

**VALDERS VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2025**

Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call; the regular monthly meeting of the Valders Village Board was called to order by President Schneider at 7:00PM at the Valders Village Office, 207 S. Liberty Street. Trustees present: Paul Baroun, Marcus Bartelme, Dan Sabel, Devan Schneider & Lyle Schwoerer.

MEETING CONVENED &
ROLL CALL

Motion by Baroun, second by Bartelme to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

No one was present for public input. Motion by Bartelme, second by Baroun to close public input. Motion carried.

NO PUBLIC INPUT

Motion by Bartelme, second by Sabel to approve minutes from 3/10/25 as presented by Clerk/Treasurer Bruckner. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Sabel, second by Bartelme to approve the March Treasurer's reports as presented by Bruckner for all department funds. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORTS
APPROVED

Motion by Schneider, second by Baroun to approve March Village, Fire & EMS vouchers; payroll direct deposits #1629 - #1662; checks #22293 - #22338 & electronic payments totaling \$300,366.97 as presented by Bruckner. Motion carried.

VILLAGE VOUCHERS
APPROVED

Motion by Bartelme, second by Baroun to approve March Utility vouchers; checks #9076 - #9087 and totaling \$77,749.36 as presented by Bruckner. Motion carried.

UTILITY VOUCHERS
APPROVED

Notification of Manitowoc County Village Association Meeting on 4/16/25 at 6:30pm, at Meats Opera Haus in St. Nazianz. Presentation by Greg Grotegut Manitowoc County Highway Department.

NOTIFICATION MCVA
MEETING-4/16/25 6:30PM

Notification Terry Slater the write-in winner of the Village Board Trustee vacant seat at the 4/1/25 election has declined to accept the position.

VACANT TRUSTEE
WRITE-IN VOTE WINNER
DECLINED POSITION

Bruckner presented the three options as allowed by State Statutes for the board to choose from to fill the vacant seat on the Village Board. 1) Hold a special election which will cost an estimated \$3,500; 2) Leave the position vacant until the next election in April of 2026 and have a special one-year term position on the ballot, at a minimal additional cost or 3) Appoint an applicant for the position. Motion by Schneider, second by Sabel to post the position and publish it in the 4/23/25 and 5/14/25 issues of the newspaper with a deadline for application by 6/5/25, for the board to interview/appoint any applicants at the 6/9/25 meeting. Motion carried.

BOARD REVIEWED
OPTIONS TO FILL
VACANT SEAT.

APPROVED TO APPOINT
A TRUSTEE FROM
APPLICANTS AT JUNE
MEETING

The board reviewed President Schneider's proposed committee appointments. Motion by Schneider, second by Bartelme to approve the new committee appointments as presented. Motion carried. The new committees are as follows:

APPROVED COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS

FINANCE (includes licensing & personnel)	Daniel Sabel, Chair & Devan Schneider
PUBLIC SAFETY (includes police, fire, ems, bldg. regs.)	Marcus Bartelme, Chair & Paul Baroun
PUBLIC WORKS (includes streets, sidewalks, utilities)	Paul Baroun, Chair & Daniel Sabel
PUBLIC WELFARE (health, parks/recreation, nuisances)	Vacant, Chair & Marcus Bartelme
VALDERS PLAN COMMISSION	
	Devan Schneider, President, Daniel Sabel, Board Representative
	Lori Bruckner, Secretary, Gary Kulas & Brian Olson, Commissioners

Schneider stated there are still two vacant seats on the Valders Plan Commission and one seat on the Valders Zoning Board of Appeals. Any Village resident interested in serving please contact the Village Clerk/Treasurer or Village President.

The Village is a new member of Progress Lakeshore and is required to appoint an Ex-Officio Member to serve on the Board of Directors. Schneider would like to appoint Daniel Sabel as he also is the Board Representative on the Plan Commission. The meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday from 7:00am-8:30am, every other month. If Sabel is unable to attend in person or virtually; Director of Public Works Austin Shillcox will be an alternate. Motion by Schneider, second by Baroun to approve as discussed. Motion carried.

