

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK
HELD IN THE POLICE STATION COMMUNITY ROOM
AT 9451 BELMONT AVENUE
August 17, 2026**

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II. CALL TO ORDER:** Village President Pedersen called to order the Board of Trustees of the Village of Franklin Park in session at 7:00 p.m.
- III. ROLL CALL; ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**
Village Clerk April J Arellano called the roll:
Present at Board Meeting: Mr. Barrett F. Pedersen (Village President),
Ms. April J Arellano (Village Clerk), and Joseph Montana (Village Attorney)

Trustees (Present in the Room):

Ms. Karen Special,
Mr. John Johnson,
Mr. William "Bill" Ruhl,
Mr. Andres "Andy" Ybarra
Mr. Gilbert Hagerstrom
Ms. Irene Avitia

Department Heads:

Thomas Ferris (Police Chief)
Lucas Palermo Jr. (Fire Chief)
Nick Weber (Utilities Commissioner)
Lisa Manzo (Deputy Building Director)
Nick Walny (Community Development and Zoning Director)
Dan Corcoran (IT Director)
Lisa Anthony (Director of Human Resources & Operations)
Tom McCabe (Village Engineer)

The Village Clerk declared a quorum was present.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT PEDERSEN

On September 12, 2025, Silverio Villegas Gonzalez was shot and killed by ICE agents as they were attempting to conduct a vehicle stop in Franklin Park.

The Board and I continue to have concerns regarding the implementation and handling of law enforcement tactics utilized during Operation Midway Blitz. The Franklin Park Police Department was not on the scene when the shooting occurred and did not participate in the investigation conducted by the FBI. In accordance with Governor Pritzker's Illinois Accountability Commission request, our Police Department is fully cooperating with the Illinois State Police Department's Public Integrity Task Force in their investigation to determine what occurred that day.

The Village of Franklin Park remains fully committed to ensuring that all residents, business operators, and visitors feel safe in our community. My fellow Board members and I strongly believe that Franklin Park should be a safe place for all. We call on all residents to follow law enforcement directives to ensure community safety and to continue to support our Franklin Park first responders who put their life on the line every day to keep our community secure.

Our community is comprised of a variety of opinions. We are also a wonderfully diverse community with many shared values and beliefs, among them that everyone deserves respect and dignity.

The dedication of the bench will allow for a permanent place of remembrance and reflection on the life and death of Silverio Villegas Gonzalez and all immigrant families in our community.

Mr. Villegas Gonzalez left a loving partner and two children. Our thoughts are with them.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Father Leandro Fossa of Our Lady of Mount Carme Catholic Church of Melrose Park expressed his gratitude to the Village of Franklin Park and Mayor Pedersen for consideration for the Resolution honoring the memory of Silverio Villegas Gonzalez

Father Fossa stated he was accompanied by the community who have been moved by the tragic shooting of Silverio Villegas Gonzalez on September 12, 2025, and by Blanca, Mr. Silverio Villegas Gonzalez's partner who asked Father Fossa to speak on her behalf

Father Fossa on behalf of Blanca expressed her condolences to the people who have faced the same tragedy and whose families have been separated, Father Fossa stated he and the community are grateful for the board and Mayor Pedersen for honoring the life and struggle of immigrants, of who many live in fear and uncertainty

Mayor Pedersen paused for a moment of silence

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. FINANCE AND SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEES, (Mr. Johnson, Chair)

1. MR. JOHNSON REPORTED THERE WERE NO SPECIAL EVENTS FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO ANNOUNCE

2. WATER AND SEWER/FLEET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE, (Ms. Avitia, Chair)

1. ON BEHALF OF MS. AVITIA, MS. SPECIAL REPORTED 7 MAINBREAKS,
2. MS. SPECIAL REPORTED UTILITY SERVICE COMPANY COMPLETED ALL THE REPAIRS TO THE 5-MILLION-GALLON STORAGE TANK AT KING STREET PUMPING STATION. AFTER SAMPLING, THE TANK IS BACK IN SERVICE
3. MS. AVITIA REPORTED THE METER CREW HAS REPLACED 120 OF OUR 177 (1½" METERS) IN TOWN TO THE NEW NEPTUNE MAG METERS WITH NO MOVING PARTS

