

# Village of Vandalia

## Regular Meeting Minutes

### March 3, 2025

#### Meeting Call to Order

The **regular meeting** of the Village of Vandalia Board was called to order at **6:00 PM** by Village President **Evan Hickman**.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

#### Roll Call

The following members were present:

- **Trustee John Bennett** – Present
- **Trustee Cassandra Bennett** – Present
- **Trustee Myrick** – Present
- **Trustee Karen Young** – Absent

#### Approval of Minutes

- **Motion:** Trustee **John Bennett** moved to approve the minutes from the **February 2025** regular meeting.
- **Second:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion carried.
- **Motion:** Trustee **John Bennett** moved to approve the minutes from the **January 10, 2025**, special meeting.
- **Second:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion carried.

#### President's Report

- President **Hickman** attended the **Newly Elected Officials Training** hosted by the **Michigan Municipal League (MML)**.
- Trustees **Cassandra Bennett, Myrick, and John Bennett** also attended MML training.

## **New Business**

### **1. Resolution 2025-1: Chairperson of the Planning Committee**

- **Motion:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** moved to approve the resolution.
- **Second:** Trustee **John Bennett** seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion carried.

### **2. Zoning Variance Request – 17921 Bogue St., Vandalia, MI 49095**

- Request submitted by **William Hawthorne**.
- **Motion:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** moved to approve the zoning variance request.
- **Second:** Trustee **Myrick** seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion carried.

## **Old Business**

### **• Cemetery Plot Public Discussion:**

- **Mrs. May** inquired about the annual maintenance costs for the village cemeteries.
- **Mrs. Lawson** suggested allocating one cemetery plot per council member.
- **Mr. Buck** proposed that council members receive free cemetery plots after serving a designated period.

## **Clerk's Report: February 2025 Bills**

- **Motion:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** moved to approve the payment of village bills.
- **Second:** Trustee **Myrick** seconded the motion.
- **Roll Call Vote:**
  - Trustee **Myrick** – Aye
  - Trustee **John Bennett** – Aye
  - Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** – Aye
- **Vote Outcome:** Motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Road Committee:**

#### **1. Fund Transfer - \$2,049.25 from MSF & LSF to General Fund**

- **Motion:** President **Hickman** moved to approve the transfer.

- **Second:** Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** seconded the motion.
  - **Roll Call Vote:**
    - Trustee **Myrick** – Aye
    - Trustee **John Bennett** – Aye
    - Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** – Aye
  - **Vote Outcome:** Motion carried unanimously.
2. **Fund Transfer - \$10,091.74 from MSF & LSF to General Fund**
- **Motion:** President **Hickman** moved to approve the transfer.
  - **Second:** Trustee **Myrick** seconded the motion.
  - **Roll Call Vote:**
    - Trustee **Myrick** – Aye
    - Trustee **John Bennett** – Aye
    - Trustee **Cassandra Bennett** – Aye
  - **Vote Outcome:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Cemetery Committee:**

- No updates.

**Recreation Committee:**

- The **Vandalia Village Voice** (monthly newsletter) continues to be distributed to residents.

**Public Comment**

1. **Jerome Wares** expressed concerns regarding the **Village Blessing Box** and questioned whether he needed to submit an employment application for village-related duties.
2. **Kiante Buck** stated that he did not trust the **Village Council** and requested that the council provide reasons to earn public trust. He also noted that he had not been able to present a formal plan for a **Land Bank property** he acquired within the Village of Vandalia.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, **President Hickman** adjourned the meeting at **6:55 PM**.

**Prepared by:**

**Village Clerk, Ashley Wences-Young**

**Approved by:**

**Village President, Evan Hickman**