

## FOWLER VILLAGE COUNCIL

President  
Vernon J. Thelen  
President Pro-Tem  
Mike Porter  
Trustees  
Codi Schrauben  
Brad Rhynard  
Dan Schmitt  
Rick Fink  
Melissa Humphrey

Treasurer  
John C. Rademacher  
Clerk  
Rhonda Feldpausch  
DPW Employees  
Vern Feldpausch  
Brad Smith

**DATE: DECEMBER 30, 2025**

The Fowler Village Council met for a Public Hearing and Special Meeting on Friday, December 30, 2025 at 11:00 AM with President V. Thelen presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag. Roll was called and a quorum reported. Present: Codi Schrauben, Dan Schmitt, Brad Rhynard, Rick Fink, and Rhonda Feldpausch. Absent: Mike Porter and John Rademacher.

### VILLAGE PERSONNEL

Vern Feldpausch.

### VISITORS

None.

## PUBLIC HEARING

### 2026 BUDGET

### SPECIAL MEETING

### AGENDA

### 2025 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

### 2025 SPECIAL PAY

### 2026 BUDGET

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard to close the Public Hearing due to no public comment. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Humphrey moved, supported by Trustee Schrauben, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Humphrey moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve 2025 budget adjustments as follows:  
General Fund – income increased \$26,000.00; expense decreased \$91,000.00  
Local Street Fund – expense increased \$1,000.00  
Major Street Fund – expense decreased \$38,000.00  
Sanitary Sewer O&M Fund – income increased \$8,000.00; expense increased \$33,700.00  
Water O & M Fund – income increased \$20,000.00; expense decreased \$14,400.00. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to approve the following 2025 special pay: \$2,000.00 to Vern Feldpausch, Brad Smith and Rhonda Feldpausch. \$400.00 to John Rademacher and Vern Thelen and \$100.00 to Mike Koenigsknecht and Roy Witgen. Motion carried.

Factors in the 2026 budget discussion include the following raises: Vern Feldpausch salary from \$78,108.38 to \$80,451.63; Brad Smith from \$67,137.80 to \$69,151.93; Rhonda Feldpausch from \$59,152.47 to \$60,927.04; Treasurer from \$7,326.12 to \$7,545.90 and Vern Thelen from \$4,186.35 to \$4,311.94.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Schrauben moved, supported by Trustee Fink, to approve the following 2026 Budget:  
General Fund - income \$694,050.00 and expense \$684,900.00  
Local Street Fund - income \$122,000.00 and expense \$102,800.00  
Major Street Fund - income \$157,000.00 and expense \$157,000.00  
Sanitary Fund - income \$123,100.00 and expense \$123,500.00  
Water Fund - income \$202,600.00 and expense \$220,700.00. Motion carried.

## PA 152 RESOLUTION

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Schrauben moved supported by Trustee Humphrey, to adopt Resolution #2025-03 which reads as follows:  
**A RESOLUTION TO EXEMPT THE VILLAGE FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF PUBLIC ACT 152 FOR THE NEXT SUCCEEDING YEAR**

WHEREAS Public Act 152 of 2011, passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor, was designed to lessen the burden of employee health care costs on public employers; and

WHEREAS, communities are given four options for complying with the requirements of Act 152, depending on the impact of the Act on the employees of each community; and

WHEREAS, the four options available to the village are:

- 1) apply the hard cap (capped dollar amount each government employer may pay towards an employee's health care costs);
- 2) adopt by majority vote the 80%-20% cost-sharing model;
- 3) elect not to follow the act;
- 4) opt out of (exempt itself from) the cost-sharing model as set forth in the act and revisit it prior to the next plan year.

WHEREAS, the Village Council has decided to exempt itself from the requirements of the act for the subsequent year; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council recognizes that such exemption requires a 2/3 majority vote of the Village Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Council for Village of Fowler hereby exempts itself from the requirements of Public Act 152 of 2011 for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council for the Village of Fowler acknowledges its responsibility to revisit its options and responsibility under Public Act 152 of 2011 in one year.

Voting for: Schrauben, Rhynard, Schmitt, V. Thelen, Fink, Humphrey

Voting against: None

Absent: Porter

Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Schrauben, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

## ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment 12:09 PM

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Rhonda Feldpausch, Village Clerk