraged all residents to pay attention to section D Political and Social Issues, which states it is difficult for a Village our size to sustain civic engagement. Tori Jennings stated the revised study does not include an option where the village can raise its taxes to be able to meet its service needs. The question needs to be asked as to whether residents want to pay higher taxes to remain a village or pay higher taxes to become part of Stevens Point. This study is only a recommendation. The village can choose to take no action. Motion Holloway, second Paulson to accept the revised agreement. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 16 – CONSIDER ELECTION INSPECTOR AND CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTOR WAGE INCREASE: The Village currently pays \$11 per hour for an election inspector and \$13.50 for a chief election inspector. Motion Paulson, second Holloway to increase the wage to \$14.50 for an election inspector and \$17 per hour for a chief election inspector, matching the City of Stevens Point. A roll call vote was taken: Menzel – yes; Holloway – yes; Renfert – yes; Thompson – yes; Paulson – yes. Motion carried. Since there are four elections in 2026 a budget amendment may be needed for the increase in pay and will be addressed at that time.

AGENDA ITEM # 17 – APPROVE OPERATOR/BARTENDER LICENSE: Last month the Board approved a provisional operator's license for Ethan Hoyt, which is good for ninety days, at which time he is eligible for a regular operator's license. Motion Holloway, second Renfert to approve the operator's license. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM # 18 – LARGE ITEM PICK-UP REPORT: Trustee Paulson reported approximately fifty homes participated. There was wide participation throughout the Village. Menzel reported the electronics recycling pickup held in September yielded 3,049 pounds of items!

AGENDA ITEM # 19 – SANTA VISIT UPDATE: The confirmed date for the Santa Visit is December 11. Registration is due December 4.

AGENDA ITEM # 20 - SET DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: Monday, November 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Budget Public Hearing and Board Meeting

ADJOURN MEETING at 8:22 p.m.


ANNE ARNDT
VILLAGE CLERK


STEVE MENZEL
VILLAGE PRESIDENT