APPOINTED SABEL TO
SERVE AS EX-OFFICIO
MEMBER - PROGRESS
LAKESHORE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

The board reviewed an email received from the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, pertaining to grants available from the State of Wisconsin for State and Local Cyber Security Project Costs up to \$100,000, with a submittal deadline of May 30, 2025. Schneider stressed the need to utilize additional newer methods of protecting our records and data for all village departments be a priority. If we were to be awarded a grant to help with the initial upfront costs it would be beneficial to our budgets and community. Motion by Baroun, second by Bartelme, to have Dallas obtain information for the grant submittal process and as recommended by the League to work with VC3 to submit the grant application on behalf of the Village, allowing time for any additional board action which may need to be taken at the May meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVED TO APPLY
FOR STATE AND LOCAL
CYBER SECURITY
GRANT

Board reviewed March patrol report from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department.

REVIEW MCS D PATROL
REPORTS MARCH

4/14/2025 MINUTES

March Fire & EMS report was presented by Christopher Dallas, Fire Chief & EMS Director. There were 44 Fire & EMS calls for service in March. Dallas again reported there is no guarantee of any firefighters available to respond due to volunteer work schedules. Out of the seven fire responses this month there was a mutual aid request in Chilton where no one from our department was able to respond. No one has applied for open full time Paramedic position which had required education/licenses. A new part time Paramedic has applied, pre-employment physical will be completed. It is imperative we need to hire another Medic. There are 192 hours of unscheduled time which needs to be filled due to the vacant position. Dallas then reported the Act 12 revised EMS Funding Assistance Program (FAP) for the Valders EMS received \$45,300. The funds can be utilized for vehicles, more types of equipment and medical supplies, protective gear, and training which provides much needed financial aid to medical services in the entire State. Dallas did obtain verification funds may be utilized for debt service on an existing ambulance in the future.

MONTHLY FIRE AND
EMS REPORTS

The board discussed utilizing the additional FAP Grant funds received in 2025 to purchase another Ferno Cot for Ambulance #7. The cost with a \$2,500 trade-in is now \$20,139. In December of 2024 the approved purchase for cot delivery in January 2025 the cost with a \$4,500 trade-in was \$16,854. Schneider suggested not do a trade-in and keep it as a spare cot in case of future repairs needed for the other ones. Motion by Bartelme, second by Baroun to purchase the Ferno Cot without a trade-in for \$22,639. Motion carried.

APPROVED PURCHASE
OF A COT FOR AMB #7
UTILIZING FAP GRANT

Shillcox reviewed March Public Works report with the board. Staff plowed & salted for March snowfall events. Seven traffic signs were noticed missing/stolen on 3/24/25. The signs were returned thanks to the assistance of Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department. Staff has been working on site prep and excavation of the new donated playground equipment to be installed at the upper ball diamond area. The Village of Reedsville Utility Department has requested an agreement for mutual aid assistance for a certified operator, if needed for their community. We currently have agreements with several other nearby communities. New EPA PFAS standards are in the early stages of implementation by the DNR, it generally takes 30 months, which now must comply with Federal standards. Tom Shillcox passed his DNR Groundwater License exam. Total phosphorus effluent levels averaged 0.259 mg/L which is under the permit limit of 1.0 mg/L, but not quite the desired target rate of 0.2 mg/L. As a result, the variance payment is \$187 for the month. The DNR virtual meeting on 3/17/25 with Robert E Lee engineers resulted in request for additional information due in May of 2025. A study of the sanitary sewer collection system infiltration has narrowed down a problem area around the Nordic Lands Mobile Home Park. The main sewer line and laterals will be televised by Aqualis to find leaks and defects. Once their report is prepared, Shillcox will meet with the property owners to discuss what needs to be repaired at their expense. Shillcox asked the board to set a repair completion date. Motion by Baroun, second by Bartelme the repairs need to be completed by the 9/30/25. Motion carried.

DPW PUBLIC WORKS
MONTHLY REPORT

Shillcox has not had any communication from Verizon pertaining to the modification of their existing equipment on the water tower and an amended lease term proposal. The matter is postponed until the next meeting.

