



# **Village of Vandalia**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** January 10, 2025| **Time:** 9:00 AM

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### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by **President Evan Hickman** at **9:00 AM**.

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Roll Call:**

#### **Present:**

- Trustee John Bennett
- Trustee Myrick
- Trustee Cassandra Bennett
- Treasurer Ashli Hickman
- Office Assistant Erika Willis

#### **Absent:**

- Trustee Karen Young
- Clerk Ashley Wences-Young

#### **Special Guests:**

- Sarah Senica, Village Attorney

#### **Guests:**

- Beverley Young
- Kim James

- Jerome Wares
  - Mrs. Wares
  - Gregory Hagerman
  - Brenda Hawkins
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**Closed Session:**

A motion was made by **Trustee Myrick** to enter closed session to discuss potential audit matters with the Village Attorney. The motion was seconded by **Trustee John Bennett**. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Open Session:**

A motion was made by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett** to return to open session. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Myrick**. **Motion carried.**

**Discussion:**

**Attorney Sarah Senica** provided a briefing to the public regarding the need for a forensic audit of the Village's financial records.

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**Motions and Actions:**

- **Forensic Audit Approval:**

A motion was made by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett** to approve the forensic audit with **Plante Moran** at a cost of **\$10,000**. The motion was seconded by **Trustee John Bennett**.

**Roll Call Vote:**

- **Trustee John Bennett:** Aye
  - **Trustee Myrick:** Aye
  - **Trustee Cassandra Bennett:** Aye
- Motion carried.**

- **Zoning Administrator Appointment:**

A motion was made by **Trustee John Bennett** to appoint **Roger Leach** as the Village Zoning Administrator. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Myrick**.

**Motion carried.**

- **Committee Head Appointments:**

- **Recreation Committee:** A motion was made by **Trustee John Bennett** to appoint **Trustee Cassandra Bennett** as the head of the Recreation Committee. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Myrick**. **Motion carried.**
- **Planning Commission:** A motion was made by **Trustee John Bennett** to appoint **Trustee Myrick** as the head of the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett**. **Motion carried.**

- **Cemetery Committee:** A motion was made by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett** to amend the agenda to include the appointment of a head for the Cemetery Committee. **Trustee John Bennett** was proposed to head the committee. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Myrick**. **Motion carried.**
- **Street Administrator Appointment:**

A motion was made by **Trustee Myrick** to appoint **President Evan Hickman** as the Village Street Administrator. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett**. **Motion carried.**
- **Transfer of Funds:**
  - A motion was made by **President Hickman** to transfer **25% of the LSF & MSF funds** for **December 2024** in the amount of **\$1,459.79**. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett**.  
**Roll Call Vote:**
    - **Trustee John Bennett:** Aye
    - **Trustee Myrick:** Aye
    - **Trustee Cassandra Bennett:** Aye**Motion carried.**
  - A motion was made by **President Hickman** to transfer **25% of the LSF & MSF funds** for **January 2025** in the amount of **\$1,462.99**. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett**.  
**Roll Call Vote:**
    - **Trustee John Bennett:** Aye
    - **Trustee Myrick:** Aye
    - **Trustee Cassandra Bennett:** Aye**Motion carried.**

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**Public Comment:**

- **Beverley Young** asked about the status of the Planning Commission and its chairmanship. **Trustee Myrick** clarified that **Joseph Hawkins'** term ended on **January 1, 2025**.
  - **Beverley Young** also inquired about her **FOIA request**, and **Treasurer Ashli Hickman** assured her that the request would be processed in accordance with the law.
  - **Jerome Wares** asked about the timing of the meeting. **President Hickman** explained that the meeting was convened to address urgent financial matters.
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**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by **Trustee John Bennett** to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Cassandra Bennett. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at **9:54 AM.**

**Prepared by:**

Ashley Wences-Young  
Vandalia Village Clerk

**Approved by:**

Evan Hickman  
Vandalia Village President

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