

Village of Balsam Lake
Regular Meeting of Trustees

Monday January 5th, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Gary Johnson at 6:00p.m.

Members present on roll call: Gary Johnson, Corby Stark, Eric Jorgensen, Brian Nelson, Len Manning, Kellie Flaherty.

Others present: Jason Larson, Seth Ilgen, Peter Nelton, Dave Durner, Doug Pursley, Jesse Mattocks.

Public Comments: Jesse Mattocks was in attendance. Point of order was raised by the clerk. It was noted that public comments shall be germane to the agenda. Jesse Mattocks stated the items he wished to talk about are specific to the Police Chief Report and Chamber of Commerce Report. It was noted by the Clerk that those reports are specific to the Police Chief and the Chamber representative to speak on and that he could not speak on their behalf.

To consider and possibly act to approve the January 5th, 2026, Regular Board meeting agenda. **Motion by Corby Stark to approve the January 5th, 2026, Regular Board meeting agenda. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

To consider and possibly act to approve the December 1st, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes. **Motion by Brian Nelson to amend the December 1st, 2025 Regular Board meeting minutes, on page 3 under Discussion and possible action regarding innovation Grant Application: The motion should have read, Motion by Brian Nelson to approve applying for the innovation Grant and to grant Gary Johnson and Amy Wilson the authority to sign the final submission of the grant subject to attorney review. Second by Len Manning. All in Favor. Carried. Motion by Jamey Flaherty to approve the amended December 1st, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes. Second by Len Manning. All in Favor. Carried.**

Police Chief Report was given by Chief Jorgensen. In December there were 25 calls for service and two arrests.

Public Works Report was given by DPW, David Patterson. In December there was one water main break. The crew continues to work through the winter season plowing snow and sanding. It was noted by the DPW that the WTP will be online the first part of January.

Library Director Report: No report was submitted to the Clerk and Director was not in attendance.

Chamber of Commerce Report was given by Dave Durner. Planning is underway for Winterfest.

To consider and possibly act to approve Temporary Class B Retailers License #1195, Winterfest, BLCC. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to approve the Temporary Class B Beer Retailers License #1195, for BLCC. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

To consider and possibly act to approve Amplified Device Permit License #3108, Winterfest, BLCC. **Motion by Len Manning to approve Amplified Device Permit License #3108, for BLCC. Second by Corby Stark. All in Favor. Carried.**

Discussion and possible action regarding American Legion Post 346 request for payment of invoice. Gary Hines with the American Legion Post 346 submitted an invoice to the clerk's office on 12-17-2025 requesting

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payment for work completed by Maxwell Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for repairs to the furnace. It was noted that Gary Hines did not follow the Lease Agreement between the Balsam Lake Village and the American Legion. Its noted within the agreement that the Village of Balsam Lake owns and will maintain the gas furnace currently in the northwest corner of the basement in existing building. Gary Johnson stated he talked with Mr. Hines and moving forward the American Legion will contact the DPW for furnace repairs and maintenance prior to scheduling service and repairs. **Motion by Corby Stark to approve paying \$533.26 to Maxwell Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for repairs made to furnaces. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

Discussion and possible action regarding Original Residential Rental Licensing Application #26-223, 300 Pleasant Ave. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to approve Original Residential Rental Licensing Application #26-226 for 300 Pleasant Avenue. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

Park discussion with Peter Nelton.

1. Landscaping Proposals:

- a. From the western slope of the driveway, south, Peter Nelton noted he would like to plant 2 shrubs similar in size.
- b. It was noted by Peter Nelton that he would like to work with the Village and Pro-Lawn to place 12-13 large boulders on the same western slope.
- c. It was noted by Peter Nelton that he would like to plant 6-7 Bluestem grasses on the same western slope.
- d. It was noted by Peter Nelton that he would like to have Pro-Lawn sketch out the design on paper.
- e. Peter Nelton noted he would also donate two, 25 gal. container, Autumn Blaze Maple Trees to be planted anywhere on the property the Village wishes.

2. Grass height:

- a. It was noted that Peter Nelton would like to leave the grass taller during the months of July and August to help keep the grass green. It was noted that the village could also plant Goldenrod grass throughout to add additional color. It was noted by the Village Board that they would have to review the Village ordinance for lawncare.

3. Walking Trails:

- a. It was noted by Peter Nelton that he would like to keep all walking trails as natural grass. The grass within the trail would be mowed slightly less than the other taller prairie grass.

The Village Board noted these requests would be sent to the next Parks Committee Meeting.

Discussion and possible action regarding extended stay request, 501 West Main Street, Lumberjill Lodge. Doug Pursley was in attendance representing Lumberjill Lodge. It was noted that the business purchased the property four years ago and the property owners have done a considerable amount of work to make repairs to the property. It was noted they would like to offer extended stay to traveling professionals. Attorney Paul Mahler submitted a written statement, noting that the current code does not allow for extended stay as conditional use in the current zoning district. It was noted if the Village wishes, they could look into a possible zoning change for the property and an amendment to the code or a use variance. Paul Mahler noted one concern is the Village can't approve a use that would allow only 'professional' types to stay there for an extended time. The village would either open it up to extended stay or they can chose not to. The Village could consider adopting a sex offender ordinance to prohibit residing within a defined distance of a school or church to provide some protection, but that would be another matter. **Motion by Kellie Flaherty to keep the ordinance and zoning as is and to not allow for extended stay at 501**

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West Main Street, Lumberjill Lodge. Second by Corby Stark. On Roll Call: Corby Stark, yes; Eric Jorgensen, abstain; Brian Nelson, yes; Len Manning, yes; Jamey Flaherty, yes; Kellie Flaherty, yes; Gary Johnson, yes. Carried.

To consider and possibly act to approve Contractor Pay application #16, Staab Construction Corporation, WTP. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to approve Contractor Pay application #16, Staab Construction Corporation for \$446,207.63. Second by Corby Stark. On Roll Call: Corby Stark, yes; Eric Jorgensen, yes; Brian Nelson, yes; Len Manning, yes; Jamey Flaherty, yes; Kellie Flaherty, yes; Gary Johnson, yes. Carried.**

Finance Committee Report was given by Gary Johnson.

Discussion regarding BLFD fundraising account. It was noted that not all of the outstanding checks have been deposited by vendors. No action was taken.

Discussion regarding EMS funding Assistance Program. No action was taken.

To consider and possibly act to approve the December 31st, 2025, Treasurers Report. **Motion by Corby Stark to approve the December 31st, 2025, Treasurers Report. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

Building Permit Log for 2025 was reviewed.

January Meetings: Monday 19th, Parks Committee Meeting @ 5:00 p.m., Streets & Buildings Committee Meeting @ 5:30 p.m. & Sewer/Water/M&E Committee Meeting @ 5:45 p.m.

Announcements: Village Caucus will be held on Tuesday, January 13th, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Corby Stark to adjourn the meeting. Second by Eric Jorgensen. All in Favor. Carried. 7:08p.m.

Amy Wilson, Clerk Treasurer
Ann Ball, Deputy Clerk Treasure