VERIZON EQUIPMENT
LEASE AMENDMENT
POSTPONED

The 2025 Urban Forestry Grant tree removal project is still waiting on the contractor to remove large Ash trees from the Valders Memorial Park.

URBAN FORESTRY
GRANT TREE REMOVAL
POSTPONED

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to appoint Dan Sabel as the new alternate signer on municipal/utility accounts at Bank First and Collins State Bank to replace Trustee Lyle Schwoerer and to remove Jean Kramer retired employee as an authorized signer. The Village President & Clerk/Treasurer are the primary signers on all bank accounts. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZED BANK
ACCOUNT SIGNERS

Motion by Schneider, second by Baroun to adopt Ordinance 1-2025, annual appointment of alternate members for Board of Review, which is to be held May 12 2025 beginning at 4:30PM until at least 6:30PM. Motion carried.

ADOPTED ORD 1-2025
ANNUAL APPOINTMENT
OF ALTERNATE BOR
MEMBERS

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to approve a Temporary Class B Beer Alcohol Beverage License for the Valders Lions Club, for Full Throttle Thursday at 686 Johnson St, on Thursday, 4/24/25 only from 4:30-8:30 PM. Sabel & Baroun members of the Valders Lions Club abstained. Motion carried. 3-0.

APPROVED TEMP
CLASS B BEER LICENSE
FOR 4/24/25 LIONS CLUB

Schneider discussed with the board the possible implementation of a Village of Valders Wheel Tax collected through vehicle registrations by the State Department of Transportation. Schneider and Shillcox have researched the process and many communities in the State have implemented it due to reduced State Highway aid and the ever-increasing costs to repave or construct a road. If implemented the funds collected can only be utilized for road repair or construction. The Village sets the tax amount to be added to each eligible vehicle registration annually. Others whom have implemented the tax; range from \$10-\$40. The state keeps a small fee of each registration for collection of the money. Shillcox stated according to the DOT website there is approximately 1,275 Valders registrations, so for example if the rate would be \$20 each that would be an additional \$25,000 for street repairs, annually. Many of our streets are in a deteriorated state, but other than borrowing, to save for many years just to be able to pave a block or two there is no way to fund the replacement,

DISCUSSED POSSIBLE
IMPLEMENTATION OF A
WHEEL TAX

other than a passed referendum authorizing to add a large one-time amount of money to our tax levy, which then creates a significantly increased property tax bill. The village also has set debt limits and we have six village entities which we borrow funds for overall for various equipment or infrastructure projects: Village, Water, Sewer, TID, Fire & EMS. Many years ago, the Village received close to \$70,000 annually in aid, but that has decreased over the years and in 2024 we received less than \$25,000. To mill and repave one block in 2024 was \$59,600. There are some other road grants but it is difficult to be awarded funds due to the high number of applicants. A municipal code would need to be drafted, adopted and published in order to be implemented. Trustees asked questions or gave input throughout the discussion on the topic. Schneider stated some residents will be upset if it is implemented, however to pay a smaller amount annually, rather than a huge jump on the Village's share of the tax bills, this option seems strategic and smart in the long run, to attempt to repair more of our streets on an ongoing basis. The board's ultimate goal is to have better roads in our community. Schneider would like the trustees to mull the proposal over by the May meeting to make a motion to start the implementation process or not and if it is prepared a review of a draft ordinance.

IMPLEMENTATION OF A
WHEEL TAX TO BE ON
MAY AGENDA

Schneider then presented on behalf of our community a Certificate of Appreciation to Trustee Lyle Schwoerer for his 20 years of dedicated service on the Village Board of Trustees from April 2005 to April 2025. All those present applauded and stated it has been a pleasure serving with him over the years.

PRESENTATION TO
TRUSTEE SCHWOERER

Motion by Schneider, second by Sabel, to adjourn meeting at 8:27PM. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,
VILLAGE OF VALDERS
Lori Bruckner
Village Clerk/Treasurer

4/14/2025 MINUTES