

VILLAGE OF LATTY

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September 8, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Village Council met in regular session on September 8, 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 Barb Sinn and seconded Mike Gray. Members present were: Kirk Stoller, Mike Gray, Barb Sinn, Darlene Knapp, Beth Stoller, Kevin Hale, Shawn Gerber, John Hatcher and Gabby Hook.

Guests present included Kathy Habern, Richard Agness, Marlane Stahl and Angel Chaney.

Prayer to start the meeting was given by Mayor Gerber.

Appointment of Council Member: Mayor Shawn Gerber appointed Kevin Hale to fill the vacant council position. Mayor Gerber administered the oath of office to Kevin Hale on September 8, 2026, at 6:03 p.m.

Sewer Rate Increase: Council discussed the need for an increase in the Village sewer rate to assist with the continued operation and maintenance of the sewer plant. It was noted that the sewer rate has not been increased since 2002 (was \$45.00 increased to \$50.00). Council voted that effective January 1, 2027, monthly sewer will increase \$5.00 from \$50.00 to \$55.00, with a 6-0 vote. Council and Mayor Gerber invited residents in attendance to ask questions or voice concerns regarding the increase and explained that the additional revenue is necessary to properly maintain the sewer system and plant.

Real Waste Contract: Council discussed a proposed one-year Village-wide trash collection contract with Real Waste. Under the proposed contract, weekly trash collection would be provided along with bulky-item collection four times per year, occurring during the first pickup in January, April, July, and October. Richard Agness and Marlane Stahl stated that they currently pay approximately \$79 for trash service with 7 bags and have been informed that their rate will increase to approximately \$83. Angel Cheney stated that she currently has two Real Waste bins and approximately 14 bags collected for roughly \$78, but has an agreement with Real Waste since she pays 3 months in advanced. Following extensive discussion between Council and residents regarding the proposed contract and questions surrounding service and pricing, Mike Gray recommended inviting a representative from Real Waste to attend the next council meeting to address residents' questions directly. Council agreed to table the Real Waste contract until the October meeting.

A motion to accept August minutes and pay bills, first by Darlene Knapp and second by Kirk Stoller. All bills were addressed by council and approved. 6-0

Discussions made by Mayor Gerber:

Halloween & Trunk-or-Treat: Village Trick-or-Treat will be held Thursday October 29, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Council also discussed holding a Trunk-or-Treat along the ball diamond during the same hours as Trick-or-Treat. Mayor Gerber will coordinate the Trunk-or-Treat event.

Electronic Speed Sign Update: Mayor Gerber reported that he spoke with Brian Santo of the Paulding County Engineer's Office regarding the Village's electronic speed signs. Due to the County's current workload, the Engineer's Office plans to come to the Village next week to evaluate the proposed locations and install the necessary poles.

Police Patrol: Mayor Gerber provided an update regarding potential police patrol services for the Village. George Clemens has expressed interest in providing patrol services and would like additional information regarding the Village's expectations, desired services, and anticipated number of patrol hours. Mayor Gerber will contact

Clemens to determine whether he can attend the October council meeting to discuss the matter further. Residents also voiced concerns regarding speeding throughout Village streets. It was noted that traffic enforcement and speeding concerns could be addressed as part of the proposed police patrol services.

Village Traffic Signs: Mayor Gerber asked Council whether the Village should continue its ongoing program of repairing and replacing traffic signs. Brian Santo and the Paulding County Engineer's Office have been assisting the Village with these repairs. It was recommended that the County repair or replace five signs currently in the poorest condition as part of the Village's ongoing sign maintenance. Council agreed that the work is necessary, and Mayor Gerber will contact Brian Santo regarding the repairs and replacements.

County Mowing/Vegetation Maintenance: Council discussed the possibility of utilizing equipment and services through the Paulding County Engineer's Office to trim back vegetation along Alexander Street south of the railroad tracks and in the area near the sewer plant in preparation for winter. Council agreed to obtain an estimate for the proposed work but has not authorized the work at this time. Residents in attendance expressed their opinions that the areas are currently sufficiently clear and questioned whether spending Village funds on additional vegetation removal is necessary. Council will review the estimate at the next meeting before determining whether to proceed.

