

## **Village of Creston Minutes**

### **Tuesday June 2, 2026**

President Byro called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Trustees Elliot, M. Hibshman, Kerns, Hopkins, J. Hibshman and Ward were present. Attorney Wilt was also present.

President Byro introduced the minutes from May 5, 2026. Trustee Elliot made a correction; on page 7, Illwood should be Hillwood. Clerk Payton said she would correct that and thanked Trustee Elliot for bringing it to her attention. President Byro asked if anyone else had anything that needed to be corrected or revised. No one did. Trustee Elliot made a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion. President Byro asked all in favor to vote yea. All present voted yea. There were no dissenting votes. Minutes were approved as amended.

**Visitors & Communications** - President Byro said he didn't think there were any.

**Village Attorney** - Attorney Wilt stated that the Village had purchased the property at 128 E North St. since the last meeting. He mentioned that he had sent out the subdivision agreement. Regarding the demotion at 209 W Depot St., he stated that there were no new developments. He believed the next court date was the following week. President Byro mentioned that the Board had discussed tearing down the house and placing a lien on it, and he wanted to know the next steps. Attorney Wilt explained that the Village could place a lien on the property, which would cover the demolition costs. He offered to draft and file the necessary paperwork if the Board decided to place a lien. Trustee Ward inquired if legal fees could be added to the lien, considering the costs associated with condemning the property. Attorney Wilt acknowledged that it was a valid question but admitted he didn't have an immediate answer. He emphasized that he would always request legal fees and would raise the issue if it wasn't permitted, as someone in the future could argue that the Village wasn't eligible for legal fees. He explained that typically, legal fees associated with a lien go to the property owner, but since the Village is a municipality, he wasn't sure if they were eligible. He said he would investigate the matter further.

President Byro asked Attorney Wilt if he had seen the letter that Aaron Moore had composed. He said he had. Trustee Ward asked if the Village should start assessing daily fines for the property since it is in violation of Village building and maintenance codes. Trustee Ward said that the fines could help offset the cost of legal fees if the Village is not allowed to claim them as part of the lien. Attorney Wilt said that per the ordinance, the Village can assess those fines daily and Aaron Moore said that the fine can be up to \$750 per day per offense.

Trustee Ward stated that the code violations had been going on for years, but the Village could only start assessing the fines from this date forward, and that the Village could not backdate those fines. Attorney Wilt said that was at the Village's discretion. He said that the Board had the ability to do that, but that decision was up to the Board and whoever does code enforcement.. Aaron Moore asked if the owners had been notified. He said that they didn't know who to send the letter to. He said that he had drafted a letter a few months ago, but he didn't know if it ever got to the owners because they

didn't know who the owners were. Attorney Wilt said that if the Village exhausts the normal course of trying to notify, the next option is to publish and say to the owner of this property or any unknown owners or occupants that this is what our plan is. He felt that the Village had made reasonable efforts to locate the rightful owner(s) and have not been able to do so in the court case as the property has continued to change hands. He said he knew that someone involved with the property had just passed away, so he didn't know if that changed the ownership. He said that nothing had been recorded at the County Clerk and Recorder's office when he checked the previous week, so at a certain point, the Village can do a publication and say to the Village had tried to notify the owner(s). A notice was placed on the door, things were mailed to the last known address of the owner, and no response was received.

President Byro stated that the owner, Margaret Sanderson, had passed away about two weeks prior. President Byro asked Attorney Wilt when the next court date was. Attorney Wilt said he thought it was June 9th when he would once again tell the judge that the Village has been unable to find the owner of the property. He said that the hope was that at this point the Village would be able to publish. He said he would explain to the judge that the person that we thought might be an owner just passed away. Attorney Wilt said that if she died without a will, it could go through a probate case. He hadn't seen that but he wouldn't get notified of it because he only occasionally checks to see if anything is happening with it. President Byro asked what would happen if the property went into probate. Attorney Wilt said that if the property gets wrapped up in probate, then it's stuck there until the probate case is resolved. He said that probate cases can take a month, six months or years depending on whether or not it is contentious. Aaron Moore said that he believed in property maintenance, if the Village deems it a safety hazard, which he would consider it with the condition that it is in, the Village has a right to demolish it without notice to protect the community and then put a lien on it. Aaron said that is in the property maintenance book, but he would defer to Attorney Wilt. Attorney Wilt said he would look at that. Aaron said that it says that the Village has the right as a safety measure to do what they need to do. He said that he could get Attorney Wilt a copy of that book and Attorney Wilt said he would appreciate that.

