

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF STEGER, WILL & COOK
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

The Board of Trustees convened in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on this 17th day of August 2026 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger, Illinois. Mayor Joyce led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The roll was called. The following Trustees were present; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski.

Also present: Village Administrator Joseph Wiszowaty, Police Chief Greg Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone, Fire Chief Mike Long, Community Center Director Fay Kiaurakis, EMA Chief Jason Stevenson and Code Enforcement Officer Paul Myers. Also present: Village Attorney Vlado Vranjes. Village Engineer Melanie Arnold was absent.

RECOGNITIONS & PRESENTATIONS None,

MINUTES

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the minutes of August 3, 2026 meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.
Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Connie Lundin of Cottage Grove Ave. came before the board to give thanks to Trustee Trotier and Trustee Thurmond for help she was provided while living with no electricity which in her case in Miller Woods means without water. She went on to say in spite of the trying times we are going through, we have great people in our Village. You all do an awesome job, we all help each other, we help our neighbors, we do a lot. That is what makes Steger what it is. We have a great board, we have great first responders, you guys are awesome. Thank you for all you do.

REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Joyce gave a rundown on a new Disaster Proclamation that he is asking the board to approve later in the meeting. A copy of the proclamation will be attached as part of the public record. Mayor Joyce: It is our hope that during the 30 days the Proclamation affords the Village to offer disaster relief, the State of Illinois will have done something to help us. If they have not, we will ask for an extension.

Through this storm clean-up, I want to thank the residents, they have been very gracious for the most part, very helpful going out and cleaning up in the streets. I notice that a lot of residents will come out and help and it is appreciated. It is a mess and it is encouraging when the neighbors come out and help one another. You can't always rely on the 20 people from the Village that are coming out, they can't do it all. The staff, the employees, the Village, the other elected officials, they should all know that I have an undying gratitude for them. This town could not move forward without them. In this latest storm we have found some deficiencies especially in equipment needs. One of the things that is going to come up is we will be going out for RFP for a couple pieces of equipment for Public Works. Once we get the proposals back, we will present them to the board for consideration.

VILLAGE CLERK No report.

Village Administrator

Thank you Mr. Mayor. Just so the board is aware, as the Mayor already stated, the next Village Board meeting will be Tuesday September 8th at 7 pm. Also, Mayor Joyce is hosting his Town Hall Meeting this Wednesday at 6 pm at the Louis Sherman Community Center. The Mayor also eluded to the fact that I will be putting an RFP together for a piece of equipment for excavation work. Our current equipment doesn't go down 12 feet, so we need a bigger reach on some of our equipment. This RFP will be based on a 2026 Hyundai product or similar. This will be a sealed bid process. Part of this would be covered under a DECO grant, so we have to follow the procedures as set forth in the grant.

Mayor Joyce: I would like to add, the Community Center is currently closed. Everything has been packed up, we are going to replace carpeting. There are residual affects from it being used as a Red Cross Shelter for a couple of weeks. In this process we are going to clean up all of that, and once that is done, it will reopen. Anticipating a couple of weeks.

Village Attorney I just want to mention to the board as you look through the trash proposals and look at the four separate rating scales given to the two proposers, I just wanted to highlight the criteria. Take a look at the categories we used for evaluation and there is also a description within the RFP that describes what each category considers. Mayor Joyce: One other thing to note: This is for anyone on board that has a question about what you are reviewing in the packet, do not contact the Garbage Companies directly. If you want that done, please submit your questions to VA Wiszowaty and Vlad, because anything that we do has to be done openly and fairly with both. You cannot question one vendor and not the other. Trustee Perchinski asked that the RFP and details be sent out to Trustees.

Village Engineer Mayor Joyce spoke on behalf of Melanie Arnold: The road construction projects have started. They started to mill Kings Rd. today, so far it is not as bad as they thought it would be underneath. They will be milling roads for the next two weeks and we are waiting for final approval from IDOT for the final road mixture and

then they will start putting the new roads back in. Because the bids came in at such significant amount under what we anticipated, to the tune of about \$100,000, we were able to add 2 more allies and 2 more streets to this project. Once done with Kings Rd., there may be additional funding to go further.

Police Chief Greg Smith

Meetings, Conference and Training:

Chief Smith attended School District 194 Threat Assessment meeting.

Our three (3) recruits graduate from the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center (MCLETC) Police academy on Friday, August 24, 2026.

Police Law

Property Laws

This month's Legal Update & Review™ examines state and federal law concerning property crimes.

Primary topics include Burglary, Various theft crimes, and Robbery.

This lesson's scenarios reflect currently accepted law as interpreted by federal and state courts. You may apply these legal principles to investigations of any suspected crimes or ordinance violations, whether you are working in uniform or in plainclothes.

Special Events:

250th Celebration Event

Thank you to School District 194 for providing lunch for 250th appreciation.

Assisted with storm damage. Documented property damage and power line damage.

Code Enforcement Paul Myers

Good evening Mr. Mayor, Board of Trustees and Village of Steger. Code Enforcement has been out with all the emergency responders. I think they all deserve a round of applause. Steger answered 250 calls in the first three hours after the storm. It was for trees down, wires down, poles down. After the storm Chief and I went driving around and we cleaned up Chicago Rd. and we moved large trees to get Chicago Rd. open. So far, ComEd has replaced 30 poles and is still repairing infrastructure in parts of Steger. There is 250 residents as of 7 o'clock this morning still without power. Prayers for them and that's about it.