Alco Field & Ball Field Maintenance: Mayor Gerber reported that he contacted Mark Manns regarding returning to spray the Alco Field and ball field and spread fertilizer. The fertilizer for the fields was donated by Mercer Landmark.

Bulk Fuel / Mercer Landmark: Council discussed options for purchasing bulk fuel due to C&Y Oil no longer providing bulk gasoline or diesel delivery. Mike Gray and Barb Sinn have been contacting alternative bulk fuel suppliers. Mercer Landmark currently quoted bulk diesel at approximately \$5.09 per gallon for a bulk fill. Council discussed that local retail diesel prices in Paulding are currently over \$6.00 per gallon, making bulk purchasing a potential cost savings for the Village. Mike reported that approximately 150–200 gallons of diesel were used for snow plowing last winter. With the possibility of increased winter activity this year, Council discussed the potential savings associated with purchasing diesel in bulk. Residents asked whether pricing could also be obtained from Porter's in Paulding to determine whether it could provide a more competitive rate than Mercer Landmark. Council voted 6-0 to authorize Mike Gray to negotiate and obtain bulk diesel pricing. Mike will contact Porter's and compare available pricing before the Village proceeds. Council will revisit the purchase of bulk gasoline for Village lawn equipment in the spring.

Payroll & Council Meeting Schedule: Council discussed moving salary payroll to the first of each month in anticipation of potentially changing regular council meetings to the third Tuesday of each month. Beginning October 1, 2026, Fiscal Officer Gabby Hook will prepare payroll and deliver it to Village Hall for distribution. Barb Sinn will assist with distributing payroll to council members. Council will further discuss changing the regular monthly meeting date at the October meeting once members have had an opportunity to review their schedules and identify any potential conflicts.

Sewer Line Replacement: Mayor Gerber reported that Jess Noffsinger with Noffsinger Excavating has not yet responded regarding the proposed sewer line replacement. Mayor Gerber will continue attempting to contact Noffsinger regarding the project.

October Council Meeting: Due to Gabby being close to due date, Council discussed tentatively moving October's Council Meeting to the first Tuesday of October (October 6th). Gabby will keep everyone informed and if meeting needs to be adjusted again will let them know.

Fiscal Officer

Electric Aggregation: Gabby reported Amy with Palmer Energy e-mailed the Village asking if they were going to move forward with unseating from the County Commissioners with the upcoming Electric Aggregation or if they were going to stay with them. After further discussion with council, the agreed that it would be in the best interest of the Village to unseat from the County Commissioners and seat with the Village of Paulding to stay with Palmer Energy as the electric aggregator (6-0 vote). Gabby will reach out to Amy to see what next steps are for the Village.

Council Discussions

Beth Stoller- N/A

Michael Gray- N/A

Darlene Knapp- Darlene expressed appreciation to the residents who attended the meeting and took the opportunity to voice their opinions.

Barb Sinn- N/A

Kirk Stoller- N/A

Solicitor John Hatcher- N/A

Resident Concern — Grass Clippings in Streets: Richard Agness raised concerns regarding residents mowing grass and leaving or blowing grass clippings into Village streets, particularly due to the potential hazard the clippings can create for motorcyclists and other motorists. The Village is currently reviewing its ordinances to determine whether an existing ordinance addresses grass clippings or debris being placed in the roadway. Council members will continue looking into the matter.

Discussions for the October Meeting:

- Real Waste trash service contract
- 2027 Budget
- Update on Trunk or Treat
- Moving Council Meeting to the 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Electric Aggregation next steps
- George Clemens Police Patrol
- Estimate from County for vegetation mowing
- Bulk fuel estimates

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Council Member Kirk Stoller seconded by Council Member Darlene Knapp. Adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next Meeting will be tentatively October, 6 2026, at 6:00PM at the Village Hall