President Byro stated that he wants the Village to do the right thing.

Trustee Ward asked if the Village tried to order a demolition and a lien on the property, could we eventually foreclose on the lien then, or how does that work.

Attorney Wilt replied that if there was a lien on the property, then they either have to pay back the lien or the Village essentially gets ownership of the property somewhere down the road. He clarified that ownership would not be an immediate, overnight thing.

President Byro asked if the Village needed to wait and see until June, or could we go ahead and start some of these processes now. Attorney Wilt stated that if the Village was going to pursue the property under the safety hazard, that action can be taken outside the court system because the court process was the Village trying to condemn the property. He stated that demolition was a separate thing.

Attorney Wilt said that if the Village pursues demolition instead of condemnation, that would kind of skirt the court system and the Village could accomplish our goals without continuing with the court case.

President Byro asked the Board what they thought and if they wanted to go ahead and get the house taken down.

Trustee Elliot said that he thought the Village needed to have the house demolished, but we need to make sure that we're not overstepping. Trustee Kerns added that the Board needs to make sure it is being done the right way. Trustee M. Hibshman said he thought the Village should go through what Aaron had and see what the ordinance says exactly. Aaron said that he believed it says emergency measures for imminent danger. Trustee Ward stated that the Village should assess the fines even if they are never collected as it builds a case.

President Byro stated that the Village wants to put a detention pond on that property once the house is demolished. Trustee Ward said that is where the Village needs to be careful so that it doesn't look like the Village is going after that house because we want that property and it really is a safety issue. He cited holes in the ceiling and a collapsing foundation.

Trustee Elliot stated that he assumed that Aaron had photos of all of the violations. Aaron stated that he had taken photos the previous year and the house has only gotten worse. Aaron said that he had re-stickered the house since the last Board meeting on 5/5/26.

Trustee M. Hibshman stated that maybe the Village could do both. He said that if the Village starts assessing \$750 per day that adds up pretty quickly. Trustee Kerns asked where the Village would send the fines to. President Byro said that is the issue. The Village still doesn't know who to send them to.

Trustee M. Hibshman asked if there was no lien on the property or no first mortgage. He said he thought there was something about taxes. Attorney Wilt stated that there was a tax sale, but he believed that the buyer did a sale in error on the property. He said he would have to double check that. He said he didn't have his notes in front of him.

Trustee Ward asked if the Village would be able to purchase the taxes and go that route. Attorney Wilt said that would be a possibility if the property went up for a tax sale again. Trustee Ward stated that he didn't know if the County would work with a municipality, another government agency or how that would work. Attorney Wilt stated that he didn't see any reason why the Village wouldn't be able to purchase the taxes, but he wouldn't swear to that as he does not handle tax sales or sales in error. He said he would look into that and let the Board know.

President Byro asked the Board what they want to do. He asked if they wanted to put a lien on the house. Trustee Ward said that the Village really doesn't have any expenses unless we can claim legal fees until the house is demolished. Trustee M. Hibshman felt that the Village should start assessing the fines now, but acknowledged that we didn't know who to send the fines to. Trustee Eliot said to mail the fines to the last known address.

Trustee M. Hibshman said that he thought that would look a little cleaner to assess those fines first, and then build a case. Then the Village could put a lien on it and if the lien isn't paid for a few months, go from there.

Trustee Ward stated that if that house was on Main Street, a lot of people would be complaining about it, but it is sitting back there, hidden. He said that no one really sees it, but that won't stop some kids from going in there and messing around and getting hurt.

Aaron said he didn't know if that helped or not. Attorney Wilt said that it did because there are certain findings you have to make, and then you have to put certain things in the notice that has to be sent to the registered owner of the property.

Trustee M. Hibshman said that his vote was to start assessing fines.

