

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: FEBRUARY 11, 2025

The Fowler Village Council met Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM with President Vernon J. Thelen presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum reported.
Present: Dan Schmitt, Brad Rhynard, John Rademacher, Rick Fink and Rhonda Feldpausch.
Absent: Codi Schrauben, Mike Porter, and Melissa Humphrey.

VILLAGE PERSONNEL

Vern Feldpausch.

VISITORS

Tami Rademacher and Zach Rudat - Clinton County Commissioner

AGENDA

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Fink, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Schmitt moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 regular as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to approve payment of \$26,768.68 from the General Fund, \$119.52 from the Local Street Fund, \$2,577.46 from the Sanitary Sewer O & M Fund, and \$2,244.97 from the Water O & M Fund. Motion carried.

None.

ZONING PERMITS

No one present.

CLINTON COUNTY SHERIFF

TREASURER REPORT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

No report.

DPW REPORT

Vern Feldpausch, DPW Supervisor reported on the following items:

- Year-end numbers
- Repair arrow board (road closure sign)
- GPS valves and hydrants
- Loader quotes
- Water box repairs
- Snow removal
- Door installation @ well house and sewer plant

SPEED INDICATOR SIGNS

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt to purchase two radar speed signs not to exceed a cost of \$10,000.00. Motion carried.

WATER/SEWER RATES

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Fink to adopt Resolution #2025-01 to increase water rates which read as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE WATER AND SEWER RATES

WHEREAS the Village Council may, by resolution, increase rates for water and sewer as deemed necessary to ensure sufficiency of revenues in meeting the expenses of the services provided;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Council for Village of Fowler hereby adopts the following utility fees for Ready to Serve and usage rates for Village residents;

- Ready to Serve Water \$50.00
- Each additional 1000 gallons of water \$3.50/1000
- Irrigation \$4.25/1000
- Sewer rates 65% of Water rates
- Ready to Serve Sewer \$32.50

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council for the Village of Fowler hereby adopts the rate of 1.5 times the regular residential rate for non-village taxpayers and non-village residents.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Rhynard, Schmitt, V. Thelen, Fink

Nays: None

Absent: Porter, Schrauben, Humphrey

CLINTON COUNTY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY AND SERVICE BUDGETS

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to approve the proposed 2025-2026 Clinton Area Ambulance Service Budget projecting a \$100.00 Net Income and the Authority Capital Budget projecting a \$214,730.00 final balance. Motion carried.

FARMER'S MARKET – TAMI RADEMACHER

Tami Rademacher would like to bring a Farmer's Market back to Fowler. The council supports her efforts.

SPRING CLEAN UP

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to contract with Granger Container Service for a spring clean up event at a cost of \$325.00/hr per truck and \$24.00/yd for disposal. Motion carried.

PARKS ROAD PROPERTY

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard to table action on Parks Road Property. Motion carried.

CORNER LOT ACCESSORY BUILDING AMENDMENT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to table action on Corner Lot Accessory Building Amendment. Motion carried.

ZACH RUDAT – CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Zach Rudat – Clinton County Commissioner reported on the following issues:

- A \$15 million ROBIN Grant to expand broadband access throughout the county is underway and expected to be completed in Q1 of 2025, and roughly 3,600 locations in the county will gain access to high-speed internet once the work is complete in 2026.
- Updated contract with Clinton County Sheriff reflects updates in deputy wages since the last contract was signed in 2017.
- The estimated cost to replace the county jail on Townsend Rd. would be \$91 Million.
- Live streaming County Commissioner board meetings will begin starting with committee meetings on February 20th. The YouTube page is not yet created, but I'll make a point to share with you all once it's up and running.
- The Board had to update our Personnel Policies to reflect the upcoming changes to the state's Earned Sick Time Act. The changes are set to go into effect on Feb 21st, before our next board meeting. If serious amendments are made to the act before they go into effect, the board authorizes our Administrator to amend the policy as needed to comply with the law.
- The Board was also presented with a new ordinance from the Planning Commission on noise produced by wind turbines. The ordinance was tabled for the day and will be taken up at our next meeting, but I fully support it.
- A long-term top priority is looking into ways the County can assist townships interested in taking over their own zoning. With our current body, I'm confident we have a board that's mindful of protecting and defending our farmland

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

10 MINUTE OPEN DISCUSSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Rhonda Feldpausch, Village Clerk