Village of Greenup, Illinois
115 E. Cumberland Street
Greenup, Illinois 62428
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 5th, 2026

The Greenup Village Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 5th, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Greenup Municipal Building. Mayor Tom Bauguss called the meeting to order with all standing to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the United States Flag. Roll call was taken by Clerk Michelle Fryman. Members of the board answering roll call were Mayor Bauguss and Trustees Alene Blade, Todd Kemper, Max McCullough, Paul Marti, and Tony Wright. Trustee Parker was absent. Additional individuals in attendance were Village Attorney Erik Peck, Utility Superintendent Lance Holsapple, Assistant Superintendent Jake Peters, Barbara Healy with Farnsworth Group, Susie Beaumont with Beaumont Consulting, Ben Klene and Verbal Blakey with BHMG Engineers, Nancy Kinsel, Billie Chambers and Wes Chambers with the Toledo Democrat, Melissa LeMay with Shimmy Shack Vintage Style, Beth Sowers and Erica Thorton.

A motion to approve payment of bills ($693,255.66) and the transfer of electric bond funds ($8,000) was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee Wright.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to approve the September 2026 Clerk's Report and August 2026 Treasurer's Report was made by Trustee McCullough, seconded by Trustee Blade.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to approve the September 2026 meeting minutes was made by Trustee Blade, seconded by Trustee McCullough.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

Public Comment

Nancy Kinsel addressed the board to ask why the Village no longer offers recycling. Mayor Bauguss reported recycling became too expensive to continue.

Beth Sowers and Erica Thorton presented the proposed Cumberland County in Bloom project. This project would link Greenup, Toledo, and Neoga with a tourism trail of beautiful pollinator gardens with QR codes offering discounts at community shops and restaurants. This project would boost tourism, offer activities for families and residents, and encourage community participation with local 4-H and FFA clubs

and community volunteers. Trustee Blade asked if the project had been submitted for Farm Bureau grant funding. Sowers reported that the project was in the early stages of development, pending community interest, and had not been submitted for funding.

Melissa LeMay with Shimmy Shack Vintage Style addressed the board requesting information on how to obtain funding to build a porch on her storefront. LeMay recently purchased the Dill property at 102 E. Cumberland Street in Greenup. LeMay reported that she anticipated an opening date in November 2026 as she was having difficulty finding a handyman to complete projects to speed up the opening date. LeMay reported that she planned to be open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays once the storefront opened. LeMay reported she believed signage is needed by Interstate 70 to let travelers know Greenup has a lot to offer downtown.

Trustee Marti asked the board what happened to the signage at the east end of town. Marti was informed that the signage had been destroyed during a storm some time ago. Marti reported that he believed signage at the four-way stop was needed with a possible QR code linking to local attractions.

Susie Beaumont with Beaumont Consulting gave an overview of updates regarding grant funding applications and the status of each project.

Ben Klene and Verbal Blakey with BHMG Engineers provided handouts and discussed the Village's need for an electric rate increase. Klene and Blakey addressed the board and members to express why the rate increase is needed. The Village's substation is aging and will need to be replaced within the next 5-10 years.

A motion to approve the draft Ordinance Amending Chapter 13.08 of the Village Code with Respect to Electrical System Rates and Charges was made by Trustee Blade, seconded by Trustee Kemper.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2024-2025 Compliance Review Report received from the Illinois Department of Transportation covering the receipt and disbursement of Motor Fuel Tax funds for the Village of Greenup, Illinois, was made by Trustee Kemper, seconded by Trustee Marti.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to approve the completed Building Grant Application and the issuance of $2,000 to Poncho's Pizza was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee Kemper.

Yeas: Kemper, Marti, Wright
Nays: Blade, McCullough
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 5.01.02 of the Village Code Pertaining to Liquor Licenses was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee McCullough.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

Trustee McCullough provided an overview of the Gas Committee meeting held Saturday, September 19th, 2026. The meeting was held to review and discuss the Intergovernmental Agreement the Village holds with the Village of Toledo regarding natural gas transportation and to review and discuss the Gas Rate Study report completed by USDI.