Trustee Hopkins agreed in that the assessing of fines along with the documentation from Aaron all builds a case moving forward. Aaron mentioned that the letter cited some of the bigger code violations that you can fine for. President Byro stated that he should make a copy of the letter for everyone. President Byro called for a motion to go ahead and start assessing fines. Attorney Wilt said he didn't think a motion was needed as it is already in the code, Whoever is in charge of code enforcement just has to start the enforcement.

President Byro asked how much the fine was. Aaron said he thought it could vary, but he was pretty sure it said up to \$750 per day. Trustee Kerns asked if the book Aaron was referencing was what the Village ordinance said, Aaron said that ICC codes were adopted by the Village as an ordinance. Aaron said that there might be a different section in the Village ordinance that shows a different fee schedule, but typically the Board will decide how much to start charging. Aaron said he usually gives the property owner seven days to contact him with a plan of action before he starts fining, but he didn't know if anyone had been notified. He said if they fail to respond, then the fines start.

Trustee Hopkins asked if the Village has a last known address, Attorney Wilt said yes and no. The owner of the property has changed frequently. At one point he had a last known, but that was two owners ago. He said he could find one. He said he thought the Village would be okay using whatever is on record with the County Clerk and Recorder's Office as the last known address. Trustee Kerns asked who was paying the taxes. Attorney Wilt said the problem was no one was paying the taxes. Trustee Ward asked if the reverse mortgage company would have been recorded at the courthouse and Attorney Wilt said it was. He said that is how he got the name of American Reverse Mortgage. He said that the problem was that no one was paying the taxes, which is how it got purchased through a tax sale. He said that someone purchased it, and then did a sale in error, which is where the buyer goes back and says that they don't actually want the property. Attorney Wilt said that it got tricky because he doesn't know who it reverts to as the reverse mortgage company went out of business.

Trustee Ward asked if it would be an abandoned property. Attorney Wilt stated that there are certain criteria that have to be met for abandoned property. He said it might meet that criteria.

Trustee Ward brought up the fact that there were lots behind the library building that used to be railroad lots at one time and the adjacent landowners said the lots were not theirs, and the County worked with those landowners to sell or deed those lots to them. Attorney Wilt stated that he didn't know the qualifications for what makes something an abandoned property, but he knows that if any maintenance is being done on the property, it is generally not considered abandoned. He said he would assume that mowing the lawn would count as maintenance, but there is no one living in the home and no one paying taxes on it.

President Byro said that no one has lived in that home for over 2 years. Trustee Ward said that we should keep an eye out for who is mowing the grass. Trustee J. Hibshman

added we could find out who is getting paid and Trustee Ward said we could find out who they were being paid by.

President Byro said that Aaron said there was a name on it. Aaron stated that was for the lot next to the house. He said that there were two separate properties and he thought the taxes were being bought on the empty lot and not the house, and it sounded like when the house was going to be condemned, the person buying the taxes on the empty lot walked away from all of it. He thought maybe he would get the house, too, but decided he didn't want to deal with that.

Trustee Ward asked if whoever was mowing was mowing both properties. Aaron said it might just be a Good Samaritan. Trustee Hopkins suggested that if anyone sees someone mowing to stop and ask them about the situation.

President Byro said that the Village was going to put a lien on this property. Trustee M. Hibshman said he thought they should start assessing fines. President Byro asked how much and Trustee M. Hibshman said \$500 a day. President Byro asked if everyone agreed and the consensus was yes. Trustee Hopkins stated that if it does get in the right hands, it might motivate them. President Byro said you would think it would.

Trustee Ward said normally he would work with the property owner to get the problem corrected, but this problem is not being corrected and it's been a couple of years now.

President Byro thanked Aaron for getting that stuff done and that he would make a copy of the letter for everyone.

**Building Inspector** - President Byro asked Aaron if he had anything else. Aaron stated that he had two new home permits, one deck, a duplex, a pool, and a driveway in the last month. He stated that all those were ongoing.

**Village Engineer** - Matt Hansen introduced a Project Status Report. He said that he had one update from that afternoon when Curt and Jeff got together. The first update concerned the West St Water Main improvement. He said he was in contact with Martin that morning and Martin was planning to start the end of the following week or the week of June 15th with the water main works. He said that once Julie Locates does their work, it's a good indicator that they're gearing up to start.

