

**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**Village of Steward, Illinois**  
**402 Main Street**  
**Monday, November 10, 2025 at 7:00pm**

**Call to Order/Pledge - 7:09pm**

**Roll Call** – Zach (y), Bill W (excused), Erik (y), Jamie (y), DJ (y), Rylee (absent)

**Approval of Agenda** – Addition to New Business: A. Christmas Decorating Contest; B. Village Christmas Decorations. Zach motions to approve agenda with additions, Erik seconds. All in favor.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2025 Meeting** – Correction on General Checking entry. Laura will correct. Zach motions to approve with corrections, DJ seconds. All in favor.

**Visitor Recognition** – Karen Bonnell present.

**Treasurer's Report** – Matt presented Treasurer's Report. **Item A on Agenda:** Set up Water Grant Payment for bi-annual auto payment from Water Savings Account. Matt verified this is set. A \$1600 deposit from the Water Checking Account is deposited monthly to Water Savings for this purpose. DJ motions to approve Treasurer's Report, Erik seconds. All in Favor.

**Accounts Payable** – Hugh reviewed monthly expenses. Insurance premium payment is due and will be divided between General Fund and Water Department Fund. Purchase of a new printer will also be divided equally between the two. Zach motions to approve, Erik seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Erik (y), Jamie (y), DJ (y).

**Committee Reports**

**A: Water Department** – 1. Report on Well 2 – Well 2 is measuring far below normal levels required, with current sand levels below the amount prior to repairs. VFD equipment is now working well and saved a great amount of money on repairs.

2. Grant Application – Willett/Hoffmann, our engineering firm is working to complete. Will update when more information is available.

**B. Park/Village Property** – 1. Snow Plowing – No bids submitted. Brandon willing to provide truck with another operator. Hugh offered his truck for plowing to avoid any issues with Brandon's equipment if needed. Zach motions to approve cost of snow plowing at last year's rate of \$150/hour, DJ seconds.

**C. Items for Newsletter, and/or other publicity** – Christmas Decorating Contest to be included in newsletter and Facebook.

**Old Business** – A. FOIA and OMA training – All completed except of DJ. Laura will connect with him and get it completed.

B. Village phone information – Leaf River will be installing new line, and we will disconnect from Frontier. Leaf River will save the village quite a bit monthly. There will be a disconnection fee from Frontier. Number will remain the same.

C. Banners and Flag Stands – Laura researched the company previously suggested but cannot assure products are American made. The cost for items made in America is much higher, but she did find a company that produces them. Zach makes a motion to increase allowable expense to \$1000 from the original approved amount of \$600, DJ seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Erik (y), Jamie (y), DJ (y). All in favor.

D. Present Tax Levy for Approval – Hugh presented a 4% increase over last year's tax levy. Jamie motions to approve, Erik seconds. Roll Call: Zach (y), Erik (y), Jamie (y), DJ (y). All in favor.

**New Business** – A. Christmas Decorating Contest – We will once again have a decorating contest for residents. Zach suggested a \$100 gift card to a local restaurant for 1<sup>st</sup> place, with five other winners each receiving \$20 gift cards. It was determined that residents would vote on Facebook and votes would be tallied. Zach motions to approve, Jamie seconds. **UPDATE:** Laura spoke with Geenex Solar contact Anne Marie, and they will be sponsoring the contest with a \$300 gift. Prizes will be as follows: 1st place @ \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> place @ \$75, 3<sup>rd</sup> place @ \$50, 3 honorable mentions @ \$25 each. Prizes will be cash.

B. Village Property Christmas Decorating – Date set for Saturday, November 15 at 10am – revised to Friday, November 14 at 3pm.

**Next Meeting Date - December 8, 2025 @ 7pm**

**Adjournment of Meeting** – Jamie motions to adjourn, Erik seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.