

VILLAGE OF LATTY

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August 11, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Village Council met in regular session on August 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Latty Village Town Hall. Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM with a motion made by Beth Stoller and seconded Darlene Knapp. Members present were: Kirk Stoller, Mike Gray, Barb Sinn, Darlene Knapp, Beth Stoller, Shawn Gerber and Gabby Hook.

Guests present included Jane Gray and Mary Goings representing the Latty Church Festival Committee, and Yvon Dargenson (Resident of Latty).

Prayer to start the meeting was given by Mayor Gerber.

Latty Church Festival: Jane Gray and Mary Goings, who assisted with the recent church festival, were present. Jane stated that the Village looks wonderful and expressed appreciation for the positive improvements and activities taking place throughout the community. Jane reminded Mayor Gerber that the receipt for the trees needs to be submitted to the Paulding County Soil and Water Conservation District by the following day. Mary Goings presented Barb Sinn with a check for the Latty Youth Foundation. Jane explained that the funds were generated through donations received during the festival. Jane stated that the festival committee will meet Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the shelter house. Mayor Gerber stated that he will restake the trees that were planted as part of the festival activities. Jane also offered to donate 48 freezer pops to the concession stand for flag football if needed.

Yvon Dargenson: Presented his vision for improvements to the Village basketball court. Yvon shared plans with council and explained that he has a passion for basketball and would like to create something positive for the community and its youth. The proposed project is estimated at approximately \$40,000. Yvon's goal is to complete the project at no cost to the Village by utilizing business donations, grants, and other available resources. His goal is to have the basketball court improvements completed by the July 2027 festival, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at that time. Yvon also plans to establish a committee to assist with organizing and carrying out the project. Mayor Gerber offered the use of Town Hall for committee meetings. Looking toward the future, Yvon would like to see a local basketball team established and tournaments hosted on the improved court, providing local children with more opportunities to participate in activities within their own community. Council expressed its appreciation to Yvon for the time, effort, and initiative he has already put into the proposed project and recognized the positive impact it could have on the Village.

*A motion to accept July minutes and pay bills, first by Mike and second by Barb. All bills were addressed by council and approved. 5-0

Council Discussions made by Mayor Gerber:

- Mayor Shawn Gerber stated that the September council meeting will be held as regularly scheduled. Council will look at adjusting the October meeting date to accommodate the Fiscal Officer's anticipated maternity leave. A new October meeting date will be discussed and determined as needed.
- Council will discuss Trick-or-Treat plans at the September meeting. Trick-or-Treat is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2026. Discussion on Trunk or Treat were also brought up.
- Mayor Gerber reported that he met with Jesse Noffsinger, Dan Knapp, Kirk Stoller, Kenny Speice and Tom Sin regarding a Village street experiencing flooding and standing-water issues. The

system was flushed, and it was determined that the water flows to the south. The Village is awaiting a quote from Jesse for the work needed to address the issue, as well as a quote for work in the alleyway.

- Mayor Gerber stated that the Village needs to determine which lot Vantage will be using for the second house it plans to construct. Once this is determined, the Village can move forward with selling the remaining available lots.
- For the 2027 budget, Mayor Gerber stated that the Village intends to be conservative with spending and preserve funds wherever possible. He will prepare his proposed budget items and provide them to the Fiscal Officer within the next couple of weeks.
- Mayor Gerber met with Eric Stoller, who assisted by cutting down weeds on Village-owned property that Mr. Goings was unable to farm due to health concerns.
- Mayor Gerber reached out to George Clemens regarding the possibility of providing police coverage for the Village of Latty. He is awaiting feedback. The Village is considering approximately three to four hours of police coverage per month.
- Council discussed the need to fill the vacant council seat. Mayor Gerber asked council members to begin considering Village residents who may be good candidates for the position. The matter will be addressed at the next meeting.
- Mayor Gerber reported that he and Tyson spent considerable time during July cutting weeds and brush throughout the Village.
- Mayor Gerber believes there may be a grub problem in the outfield of the baseball field. He plans to obtain a sprayer and treat the affected area.
- Mayor Gerber reported that the recent church festival had an excellent turnout and was very well organized. He noted that it was a positive day for the community, with many current residents, longtime residents, and individuals who have moved away returning to visit. Feedback regarding the festival and the Village was overwhelmingly positive.
- Council discussed the NatureWorks Grant through Kleinfelder. The Village expects to learn in November whether its application has been approved. The grant request is for approximately \$25,000. If awarded, the funds will be incorporated into the Village's 2027 budget.
- Council discussed installation of the speed signs received in July. Mayor Gerber will contact the Paulding County Engineer's Office to determine whether they have equipment available to drive the sign posts into the ground. Fiscal Officer Gabby will contact George Clemens to see whether he can assist the Village with calibrating the speed signs once installed.
- Council continued discussions regarding the possibility of entering into a Village-wide trash collection contract with Real Waste. Barb Sinn will contact Real Waste to obtain additional information regarding what residents are currently paying and determine whether residents are on different service options or rates. Mayor Gerber will prepare a letter explaining the proposed trash service. The letter will first be distributed to council members for review and approval. Once approved, it will be posted on the bulletin board at the Post Office, and Beth Stoller will also post the information on Facebook. The Village is currently considering Option 3, which would include:
 - One Ultra Cart per residence
 - Weekly trash collection
 - Quarterly bulk-item pickup, limited to four items. Bulk pickup in January, April, July, and October