Mr. Hansen moved on to the Sidewalk Project. They completed the survey and were working on the drawings, bidding documents and specs.

Mr. Hansen stated that Jeff and Curt talked that afternoon. With the local funding, they are going to be able to pare down what needs to be done for the drawings, so the schedule was probably going to pick up.

He said that they had a schedule to try and get this project awarded by the August meeting. He said that when he spoke to Jeff that afternoon, after he had talked to Curt, and they want to move this along. He said that if they can get it bid and awarded by our July meeting, they will make every attempt to do that. Trustee Ward asked Mr. Hansen if Willett Hofmann handled the bidding process. Mr. Hansen said yes. He said he forgot to ask Jeff, but he asked Trustee Ward to email him the contractor he had in Rochelle, just so he has their contact information. He said that a lot of times when they send out notices to contractors, they send the bid advertisement directly to them. Trustee Ward said he could send Mr. Hansen their bidder list, and he had one he was talking to that was interested in it.

Trustee Ward stated that this project would be smaller, concrete, local. He said that they're not like a big corporation that subscribes to a planning room and gets notice of every project within a 100 mile radius.

Mr. Hansen said his last update was for the IEPA Lead Line Service Inventory Grant. He did find out that the EPA completed their initial fiscal review. He said that the EPA would be issuing their NOSA (Notice Of State Award) soon. That gets sent through the GATA Portal. He let Clerk Payton know that she would need to look for an email that says when it is posted. Once the notice is received, she will have to go to the GATA Portal and accept it. Once it is accepted, then they'll process the actual grant agreement and send that out. He also suggested that Clerk Payton take a look at the list of addresses that we still need to get surveyed for the water services and then decisions will need to be made about who we are going to hire and if they are going to go door to door, or do we want to do vactor excavation, or maybe some combination of both. He said he would like to get some proposals, whichever direction we are going. He said it could be both directions, but that is something that the Board will need to approve, and once it is approved, whether it is one contract or two depending on how we want to complete the survey, the contract(s) will be sent to the EPA along with some initial paperwork that the Village has to send to them and then we'll get 50% of the grant up front. Once the inventory work is completed, the remaining invoices will be sent to the EPA and then the Village will get the 2nd half of the grant.

Curtis Loyd asked about the door to door option. He asked what that was going to tell us. Trustee Kerns asked how we will know what runs from the shut-off to the main? Mr. Hansen said that you don't. He said that per the Lead Service Line Replacement Act, technically you don't have to dig anything up to identify it. All the Act says is that you have to go into the customer's home or business and identify the material coming through the wall or the floor. The problem comes if you don't have construction records or building permits on what is in the public right of way or the connection to the main, then the services is unidentified. There are 4 columns that need to be filled out. There's the gooseneck connection to the main; the service in the public right of way; what's on the private property side, and the overall classification of the system. It's easy if you go inside a house or building. If it's lead or galvanized, the service needs to be replaced regardless of whether you know what is out in the public right of way. It gets complicated when you go into a house and it's considered non-lead, it's either copper or plastic, but you don't know what's out in the street, then it is classified as unknown. It is unknown until you identify what is out there.

Every community has to send out notifications once a year to their customers. If a service is non-lead, you don't send a notice. If it is classified as lead, then the customer gets a lead notice. If their service is galvanized requiring replacement, they get a GRR notice. If they're classified as unknown, they get the notice. It basically says that the Village has no idea what their service is, but it could be lead. He said that what they have done for most communities is go through and get all the lead and GRRs out of the system and then the only thing that is left are the unknowns.

He said that the problem is that currently they don't need to be replaced, but you've got to keep sending out the notices. He said that they have some communities that have everything identified. Some of them have half or three quarters identified and they are using the grant program to hire contractors like Martin to that has a vactor truck and

they are going to vector at the main so they can identify the gooseneck connection and what's in the public right of way so they can complete the inventory and send it into the EPA and then they don't have to worry about any of those notices going out anymore. Trustee Kerns said that he would say that anything that was built 40 years ago or further back is unknown.