4. MS. AVITIA REPORTED THE GRASS CREW CLEANED UP 32 BAGS OF GARBAGE AT 75 LOCATIONS AROUND TOWN SINCE THE LAST BOARD MEETING
5. MS. AVITIA REPORTED 36 FEET OF 6" STORM SEWER WAS REPLACED AT 2556 MAPLE
6. MS. AVITIA REPORTED PUMP #2 WAS PULLED AT TAFT LIFT STATION TO HAVE THE PUMP REBUILT
7. MS. AVITIA REPORTED 13 STREET DRAINS HAVE BEEN REBUILT
8. OUR VACTOR CREW JETTED AND CLEANED 150 FEET AT 3147 SUNSET AND 2556 MAPLE

3. POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE, (Mr. Ruhl, Chair)

1. ON BEHALF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, MR. RUHL ANNOUNCED HE DID NOT HAVE A REPORT FOR EITHER DEPARTMENT

4. STREETS, ALLEYS, AND FLEET MAINTENANCE (Mr. Ybarra, Chair)

1. ON BEHALF OF STREETS, ALLEYS, AND FLEET MAINTENANCE, MR. YBARRA REPORTED 4 VEHICLES WERE TAKEN TO FLEET MAINTENANCE FOR SERVICE
2. MR. YBARRA REPORTED POTHOLE PATCHING WAS DONE THROUGHOUT TOWN WHERE NEEDED
3. MR. YBARRA REPORTED BRANCH COLLECTION WAS COMPLETED, 14 TREE STUMPS WERE REMOVED AND THE PARKWAYS WERE RESTORED, 4 TREES WERE TRIMMED, 2 TREES WERE REMOVED
4. MR. YBARRA REPORTED 1 DEAD ANIMAL WAS REMOVED, GARBAGE CANS WERE EMPTIED THROUGHOUT TOWN, FLOWERS WERE WATERED DAILY, WOOD CHIPS WERE HAULED OUT FOR RECYCLING
5. MR. YBARRA REPORTED 5 TREES WERE DAMAGED FROM THE SEVERE STORMS AND ALL RESIDENTIAL ROUTES & MAIN STREETS WERE SWEEPED
6. ON BEHALF OF THE FLEET DEPARTMENT, MR. YBARRA REPORTED A TOTAL OF 114 REPAIRS FOR A TOTAL OF 149 HOURS
7. MR. YBARRA REPORTED A TOTAL OF 7,674.310 GALLONS OF FUEL WERE CONSUMED BY VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

5. PROPERTY, PLANNING, ZONING, BUILDING, AND TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION, (Ms. Special, Chair)

1. ON BEHALF OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT, MS. SPECIAL REPORTED 201 CONTRACTORS APPLIED AND REGISTERED FOR LICENSES, 131 BUILDING PERMITS WERE APPLIED FOR, 13 ELECTRICAL, 5 SIGN, 11 FIRE, 2 DUMPSTER, AND 1 TEMPORARY EVENT PERMITS WERE APPLIED FOR A TOTAL OF 163 PERMITS MS. SPECIAL REPORTED 26 PROPERTY CLOSINGS, 9 NEW BUSINESS APPLIED FOR OCCUPANCY AND 5 NEW OCCUPANCY CERTIFICATES WERE ISSUED
2. ON BEHALF OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING, MS. SPECIAL REPORTED ON JULY 31ST, THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, AND PROJECT PARTNERS CELEBRATED THE

START OF CONSTRUCTION FOR THE GRAND AVENUE CLIMATE RESILIENCY PROJECT. THE CONSTRUCTION WILL LAST FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF OCTOBER. THE GRAND AVENUE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT WILL TRANSFORM THE GRAND AVENUE CORRIDOR WITH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE, NEW TREES AND NATIVE LANDSCAPING, STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS, ENHANCED PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNED TO REDUCE LOCALIZED FLOODING