A motion to approve the quote received from Automotive Equipment Sales & Service for a vehicle rotary lift including installation, pending confirmation of warranty coverage, at a cost not to exceed $35,480.52 was made by Trustee Blade, seconded by Trustee Kemper.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

Barb Healy with Farnsworth Group provided project updates. Healy reported that the Prairieview Project had been placed on hold. The Municipal Park Plan has been completed. Mayor Bauguss asked when the planting of trees can begin. Mayor Bauguss reported that there were two or three trees that needed to be planted on the Municipal Building lawn as soon as possible. Healy reported speaking with resident April James regarding the creation of a memorial for James' granddaughter, Paisley Grace Thoele, in the Municipal Building Park. Healy reported that the Lead Service/Water Plant Projects were progressing through the loan process. Healy anticipated a 2027 construction date.

A motion to approve the payment of invoices 272367 and 272368 in the amount of $62,658.43 to the Farnsworth Group was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee Wright.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

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Trustee McCullough provided an update on the Village Code Revision project. McCullough reported that the anticipated completion date would be January 2027. There would be a hard copy for public review at the Village Clerk's Office and an electronic file placed on the website for public review as well. The trustees, staff, and public are invited to review and submit suggestions for modifications during a public meeting that will be scheduled for a later date.

At 7:19 p.m., a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss contract specifications concerning the intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Greenup and the Village of Toledo, Illinois for natural gas transportation, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (23) (iii) and updates from the Village Attorney with discussion of pending litigation involving the Village of Greenup, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), was made by Trustee Blade, seconded by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

At 7:40 p.m., the Village Board returned to open session of the meeting. Mayor Bauguss reported that no action was taken in executive session. Roll call was completed by Clerk Michelle Fryman. Those members of the board answering roll call were Mayor Bauguss and Trustees Alene Blade, Todd Kemper, Max McCullough, Paul Marti, and Tony Wright. Trustee Parker was absent.

Reports

Village Attorney Erik Peck had nothing to report.

Clerk Fryman had nothing to report.

Treasurer Scales had nothing to report.

Chief of Police Wicke had nothing new to report.

Trustee Blade asked about the status of the new utility software program for the Village of Greenup. Clerk Fryman reported that she was looking into several software programs available.

Trustee Kemper asked who was responsible for porch upkeep in the Village. Trustee McCullough reported that the owners of the buildings were responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the porches. Clerk Fryman reported that the Village Porch Encroachment Agreement had been sent to the owners and that the Village had received only three completed agreements back.

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Trustee Marti had nothing to report.

Trustee McCullough had nothing to report.

Trustee Wright had nothing to report.

Mayor Bauguss reported receiving a letter of resignation from Trustee Parker, effective immediately.

A motion to accept the resignation letter from Trustee Parker was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee McCullough.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

Mayor Bauguss addressed the board with the suggestion of designating a contact person (Clerk Fryman or Mayor Bauguss) to reach out to the Village Attorneys to help lower the monthly charges. Trustee McCullough reported that he believed someone who had been nominated as chairman of a committee should have unlimited access to the attorneys. Mayor Bauguss reported that last month's invoice with the Village Attorneys was $14,000.00. Trustee Blade reported that the expenses were due to the Village Code Revision Project with the bulk of the work completed. Trustee Blade reported that Trustee McCullough needed to speak with the Village Attorney.

Susie Beaumont requested a motion to approve payment of an invoice submitted by The Response Growth Collective in the amount of $1,600.00 .

A motion to approve payment of an invoice submitted by The Response Growth Collective in the amount of $1,600.00 was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee Wright.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Marti, seconded by Trustee McCullough.
Yeas: Blade, Kemper, McCullough, Marti, Wright
Nays: None
Absent: Parker
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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