Mr. Hansen said that the first goal is to get the inventory completed so that we know what is coming into the customer's home/business. Once we have that completed, and if we identify any lead or GRR services that have to be replaced, we will apply for funding with the EPA to get those replaced. Then, if there is still money in this pool, we could apply for another. He said that they have gotten a couple for different communities. He said that you can apply for another lead line service inventory grant. He stated that once we complete this grant, we can apply for another one. He said that if the Village wants to start working on the public right of way side and going through and identifying the gooseneck, what's in the street, you can do that, too and try to knock out as many of those unknowns as you can. He reiterated that communities are not required to dig up the service to identify it. They only have to identify what is on the customer side.

Trustee Ward asked how long before the EPA changes their mind and starts requiring communities to dig up the services. Mr. Hansen said it is a never-ending thing. He said the goal post is always moving.

Mr. Hansen said that if there is money available and the Village wants to do it, let's get the inventory completed so we know that's done and then we can tackle what is in the public side.

President Byro asked if that was all Mr. Hansen had. Mr. Hansen said it was.

President Byro moved onto Committee Reports.

**Finance** - Trustee Hopkins said that with respect to the property by the landfill being rented or changing hands from the landfill back to the Village, at the Farm Service Agency, Ogle County, probably needs to do a reconstitution, which basically says the village is now the owner. Then moving forward, the tenants can report the acres as well as apply for available programs. He recommended doing the reconstitution, President Byro said okay. Trustee Hopkins asked Attorney Wilt if President Byro would be able to sign the paperwork on behalf of the Village or would Attorney Wilt need to do it. Attorney Wilt said that President Byro would sign and then Attorney Wilt would sign as Village Attorney. Attorney Wilt said that sometimes a resolution is required so that the entire Board needs to vote in order to get permission to do it. He said he didn't know if they would need a resolution for a reconstitution. Trustee Hopkins didn't feel it would be a whole Board thing. But a "representative of the Village", whether that be the Village President or Attorney Wilt. Attorney Wilt said that he would normally say that they do both just to cover the bases. President Byro asked if that needed to be done at that time. Trustee Hopkins said as soon as possible because the acreage needed to be reported supposedly by July 15. Trustee Hopkins stated that there were 67 acres planted out there, which is seven acres more than prior. Trustee Hopkins said that was all he had.

**Streets/Alleys/Sidewalks** - Trustee Ward said he had things to discuss later in the meeting. Trustee Kerns said he had something. He said he was waiting on Adamski to get time to do the alleys with that belly dump of gravel. Trustee Ward asked if it could be laid out so it doesn't have to be graded at all. Trustee Kerns said it would be touch-up. Trustee Kerns confirmed that we were doing all of the alleys as that is what he told Mr. Adamski. Trustee Elliot said that the alley behind Booster Hall was the worst one. Trustee Kerns said they could start there. Trustee Ward also suggested getting rid of the speed bump in the alley behind Village Hall. President Byro asked Trustee Kerns if he had anything else and he said he did not.

Trustee J. Hibshman asked if Creston Rd, where the stop sign is, was part of the Village or Dement Township. Trustee Ward said out to the edge of the subdivision was Village. Trustee J. Hibshman said that there is a crater out there. Trustee Ward said that if it is Village, then when Martin was out to do the water main project and they are on patch, maybe we could get them to patch things that need to be patched.

**Water/Sewer** - Trustee Kerns said he had nothing.

**Health/Safety** - Trustee J. Hibshman said he had nothing new, but he did have some information for the July 17th event. Trustee Kerns said he had something. He said he had a resident on North St up toward the end say there used to be a Kids Playing sign up there and now it is gone and cars come flying around the corner. He was wondering if the Village could get another sign to put up there. Mr. Loyd said he would look and see if he had one and if he didn't, he would have to order one. Trustee Kerns said the resident was thinking up by the water tower because there are some kids up there with little bikes and things. Trustee J. Hibshman suggested putting one right up by Cederholm as well to get that entire area. Trustee Kerns said that was all he had, President Byro asked if Trustee J. Hibshman if he had anything else and he said he did not.