3. ON BEHALF OF THE TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION, MS. SPECIAL RECOGNIZED AND THANKED THE TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION AND THE BEE COMMITTEE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIVE POLLINATOR GARDEN LOCATED AT THE KING STREET PUMPING STATION. THIS GARDEN IS ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE PUMPING STATION AND IS APPROXIMATELY 400 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE. THERE ARE 137 DIVERSIFIED PLANTS THAT PROVIDE THREE SEASONS FOR POLLINATORS. MS. SPECIAL THANKED MEMBER VIOLET PAZ WHO PLANNED, ORGANIZED, AND DONATED PLANTS AND THANKED THE VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF WHO MADE THIS PROJECT A SUCCESS

6. HUMAN RESOURCES, SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE, (Mr. Hagerstrom, Chair)

1. MR. HAGERSTROM STATED HE DID NOT HAVE A REPORT ON BEHALF OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

VII. STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS: DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

John Park of Park Development, Marco Miranda and his management team updated the board on the Wyndham Hotel on Mannheim. Mr. Park stated delays have cost them \$2 million and are eager to open as soon as possible. Mr. Park stated Wyndham Gardens remains 100% committed and are working with the Zoning, and Building Department to get things completed

Mr. Park stated the building will be ready for occupancy by December 31, 2026, and that the exterior has been completed except for landscaping, entrances, fence painting and covered entrance wrapping. He also stated interior is completed except for trims, FFE, lobby build out

The board raised concerns about the amount of years that have passed by with no progress and questioned the quality work being performed to expedite to meet the December 2026 opening date.

The board also raised questions about security and lack of staff on site

The board raised concerns about the weather affecting the construction due to windows remaining open, electric and pipes exposed during the various seasons

Concerns regarding the type of labor were raised, whether it was union or if they were using qualified contractors who's work will still hold up in the next years

Concerns were raised about passing plumbing before there was electrical in the building

A questions was raised whether Park Development has obtained the Wyndham designation or if that would cause another delay

The board remain firm that “temporary” occupancy permits are not allowed in Franklin Park and will not issue a “temporary” occupancy permit

Mr. Marcos Miranda stated he joined the project for a few months and is eager to get the project completed. He stated he is a resident and is also frustrated with the lack of progress

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

(Items on the Consent Agenda will be enacted or approved by a single motion or omnibus vote. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless so requested by a member of the Village Board, in which case that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the normal sequence of the Agenda.)

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM:
(a) THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026
2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHER EXPENDITURES LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF:
\$4,216,478.03
3. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS APPROVING THE CONTENT OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT
4. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS APPROVING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT
5. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROVIDING FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN VERBATIM RECORDINGS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETINGS
6. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AT THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 6, 2027, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK SHALL CONTINUE TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS TO BUILD A SECOND VEHICLE UNDERPASS

7. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AT THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 6, 2027, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK SHALL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A COMMUNITY GARDEN FOR RESIDENTS TO USE
8. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AT THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 6, 2027, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK SHALL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE PARK DISTRICT AND LIBRARY DISTRICT TO PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA ON FRANKLIN AVENUE
9. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 VC
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6-6F-8 OF CHAPTER SIX OF TITLE SIX OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO ELIMINATE THE HANDICAPPED RESERVED PARKING SPACE AT 2731 ELDER LANE
10. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 VC
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6-6F-3 OF CHAPTER SIX OF TITLE SIX OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS ADDING PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT 3548 RIVER ROAD
11. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 VC
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6-6F-7 OF CHAPTER SIX OF TITLE SIX OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS ADDING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON DORA STREET, GEORGE STREET, LINCOLN STREET, AND SARAH STREET
12. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE 25th STREET AND SCHILLER BOULEVARD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BY AND BETWEEN SMITH LASALLE, INCORPORATED AND THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

13. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE CROWN ROAD AREA STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BY AND BETWEEN SMITH LASALLE, INCORPORATED AND THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
14. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE GEORGE STREET ROADWAY AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BY AND BETWEEN SMITH LASALLE, INCORPORATED AND THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
15. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BY AND BETWEEN SMITH LASALLE, INCORPORATED AND THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
16. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2627-G-03 (AMENDING SALARY SCHEDULE ORDINANCE)
17. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS APPROVING A PERMANENT EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES, SIDEWALK AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS FOR THE GRAND AVENUE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROJECT AT GEORGE STREET
18. ORDINANCE NO. 2627 G
AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS APPROVING A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF A VILLAGE OWNED PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY AT 3335 SCHIERHORN COURT
19. MOTION TO APPROVE NATIONAL POWER RODDING CORPORATION, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE BIDDER FOR THE 2026 SEWER LINING PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$562,010.25 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BID ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION FROM THE VILLAGE ENGINEER AND AUTHORIZE THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME

20. MOTION TO APPROVE A PROPOSAL FROM GREMLEY & BIEDERMANN, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEY SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED MARTENS STREET TIF IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,250.00 AND AUTHORIZE THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME
21. MOTION TO APPROVE A PROPOSAL FROM GREMLEY & BIEDERMANN, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEY SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 TO SEYMOUR WAVELAND TIF IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,250.00 AND AUTHORIZE THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME
22. MOTION TO APPROVE JOHN NERI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, ADDISON, ILLINOIS, AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE BIDDER FOR PHASE ONE OF THE CROWN ROAD STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$338,120.00 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BID ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION FROM CHRISTOPHER BURKE ENGINEERING AND AUTHORIZE THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME
23. MOTION TO APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF A 2026 CHEVY TAHOE WITH INTERCEPTOR PACKAGE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM HOLZ MOTORS, INCORPORATED, HALES CORNERS, WISCONSIN, AS PART OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS PROCUREMENT PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$77,624.17, TO ENSURE THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS AND AUTHORIZE THE REQUIRED OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME
24. MOTION TO WAIVE BID REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM DIGICOM INSTALLATIONS, INCORPORATED, HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF EMERGENCY ALERTING SYSTEMS FOR VILLAGE FIRE STATIONS WITH 911 ETSB FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$132,613.13, TO ENSURE THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS AND AUTHORIZE THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TAKE SUCH ACTION TO EFFECTUATE SAME

(Village Clerk Arellano read aloud each of the items that were identified on the consent agenda and under consideration by the Village Board before final action on the items identified on the consent agenda occurred)

Motion made by Mr. Ybarra and seconded by Mr. Hagerstrom to approve the Consent Agenda

Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ruhl, Ms. Special, Mr. Ybarra, Ms. Avitia and Mr. Hagerstrom

Nay - 0. Absent – 0. Abstain – 0

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NONE

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2627 R

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN MEMORY OF SILVERIO VILLEGAS GONZÁLEZ
Village Clerk Arellano read the Resolution of the Village of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois in Memory of Silverio Villegas Gonzalez

Motion made by Mr. Ybarra and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the Resolution of the Village of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois in Memory of Silverio Villegas Gonzalez

Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Johnson, Ms. Special, Mr. Ybarra, Ms. Avitia and Mr. Hagerstrom
Nay - 0. Absent – 0. Abstain – Mr. Ruhl

XI. COMMENTS FROM THE CLERK:

Village Clerk Arellano thanked the Police, Fire and Public Works department for making the annual Back to School event at the Joe “Tiny” Lauro Plaza on July 31, 2026 a huge success. Over 300 students received back bags and school supplies. Village Clerk Arellano stated this was in partnership with the State Representative Norma Hernandez and Congressman Jesus “Chuy” Garcia

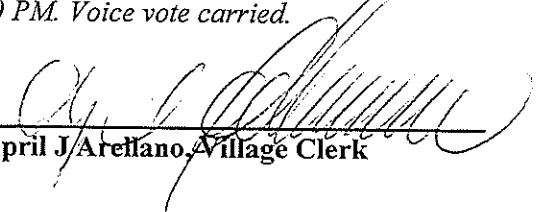
XII. COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:
NONE

XIII. CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION
NONE

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ybarra to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Voice vote carried.

ATTEST


April J. Arellano, Village Clerk