

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF WARDSVILLE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 04, 2026  
1825 ALBERT PLACE  
COMMUNITY BUILDING  
6:30 P.M.

The Board of Trustees may enter Closed Session at any time during the meeting upon a majority vote of the Board of Trustees under Section 610.021 RSMo for issues pertaining to personnel, real estate, possible litigation and/or to receive advice of counsel.

The regular meeting was called to order 6:30 p.m. by Board Chairman William (Bill) Gratz, those present were, Rick Taube Treasurer, and Rachel Busche Board Member. Bill Gratz certified a quorum present. In attendance were Libby Chipman, Village Clerk, David Bandre', Village Counsel, Gary Frank Maintenance Director, Don Welch Planning & Zoning President and Jon Stambaugh Village Resident.

Bill asked that the minutes be approved from February 4th, 2026, meeting, Rachel Busche made a motion to approve Rick Taube seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Bill asked that the treasurer report be approved from Libby for February 2026, Rick Taube made the motion to approve, Rachel Busche seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Report from Chairman Bill Gratz**

Bill brought up the fact that there has been much discussion on Facebook regarding accidents in our area. It was discussed that there is more traffic right now because of Tanner Bridge detour. Libby stated that she contacted the MO Highway Patrol and they instructed her how to do a report from their website to locate accidents they have responded to and went back and did report from Cole County Sheriff's Office since April of 2025. There have not actually been that many accidents. The average monthly is about 4, but most on Falcon Lane, not Highway B and Ashbury. More speeding tickets are issued on Falcon Lane. Bill will contact Sheriff Wheeler to see if he can get the speed sign back out here, they told Libby we were in the rotation.

**Report by Paul Stonner**

Not Present

**Report by Rick Taube**

Nothing to Report

**Report by Brian Schrimpf**

Not Present

**Report by Rachel Busche**

Nothing to Report

## **Report from David Bandre'**

### **March Stats**

Animal Call-2

Assist Citizen-2

Assist Fire-1

Attempt to Locate-1

Cell-Unintentional Call-1

Check Well Being-1

Document Served-4

Repo-1

Security Patrol-4

Suspicious Activity-3

Traffic Stops- 10

Dave brought up for discussion about the Village Investments, he said that he thinks that they should continue to be done as we are doing them. He will continue to work with Central Bank and Libby with MidAmerica bank, with the Chairman and Treasure signing all paperwork at MidAmerica.

## **Report from Gary Frank**

Gary Frank stated that he purchased the power washer that Bill asked that the Village to purchase to keep the trucks and grounds maintained. Gary spoke about the doors on the salt shed being caught up and asked about getting new doors, and it was decided that he would get them trimmed down shorter to see if that eliminates the problem, if it does not bring back up at future meeting.

## **Report from Don Welch**

Nothing

## **Report from Libby Chipman/Village Clerk**

Libby Chipman brought up the fact that she was unable to locate a CPA firm that was qualified and willing to do our audits only every 5 years, said after much research, she located a firm out of Springfield, Missouri that had glowing reviews. But again, they want to do the audit every year. After sending the contract to Dave, he was fine with the outline and the cost, we would sign a five-year contract with Decker & Pace, will be done completely remotely, as Graves and Associates was also, but Decker & Pace will go back and do 2024 for over \$5,000 less than Graves and Associates were going to charge us. Each year the fee schedule does go up but saves us money from what we previously paid. A motion was made by Rick Taube and seconded by Rachel Busche to approve Decker & Pace for the 5-year contract, motion carried unanimously.

## **Old Business**

Mo American Water is now working in the area for their updates as Libby notified on the website and MO American Water also notified all their customers.

**New Business**

Libby Chipman brought up having a flagpole and Veterans Memorial like Taos, mentioned we were the only Village and/or City without an American Flag at our Village Hall. Rachel Busche made a motion for the Flagpole and Memorial especially if it can be done by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Gary said he spoke to the Company that made the Veterans Memorial for Taos, and he said the cost would be about \$6,500,00 and Libby found the Flagpole would be about \$3,300.00, Rick Taube said not to exceed \$10,000.00, but said with everything could be over that amount. Don Welch said he would gladly help, and donate whatever time was needed. Bill Gratz suggested we try to ask for donations to get this done through some business, so we will wait until next meeting.

**Payment of Bills**

Rick Taube made a motion to approve paying the bills, Rachel Busche seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Rachel Busche made motion that we adjourn the meeting Rick Taube seconded, motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM AND COULD BE CHANGED BEFORE APPROVED AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 01, 2026**

Respectfully submitted



Libby Chipman-Village Clerk