**Zoning/Planning** - Trustee Elliot said that he had nothing.

**Subdivision** - Mr. Loyd asked what happened to the street sweeping that was supposed to be done. Trustee Ward said he hadn't had time to make any calls. Mr. Loyd said that last time, he got a hold of RMU and they came and swept Creston Commons for him. He said they also brought a truck and dumped what they swept. Trustee Ward said that would be the street department. Mr. Loyd said they came over and did that for him a couple of years ago. President Byro suggested that Mr. Loyd try contacting them again. Trustee Ward also suggested that Mr. Loyd make that call so that it didn't look like Trustee Ward asking for favors. Mr. Loyd asked what the Board wanted done with all the shavings, Trustee Ward suggested laying it down at the water tower. President Byro went back to Trustee Elliot and asked him if he had anything. He said no. President Byro said that all the new streetlights had been installed and things were going great guns out there. Trustee Elliot said that about the only thing he would add was that Harrington Environmental came out and sprayed the detention ponds. He said he didn't know if they sprayed on Creston Rd out by the new farm where the willow trees are or not. He said he didn't see any tracks out there today.

**New Business** - President Byro started with the house at 128 E North St. Trustee Ward stated that the asbestos inspection got done and there was no asbestos. He pulled several samples and none of them came back with any asbestos.

Trustee Ward said that after a lengthy conversation, he finally got a nice lady to help him at NICOR and she went through the whole process. They will be sending out an agreement because estimated cost for the Village to have service removed is \$2,200. That is just estimated. They will send a technician out, they will look at what needs to be done, work up their estimate and send us a letter. Trustee Ward he said that he had not seen that letter yet. He asked if anything had come to the Village, Clerk Payton said not that she had seen.

Trustee Ward said that once President Byro signed the letter authorizing the removal, it can take 21 days for the service to be removed. Trustee Elliot asked if by removed does that mean taken out clear to the main. Trustee Ward said yes. He also asked if a motion was needed to approve up to a certain amount for the service removal. President Byro said he supposed. Trustee Kerns said he recently had some experience with that. He said he never signed the letter and someone was out in three days to remove it. Trustee Ward said that the funny thing was that the lady he spoke to asked where he would like the final bill sent. Trustee Ward asked what final bill. He told her that the Village had just closed on the house the previous day and hadn't used any gas because the gas is shut off. She replied that there is a final bill due when the gas is shut off. Trustee Ward told her that the Village wouldn't be responsible for that. The lady responded no, but she needed to know where to send the final bill. Trustee Ward said he told her to send it to 128 E North St and hope they have a forwarding address. He said he could not use PO Box 36 because it didn't exist. He had to use 110 N Main St for them to send the letter, but they are supposed to email it.

Trustee Ward said that the fire department used the house at 128 E North St the previous night. He said that they employed artificial smoke and did search and rescue training. He said that they had another session schedule for the following Monday that would be the district training for the month, so they will have Hillcrest and Steward and Flagg Center there as well. He said he would put something on Facebook informing the community of what should be going on. He said he told them they couldn't break any windows or cut any holes as the Village needs to keep the structure sound and the house looking decent on the outside. He said it may get a little wet if someone opens a hose inside the home.

President Byro asked Trustee Ward if he wanted to make a motion for the gas. Trustee Ward made a motion to spend up to \$3000 to have the gas service removed at 128 E North St. just in case the estimate came in higher than expected. Trustee Ward also said that the lady told him that since we are a municipality, they may work with us. Trustee Elliot seconded the motion. President Byro asked if there were any questions. There were none. Roll call vote was taken. Trustees J. Hibshman, Ward, Elliot, M. Hibshman, Kerns and Hopkins all voted yes. There are no dissenting votes. Motion passed.

President Byro asked if there was anything else that needed to be discussed about the property. Trustee Ward said he would call RMU and get the line dropped. He said that

the power is off and the meter reads 0, but the line is still up, so he would call Mandy and let her know that the service would never be used again.

President Byro said he was talking to Mr. Loyd and there are two buffalo boxes for that house. One is in the middle of the driveway to the old maintenance building and the other one is over toward the house, so that will need to be figured out. Trustee Ward said that would be two services to remove from the Lead Line Service Inventory.

