Approved: 12.08.2025 Posted: 12.09.2025



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PUBLIC HEARING OF 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET & VILLAGE OF PEPIN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday November 10th, 2025

- 1. Call Meeting to Order-Randy Kallstrom called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- 2. **Roll Call-** Randy Kallstrom, Mike Michaud, John Hurtley, Shannon Van Allen, Kelsey Gilmore, & Pat Sandstrom were all present. Others present were Julie Wheeler, Tracy Rundquist, Jon Seifert & Adam Baader.
- 3. **Public Hearing** Regarding the 2026 proposed budget- Randy opened the meeting up for the public to ask questions regarding the proposed budget.
 - Dan Fedie asked if the amount of the bridge loan was public knowledge and what the interest rate and which line item this loan was added to.
 - The response was that the Bridge loan is for \$50,000.00, the rate of interest is 4.5% and was added to the Total Government Revenue. There were no other questions or comments from the public.
- 4. Approval of the 2026 Proposed Budget- Discussion/Action
 - Pat made the motion to approve the 2026 Budget. Second by Kelsey, All ayes, Motion approved.
- 5. Clerk's Report- Approval of 10.14.2025 & 10.27.2025 meeting minutes.
 - Pat made the motion to approve the clerks report for October 14th, 20205.
 Second by Vicki. All ayes Motion approved.
 - Pat made the motion to approve the clerk's report for 10.27.2025. Second by Vicki. All ayes, Motion approved.
- 6. Treasurer's Report- Approval of Treasurer's Report.
 - The motion was made by Shannon to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Second by Kelsey. All ayes, motion approved.
- 7. **Police Report-** The police report was provided in the packet. Jesse was not available for questions.
- 8. **Ambulance Report-** The Ambulance report was provided in the packet. No one was available for questions.

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- 9. **Fire Department Report-** Adam Baader reported that the Fire department has received their new Tender Truck. Both the Ladder and Rescue trucks are now gone. The last class for Fire one training will be this Saturday 11.15.2025., and then pending state testing, everyone should be Fire one certified.
- 10. **Attorney's Report-** Jon reported that he didn't do much for the village this past month as he was gone for much of it, but he is working through municipal utility issues, an alley vacation, and some personnel issues.
- 11. **Zoning Administrator Report-** The zoning report was provided in the packet. Jeff was not available for questions.
- 12. **2026 Bauman's letter of engagement-**Discussion/Action on engaging Bauman & Associates Accounting & Advisor services for 2026.
 - After some discussion, Mike made a motion to accept Bauman's proposal for the auditing. Second by Pat. All ayes, motion approved.
- 13. **Residential Inspections-** Discussion/Action on contracting for residential inspections.
 - The clerk informed the board that All Croix inspections was not going to provide a
 quote for services due to short staffing, and that she had checked with the other
 municipalities. They were all going with Steinmeyer Inspections.
 - Mike Michaud commented that the village had been talking about developing more coordination between the zoning permits and the building permits. He feels the Steinmeyer proposal is generalized. So, he hopes that we can work this coming year to create that coordination.
 - Mike made the motion to approve the proposal from Steinmeyer Inspections, for inspection services. Second by Kelsey. All ayes, motion approved.
- 14. **Utility Committee update-** Mike Michaud spoke regarding the mandated notice from the DNR and letter that went out to utility customers. Mike stated that "Your water is Safe" and is being tested all the time and the results are being reported to the DNR. The incident that created the "noncompliance" resulting in us having to notify utility customers of the situation was a single testing incident that occurred in 2020, where the amount of lead in one sample was high out of ten samples that were submitted. This was most likely to be correlated with the fact that the village was tearing up pipes and putting in new ones at that time. In the meantime, followup testing requested by the DNR was not completed. They wanted 20 samples, and we only provided 10. Then the DNR sent a letter asking the village to install equipment, which was not installed. So, we are in a situation where we are still required to install equipment to control the ph. in our system that will ensure that there will be no leeching of lead or copper into the water system. We are moving forward on implementing the installation of that equipment. Our Service lines are copper, and the water mains are plastic. There were some questions addressed by the public regarding the equipment installation.

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15. Public Comments-

- Dan Fedie stated that he thinks the planning commission and ordinance committee should look at the "committee responsibilities" list. He thinks that there should be a requirement for the committees to meet and report to the board on a quarterly basis. He also thinks that there should be a requirement for the draft minutes to be presented to the committee within two weeks, instead of the minutes waiting until the next meeting to view, as some of these meetings are several months apart. Some committees only meet once a year.
- Jacob Bee inquired about the street being torn up on Lake St.
- Tina Bee also spoke in support of Dan's comment as a former member of the board for the town of Frankfort. It is very important to get minutes out in a timely manner. Tina also thanked "Mr. Baader" stating he is a very valuable addition to the team.
- 16. **Set next meeting date-** The next meeting will be December 8th at 7:00PM. There will be a Public Hearing at 6:30PM prior to the meeting.
- 17. **Closed Session** Pat made the motion to go into closed session as per State Statute 19.85(1)(c) "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." Second by Vicki. All ayes, Motion approved. The meeting went into closed session.
- 18. **Reconvene into Open Session-** for Discussion/Action on closed session item.
 - Vicki made the motion to end the closed session and reconvene into open session. Second by Pat. All ayes, the meeting was reconvened.
 - There was no Discussion or Action.
- 19. **Adjourn –** The motion to adjourn was made by Shannon. Second by Pat, All ayes, meeting adjourned.

Julie Wheeler-Clerk