- Residents must have their account paid in full to participate
- Cost of approximately \$80 per quarter
- The notice will invite residents to attend the next council meeting to provide feedback and voice their opinions regarding the proposed Village-wide Real Waste contract. Council will continue discussion and consider residents' feedback at the September meeting.
- Council discussed the need to consider a \$5 increase to the monthly sewer bill. Sewer rates have not been increased for some time, while operating and maintenance costs associated with the sewer system continue to rise. Information regarding the proposed increase will be included with the public notice regarding trash collection so residents are aware that the matter will be discussed at the next council meeting. No action was taken at this time.
- Mayor Gerber discussed several possible projects for 2027 and stated that he will explore donations and other funding opportunities to help offset Village costs. Potential projects include adding dirt to the ball field to improve drainage and playing conditions. The windstorm earlier this year displaced a significant amount of dirt, and standing water has resulted in several games being canceled. Additional ideas include:
 - Adding a bullpen and batting cage for baseball and softball
 - installing concrete slabs and bleachers for flag football, subject to approval from ALCO
 - Exploring the possibility of obtaining playground equipment that Hicksville may be replacing
- Contacting individuals and businesses who had previously expressed interest in donating toward a new ball diamond to determine whether they would be willing to contribute toward dirt, bullpen improvements, batting cages, or other recreational improvement

Fiscal Officer – Gabby

Resolution 2026-08-11-001 – Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds and Declaring an Emergency

Council considered Resolution 2026-08-11-001 authorizing the transfer of \$16,500 from the General Fund (1000) to the Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund (2011), Account No. 2011-610-600. The transfer is necessary to cover additional monies invoiced for the Village's street paving project.

Motion: Barb Sinn

Second: Beth Stoller

Vote: 5-0, motion carried.

Resolution 2026-08-11-002 – Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the Lands and Buildings Fund

Council considered Resolution 2026-08-11-002 authorizing a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$5,000 to Account No. 1000-730-599.92 for Lands and Buildings. The supplemental appropriation is necessary to finish paying for the new roof installed following damage from the high-wind event earlier this year.

Motion: Barb Sinn

Second: Michael Gray

Vote: 5-0, motion carried.

Council Discussions

Beth Stoller- N/A

Michael Gray- N/A

Darlene Knapp-N/A

Barb Sinn- Barb asked Fiscal Officer Gabby questions regarding the Paulding County Auditor's Office and how delinquent sewer accounts have been handled.

Kirk Stoller- Kirk reported that he knows the location of the slide that was originally at the Latty School. He would like to explore bringing the slide back to the Village so it can once again be used within the community. Further discussion will be held at the next council meeting.

Solicitor John Hatcher- Not present.

Discussions for the September Meeting:

- Real Waste trash service contract
- Sewer Rates
- 2027 Budget
- Vacant Council position
- Trick or Treat Ideas

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Council Member Kirk Stoller seconded by Council Member Mike Gray. Adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Next Meeting will be September 8, 2026, at 6:00PM at the Village Hall