

THE VILLAGE OF GAYS MILLS

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Gays Mills held Monday, June 2, 2025, which began at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Commerce Board Room.

Village President Harry Heisz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following present: Harry Heisz, Larry McCarn, Kevin Murray, Kim Pettit, and Art Winsor. Ethan Eitsert and Emily Kinserdahl were absent.

Ethan Eitsert and Bob Robinson were out on a fire department call.

The board received verification that the agenda was posted in accordance with the open meeting law.

Under citizens and delegations Cindy Kohles volunteer forester updated the board on dead and storm damaged trees. Informed the board that the tree shelters need to be removed from the young trees and asked if the village would consider leaving an area of un-mowed grass around trees. The board was okay with the un-mowed grass around the trees in the reforested area. Cindy Kohles also a member of the Friends of the Gays Mills Public Library reported that they assist the library in providing resources, services, summer programs, and movies. The group has donated over \$72,000 in the last ten years and welcomes any new members to join the group. Charley Preusser mentioned to the board that there are several stumps on village property that could be removed. The board discussed that they would prefer the stumps to deteriorate without spending funds for stump removal.

No Wastewater Treatment Project update was given.

Heisz gave the Public Works report. A portion of the swimming pool deck sank and the board discussed a quick fix of self-leveling concrete. The board discussed that they need to plan on getting quotes for proper repair to the swimming pool deck. Winsor asked if the board would consider allowing moveable soccer goals on the old high school lot, the equipment would be donated. After discussion Winsor made a motion to treat this the same as any other park, as open village land, and to allow moveable soccer equipment to be placed on the old high school lot (School Street). Seconded by Murray. Motion carried.

Murray made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-04 for the 2024 Wastewater Compliance Maintenance Annual Report which received a GPA of 3.75. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

Winsor said that the siding on the Community Commerce Center needs to be looked at and the GFI electrical boxes are not working properly. The board also discussed the State Highway 131 project with the frustration that the public is not aware of the timeline of actual road closures.

Murray made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of May 5, 2025. Seconded by Pettit. Motion carried.

McCarn made a motion to approve payments of the bills as listed in the monthly expense report. Seconded by Murray. Motion carried.

Under old business the village building inspector, Brad Smrcina, has referred the village to contact a different building inspector who is qualified for commercial inspections for the exterior report on the nuisance properties at 200 Main Street and 208 Main Street.

Murray made a motion to approve the Right-of-Way Encroachment agreement with Luke Adams and Nichole Bauer for the construction, maintenance, and use of a driveway within the Ten Hills Street right-of-way. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

The board learned that Driftless Development has design and social media funds available through a Specialty Crop Grant and they would be willing to help with updating the village website since the village hosts content for the orchards. The office is waiting for a second quote before a decision is made.

The board received expense reports for village buildings. Winsor said that the fire department phone service can be removed.

The board discussed cemetery regulations and agreed to hold a committee meeting to discuss opening fees, lots, roads, vaults, and green burials.

Ethan Eitsert and Bob Robinson arrived at 6:49 p.m.

Murray made a motion to adopt Ordinance Amendment (2025-01) of Section 11-3-3 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Gays Mills Relating to Cemetery Regulations. Increasing the Lot Prices from \$450 to \$600 per lot. Seconded by Winsor. Motion carried.

The board received information on the FEMA flood maps that the Kickapoo River Watershed has been evaluated and that new preliminary data will be gathered with an opportunity for the community officials and public to review at an open house at a later date.

Heisz informed the board that sewer sanitary work is needed after reviewing the televised reports on State Highway 171 (east-near the Royal Bank). Town & Country Engineering and Vierbicher have been contacted in order to provide a proposal and preliminary project costs.

Murray made a motion to approve:

- Machine License Applications: Halver's Town Tap, and Cardinali Management Inc.
- Tobacco License Applications: New Horizons Supply Cooperative, Halver's Town Tap, Cardinali Management Inc, & Dollar General.
- Alcohol License Applications: New Horizons Supply Cooperative, Mark Otto, Class "A" Beer and Liquor, 180 Misty Valley Ave.; DOLGENCORP, LLC, Jacob Stankowski, Class "A" Beer and Liquor, 106 N Royal Ave., Halver's Town Tap, LLC, Donald T. Halverson, Class

- “B” Beer and Liquor, 315 Main St.; Cardinali Management Inc., DBA Dante’s, Scott Cardinali, Class “B” Beer and Liquor, 312 Main St.
- Operator’s License Applications: Cindy McCullick, Lyrica Marks, Steve George, Dana George, Veronica Geddes, Carolyn Swiggum, Dawn Swanson, Theron Nicks, Linda Johnson, Douglas Abbey, Rita Hines, Tracey VanFleet, April Brockway, Hannah Mullikin, Laura Halverson, Penelope Tainter, Anthony Corelli, Renee Kansier, Kristina McCormick, Mark Otto, Hannah Iris, Anna Jacobson, Brenden Kuhnke, Andromeda Jackson, Greg Boland.
 - Application for Temporary Class “B” license for the Crawford County Fair at 17725 St Hwy 131 on August 21 through August 25, 2025.
 - Application for Temporary Class “B” license for Societies Sons at 401 Main Street on July 19, 2025 and September 27 through September 28, 2025.

Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

No correspondences were received.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 7, 2025.

At 7:03 p.m. Winsor made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisc. State Stat. 19.85 (1)(c) for the purpose of reviewing employment applications and 19.85 (1) (e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investment of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons required a closed session. Seconded by McCarn. A roll call vote was taken: Pettit, Winsor, Heisz, McCarn, Eitsert and Murray voted Yes. Motion carried. Jimmy Richter a member of the Development Committee was invited into closed session.

At 8:03 p.m. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

No action was taken on Development Committee recommendations.

Winsor made a motion to hire additional lifeguards, Lucy O’Brien and Emma Harrell. Seconded by Murray. Motion carried.

At 8:04 p.m. Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Dawn R. McCann, Clerk
APPROVED 07-07-2025