

Village of Westville

Regular Meeting Minutes

201 N. State St., Westville, IL
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – 6:00pm

Mayor Strebin called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

	Mayor Strebin	Trustee Gallion	Trustee Sparling	Trustee Ellis	Trustee Hughes	Trustee Delhaye	Trustee Jordan
Present	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Absent							✓

Also presents was Village Clerk Kendra Hepburn.

4. Agenda

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve the agenda and place on file. Motion by Hughes; Second by Delhaye. No further discussion. Motion carried.

5. Public Comments

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2026 Regular Meeting. Motion by Hughes; Second by Jordan. No further discussion. Motion carried.

7. Claims

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve the claims and place the report on file. Motion by Gallion; Second by Sparling. No further discussion. Motion carried.

8. Clerk's Report

Trustee Delhaye made a motion to approve the Clerk's Report, place the report on file, and turn the money over to the Treasurer; Second by Hughes. No further discussion. Motion carried.

9. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Pierce reported the audit is on track to be completed by the end of March. The FY2026 electronic reporting period began on May 1. Key performance indicators were reviewed, including the Village's cash balance as of February 28, which reflects approximately six months of operating reserves. The final Municipal Gas Rate Study was presented and reviewed. Discussion was held regarding departmental wish list items. Departments were instructed to submit their wish list items for review at the upcoming budget workshop meeting.

10. Communications

None.

11. Police Report

Trustee Ellis reported that the center console is still pending and that the Farnsworth contract was reviewed for moving forward with the new company.

Chief Varvel noted that the numbers on his report for Traffic Stops, Citations and Ordinance Violations did not get updated, so those are incorrect. He spent time compiling crash data for the past six years and submitted to IDOT regarding the intersection at Main Street under review. IDOT has indicated the intersection is under active review, with potential solutions expected soon following another recent accident.

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve the Police Report with the revised numbers for Traffic Stops, Citations and Ordinance Violations. Motion by Sparling; Second by Ellis. No further discussion. Motion carried.

12. Public Works Report

a. Streets & Alleys

Trustee Delhaye reported that Public Works has been addressing potholes, utilizing approximately five truckloads of asphalt to date. With spring approaching, crews will begin trimming alleys.

b. Sewers

Trustee Sparling reported that the sewer system performed well with all of the recent rain. The vac truck is expected to be delivered tomorrow.

c. Gas & Water

Trustee Delhaye reported ongoing in-town and out-of-town training, including hands-on operator qualification. Water system pumps are performing well, operating at over 500 gallons per minute, and pump stations have been repainted. Appreciation was expressed for work completed on Route 1.

d. Sidewalks

Trustee Ellis noted the sidewalk budget needs to be cut back. Discussion was held regarding damage to sidewalks caused by a gaming company placing flags, with direction to contact the company regarding responsibility for repairs. The potential use of MFT funds for sidewalk improvements was also discussed.

e. Park

Trustee Gallion reported no updates. It was noted that a local Boy Scout will be completing a service project in the park.

f. Community Beautification

Trustee Hughes reported that a meeting is scheduled with a state senator to discuss potential funding opportunities to support village improvements, particularly for commercial properties.

Discussion was also held regarding participation in the LandBank program, with an estimated cost of \$10,000.00 and approximately 10 properties currently identified. Additional discussion included state-supported investment opportunities for redevelopment.

g. Public Works Director Report

Trustee Sparling reported ongoing pothole repairs and evaluation of streets for potential resurfacing. Tar and chip was discussed as a cost-effective option, with plans to compile a list of streets and obtain cost estimates.

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve the Public Works report and place the report on file. Motion by Hughes; Second by Gallion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

13. Licenses/Insurance Report

a. Chairman Report: Delhaye

Trustee Delhaye had nothing to report.

14. Business District

Trustee Delhaye reported being contacted by Steve Atwood regarding signage. Trustee Ellis also noted a request from Sportsman's. Discussion was held regarding limitations related to the Business District timeline. It was noted that state statute allows for updates to the district map at any time. We will place the review of the application on an upcoming agenda.

15. Unfinished Business

None.

16. New Business

a) Discussion/Vote: Ordinance Amending Chapter 195 of the Village Code Regarding Temporary Firework Sales

The proposed ordinance was reviewed. Discussion was held regarding revisions to include a permit fee of \$100.00 per holiday and to allow denial of a permit if the applicant has any outstanding debts owed to the Village. Attorney Wesner will update the ordinance for further review at the next meeting.

b) Discuss/Vote: Update to Fees for Video Gaming License

Trustee Sparling initiated discussion regarding the current video gaming license fee, noting that the Village is undercharging at \$25 per machine annually compared to other municipalities. Discussion included comparison to surrounding communities and clarification of revenue distribution from video gaming. Trustee Ellis stated he would abstain from discussion and voting due to a conflict of interest. Trustee Sparling proposed increasing the fee to \$100 per machine.

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to update the tobacco and video gaming license fee from \$25.00 per machine to \$100.00 per machine. Motion by Sparling; Second by Gallion. Trustee Ellis abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

c) Date(s) for Golf Cart Discount Renewal Day

Clerk Hepburn suggested holding the Golf Cart Discount Renewal Days on April 11 and April 18, from 8:00am to 11:00 am at the garage at the park, contingent upon timely receipt of stickers.

Chief Varvel suggested offering the discounted rate through May 15 to encourage additional renewals.

d) Discuss/Vote: Gas & Water Write-Offs

Accounts totaling \$1,411.87 were presented for potential write-off, along with a list of current liens. Chief Varvel advised against writing off outstanding water liens on properties that may be subject to demolition, noting they could be used to assist the Village in acquiring those properties more efficiently.

e) Discuss/Vote: Resolution No. 26-03: A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Natural Gas from PEFA, Inc.; Approving the Execution and Delivery of a Gas Supply Agreement and Other Documents Relating to Said Purchase; Approving the Issuance of Bonds By PEFA, Inc.; And Addressing Related Matters

The proposed resolution was presented, authorizing participation in a gas purchasing program through PEFA, Inc. Discussion was held regarding the benefits of the program, including securing lower gas rates through group purchasing and advance purchasing strategies to stabilize costs.

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to approve Resolution No. 26-03. Motion by Ellis; Second by Delhaye. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Additional Discussion

Discussion was held regarding scheduling upcoming budget meetings. It was agreed to hold Special Meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday of the following week at 5:30pm. Pierce will provide an updated AOP spreadsheet, and departments were reminded to submit all wish list items by Friday.

18. Adjournment

Mayor Strebin entertained a motion to adjourn at 7:09pm. Motion by Hughes; Second by Sparling. Motion carried.