President Byro moved on to Village Office Security. He said that he and Treasurer Payton and Clerk Payton have been concerned about of the Village's computers and things. He said that a gentleman named Michael King from CMJ Solutions out of Sycamore had come to the office and it turned out he was is a relative of the Kings from our area. They have agreed to come over and put us on a monthly plan to get things straightened out. President Byro said that the security for our computers is pretty poor and we need to make improvements. He said he received a quote from CMJ Solutions and they were going to come to Village Hall and go through all the systems and make some upgrades. He said he thought it would be about \$85 per month, but it might be less because we told Mr, King that we're only open basically two days per week and Mr. King said he would work on that.

President Byro said that he and Treasurer Payton talked to Mr. King for a half hour to 45 minutes and he told Mr. King to go ahead and get started. He said that we would work with CMJ Solutions to get our system upgraded and get some security in place. Trustee Ward asked if they only do cybersecurity or if they do IT, too. President Byro said that they do some of that. He said that they were going to come over and go through the entire system and check everything out. He said they can install cameras and are available to do networking and that kind of thing. Trustee Ward said that another entity was looking for some computer and networking help. President Byro said that Trustee Ward might want to give CMJ Solutions a call.

Trustee Elliot stated that CMJ will inventory what the Village has, then write a protocol as to what we are going to do. President Byro said that they would get things straightened around and get things secured. He said that there were a lot of things that Treasurer Payton was having issues with and they said that they can help us out and do a good job for us. President Byro thinks it is a good deal.

Clerk Payton said that she didn't know what he did when he was there, but the computer was already working better than it was before he came. President Byro said that they are available 24/7, so if there are any issues, all we have to do is call. Trustee Elliot asked if they were out of Sycamore and President Byro said they were. He said that they had been around since 2007, he thought.

President Byro moved on to Property Demolition, which had been discussed earlier.

He then moved on to the Water Main Project. He said that Mr. Hansen had already filled the Board in on what was going on in relation to that, so there was no need to discuss that any further.

President Byro moved on to the Sidewalk Project. He said he thought that the Village was in a good place with that and he asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he had anything

else he wanted to address. He asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he was looking at any other spots that needed to be put on the list. Trustee M. Hibshman said he would like for the next thing to be Main Street and that it is important to get the ones that are a safety hazard repaired first. Trustee M. Hibshman said that doing Main Street would be a big chunk of money, so it would make sense to do that part next year.

**Old Business** - President Byro moved on to the Village Sign. He asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he had talked to the Brunses. He asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he had come up with anything and he said he had not. He said that he was chatting with Larry about it and Trustee M. Hibshman said that they should go chat with Mr. Bruns, and they got sidetracked. He said that Larry had mentioned it to Mr. Bruns before and he didn't think he would have a problem with it, but he had not physically sat down and had a conversation with him. President Byro said that when he did to bring it back to the Board. He said he'd like to see that sign get put up and Trustee M. Hibshman said he agreed. President Byro said that the spot out by the grain elevator would be a great location to put it.

President Byro moved on to the July 17th celebration. He asked Trustee J. Hibshman if he had anything he wanted to talk about. Trustee J. Hibshman said that the planning was going very well. He said he talked to all the local businesses. He talked to Midwest Signs and he talked to Regan Helgeson and they're really excited about it and they're going to partake in it. He said that they don't really know what they're going to do, but they're going to get involved. He said that the Moose Knuckle was also going to get involved and he assumed that they would bring their trailer downtown. He said that they might set up a tent, but he needed to get more detail on that. He said that they locked in a band, the River Rats. Trustee M. Hibshman spoke to them. Trustee J. Hibshman asked him what the price was and Trustee M. Hibshman said it was right at \$1000. President Byro said he thought that would be something good that the Village could donate to.

Trustee J. Hibshman said that he spoke with a couple of the Ogle County officers. He said that he got Officer Hardisan's email when he was talking to Officer Rugelberg. He said it would be a good idea to have them around, especially since there will be alcohol. He said he would email her sometime that week. He said the only other thing he was looking for was a flatbed for the band. He said he could talk to Huebers and see if they could help out with that, and then worry about the outhouses.