EMA Chief Jason Stevenson

Good Evening to everyone.

There has been a lot of activities since my last report. So I will just hit a few of our highlights.

I want to thank my team and all the other departments for all the hard work they have been doing to get the village back up and running. We still have a ways to go but we are all working together to get there.

We are continuing with new employee training. We also picked up 2 possible new team members for EMA.

Mr. Meyers and I attended an animal escape seminar and tabletop exercise last month at Brookfield Zoo. Very interesting training.

We have continued with regular patrols. Most of which have been for training still. We have been out for numerous hours with storm clean-up and patrols, along with traffic for some accidents and fires.

I also want to give a shout out to Dakota who saw the devastation and chose to come home from Alabama to work with Roy and his crews to clean up all last week

VA Wiszowaty: I am glad you brought that up, Dakota, who volunteered his time has asked that the Village donate \$250 to his Volunteer Fire Department in Shilo, Alabama. They work on a budget of \$1900 per year, so \$250 goes a long ways for them. Dakota will only be getting a stipend to cover his travel expenses. Trustee Perchinski also offered to donate \$100. Mayor Joyce added: If anyone else would like to donate to this, please check with Chief Stevenson.

Fire Chief Mike Long

I just want to remind everyone that if you are tired of dealing with the storms, come out this Saturday to our Street Dance that we brought back. It will take place at the Fire Station on Emerald Ave behind the the Police Department. Faye will be hosting a Rib Cook-Off from 11 – Noon and she is bringing in food trucks from Noon- 5 and from 6-10 we will have the band Five Guys Named Moe.

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone

Good evening,

Steger endured yet another catastrophic weather event causing extensive flooding and tree damage throughout the Village. The Department of Public Works is out picking up tree debris along with 3 private contractors, one working in Miller Woods area, one working on the east side of town, and one working on the west side of town. Put your tree debris to the curb, as crews are unable to go onto private property to retrieve branches. Please be patient. Crews are working as quickly and safely as they can.

Dumpsters for damage from the floods can be found at 32nd and Morgan, 36th and Hopkins, and Park and Grace. Please do not put tree debris inside the dumpsters.

DPW still has day to day operations to tend to, so you might not see us everyday, rest assured we are hard at work. We have had four more water main breaks since August 3rd and as the Mayor said, the road project has resumed on Kings Rd. today.

Trustee Perchinski: How long do you think we will be keeping the dumpsters out for our residents? Roy Stone: As long as need be. I mean some people just got power on Thursday. Mayor Joyce: I would expect the dumpsters will stay out through September if not longer. It just depends on much of a need there is.

Community Center Fay Kiaurakis

We weathered another storm together. Red Cross had left our building on Monday and Tuesday we had another terrible storm roll in, but I jumped into action. Tuesday we had about 50-60 people come in and out charging devices, Trustee Star and I had service numbers to hand out to residents that had trees on their houses. I looked up insurance company phone numbers for people and lent a shoulder to anyone that needed it. I cooked everyone some frozen meals that we had left over from the week before. On Wednesday, I found a Meyer's open and I picked-up fresh donuts and frozen pizzas for people that still had no power. I made 10 pizzas and fed 43 people with them. We had fresh coffee for everyone every day. The last day everyone was still here we had Dunkin' Donuts for breakfast and McDonald burgers and fries for dinner. I delivered some Comed care bags to the senior complex behind the community center and I wish I had more, but I didn't. Now that power has been restored, the Community Center is getting a much needed freshening up. We closed temporarily on Saturday at 3pm and will be so for 3-5 days, while new paint is splashed on, and some décor changes are made. When we open back up it will be business as usual and we'll have new calendars up for September. Thank you to everyone that helped.

TRUSTEES REPORT

BILLS

Trustee Trotier made a motion to pay the bills as listed when funds become available. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Joyce read the Cook county Disaster Proclamation dated August 14, 2026. Mayor Joyce added that a second letter from him has been addressed to the Governor and our local representatives on behalf of the Village of Steger seeking any kind of State Assistance in recovering from the recent storm damage.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Hanus made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1218-2026 A Resolution Ratifying the Mayor's Proclamation Declaring a Local State of Emergency Resulting from the Severe Storm Event of August 11, 2026, and Authorizing continued emergency response and recovery actions. Synopsis: This ratifies Mayor William J. Joyce's Declaration of a State of emergency from August 12, 2026 and continues for an additional thirty (30) days.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Hanus made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1219-2026 A Resolution Approving Year 2027 Grant Application for a Grant through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for an Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant.

Synopsis: This Resolution authorizes submission of a grant for \$175,000 for a Splash Park and Sensory Playlot at Veterans Park.

Trustee Kaminski seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

BOARD ACTIONS

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table until next board meeting, the results from the Executive Assessment and Recommendation for a Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Service Request for Proposals that was presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting Immediately preceding this meeting. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table until the next board meeting, a specific Proposer as the highest-ranked, representing the best overall value to the Village of Steger based upon the evaluation criteria established in the Request for Proposals for

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Residential Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Being no further business:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

William Joyce, Village President

Joseph M. Zagone, Jr. Village Clerk