President Byro suggested a flatbed or a hay wagon. Trustee J. Hibshman said that everything was going well. President Byro asked if anyone else had any ideas. He asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he had anything else. Trustee M. Hibshman said Driftless Glen was going to have a tent and have booze sampling. Trustee Elliot suggested putting something on the website for advertising. Trustee M. Hibshman said that Chelsea and Skylar were designing a banner and there would be 2 banners up on Rte 38 around mid-June. He said Chelsea was kind of hung up on what to call it. President Byro said that someone would come up with something.

Trustee M. Hibshman said he didn't really realize until after he spoke to Ashley that the library was having a foam party after the run and Casey's was donating pizza for the kids. He said he thought she was a little concerned about people downtown going to the

library and eating all the pizza. Trustee Ward asked if the library's activities were earlier and Trustee M. Hibshman said that it was. He said that he told Ashley that the Village would not be doing anything until the library's activities were done. President Byro asked about the time frame and Trustee M. Hibshman said the library's activities don't end until 5:30 and the band would start at 7. The band will play from 7pm - 9:30pm. President Byro asked if they were looking for people to put up booths. Trustee M. Hibshman said it would be great if people wanted to set up booths. He said he was thinking about putting the band by the railroad tracks facing north. He also thought they could move the barricades to close off less of the street. President Byro asked if anyone had any other ideas. Trustee Ward suggested having Little O's or someone like that bring something that isn't competing with what Headon's is doing. Trustee M. Hibshman said that sounded good. President Byro said he was looking forward to it.

**Bills** - President Byro moved on to the bills. Trustee Ward said that Ironwood Environmental was the asbestos inspection. He said he gave them credit because he called and they were down the next day. President Byro said that the bill for Hawkins Chemical was higher than normal because of all the water that was drained from the water tower. Mr. Loyd brought up a pump for the chlorine in well 3 that is leaking gas and is getting crusted over. He said he spoke with Shane about it and Shane is going to replace it with a new type of pump. He also said that the area between the well and the system where we have the chlorine and the phosphate jets, that pipe is corroded and rusted and peeling. He said that Mike Megurdichian had talked about replacing but never did. He said he was going to get a hold of Cooper and have him get all the measurements and then those will have to be replaced, and then at that time, they will drill and tap new injectors for chlorine and phosphate. He said there was one in there now for fluoride, but we don't inject fluoride anymore, so that one can be eliminated. Mr. Loyd said that both wells will need to have those replaced because both of them are getting real bad. President Byro told Mr. Loyd to figure out what he needs because it needs to be taken care of. Mr. Loyd said that Shane was going to get the pump and he thought it would run around \$600. He said that they would only do well 3 for now because that is the worst one and they might do the other well in a couple of months. President Byro asked if there were any more questions about the bills. Trustee Hopkins made a motion to pay the bills. Trustee Ward seconded the motion. President Byro asked if there were any more questions about the bills. There were none. Roll call vote taken. Trustees Hopkins, Kerns, M. Hibshman, Elliot, Ward and J. Hibshman all voted yes. There were no dissenting votes. Bills were approved. President Byro said he had nothing else. He asked if anyone had anything else they would like to discuss. Trustee Elliot told Mr. Loyd that he did a good job on the water tower. Mr. Loyd said that he got lucky. Trustee Elliot said that his work was appreciated. President Byro said that if you open the door at the bottom, the mixer makes a lot of noise. He said he didn't think it would be that loud. Trustee Ward said that you would think with it being in water that it wouldn't be that loud. Mr. Loyd said he did flush a hydrant the day before out on Woodlawn Rd by Trustee Kerns' shop. The people across the street had reported having some really yellow water. Mr. Loyd said it was a little yellow but cleared right up. He said he noticed that day that he had yellow water, which was unusual. President Byro said he had yellow

water the previous evening. Mr. Loyd said he was trying to hold off on flushing hydrants until after the West St Water Main Project was done, but he may have to flush them before that if he gets a lot of complaints about yellow water. President Byro asked Trustee M. Hibshman if he had any yellow water. He said he didn't know because they were out at Amboy and that was their first night back, so he didn't know. He said that the week prior his water was great.

President Byro asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Elliot made the motion. Trustee Ward seconded it. President Byro asked all in favor to vote aye. All present voted aye. There were no dissenting votes. Meeting adjourned at 7:58:01.