REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 20, 2026

PRESIDING OFFICER, THOMAS J. GARDNER, MAYOR

ROLL CALL:
PRESENT: Joe Bourne, Brandie Bourne, John Little, Jeff Gardner, Jeff McDonald, Steve Adams
ABSENT: N/A
OTHER ATTENDEES: DJ Meek (Zoning), Donna Meek (Income Tax Admin.), Tim Bryant (Street Supervisor)
VISITORS: Nancy Bourne & John Bourne

MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE
The meeting was opened with The Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gardner.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES
Motion was made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Brandie Bourne to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes from regular meeting held January 6, 2026. All council members present were in favor.

VISITORS
* No Reporting

PAY BILLS
***Motion made by Brandie Bourne** and seconded by Jeff McDonald to pay bills from respective funds. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Brandie Bourne yay,
Jeff Gardner yay, Steve Adams yay, Jeff McDonald yay, John Little yay.

POLICE
*No Reporting - Absent

STREET
*Street Supervisor Tim Bryant indicated that the street dept truck will be taken to Cross Trucking Company in order to repair a problem with the lights. The lights are not in working order on the truck. Bryant can only plow and use the truck during daylight hours until the light issue is repaired. Heard that this has been an on-going problem – this will be the 3rd time for the repair for the same issue.
*Bryant has been handling the snow and ice control as needed in the village.

ZONING/MAYOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
*No Zoning Report. Heard that DJ Meek (Mayor's Asst) has been finalizing more paperwork for the ODOT Sidewalk Project.

SOLICITOR MARK PERLAKY
*Absent – Mayor Gardner submitted an email on behalf of Solicitor Perlaky stating that he had reviewed the contract agreement and surveying of the village-owned property on East Main Street. An issue in December of 2025 was presented to council from a village resident. The resident asked for permission to remove fencing on village-owned property (which the village tenant of the property had installed). The adjourning neighbor would like to install new panels and must cross onto the village property to do so. Solicitor Perlaky reviewed the land contract

SOLICITOR – MARK PERLAKY – CONT'D
agreement and gave the legal advice as follows: The village neighbor needs to give the village his intent in writing for removing/repairing fencing within 28 days before doing so. The tenant who resides in the village-owned property has already been given notice to vacate by Feb. 12, 2026.

INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATOR
No Reporting

MAYOR
*Mayor Gardner presented two estimates that will be needed to install a traffic light at the square that will be hooked up to the generator at the Fire Dept. Therefore, the generator will keep the traffic light functioning when the electric power is out.
Motion made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the following estimates for the traffic light project: Schilling Electric - $5936.55 for installing new service and connecting service to the Fire Dept. Kinsey Excavating & Trucking - $3786.66 for installing conduit for the traffic light project. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

JOE BOURNE
*Bourne inquired about adding some language to the Yearly Ordinance for Rules and Operation for Village Council. Bourne would like to see language added to the ordinance concerning inappropriate postings on social media by any village administration personnel. Mayor Gardner indicated that "Freedom of Speech" exists – but agreed to consult with the village solicitor on the matter.

BRANDIE BOURNE
*Heard that the Delaware Fire Dept Breakfast will be held on February 14, 2026 from 8-10am.
*Bourne announced future events as follows: Fire Dept. Spaghetti Dinner in March; April – the Fire Dept will be holding a gun raffle; May – the Annual Fire Dept. Chicken BBQ Dinner/Memorial Day Event. More information on these events will be discussed in the near future.

STEVE ADAMS
*Adams expressed gratitude towards DJ Meek for bringing the Generator/Traffic Light Project before council; which will be a huge savings and a much-needed solution to the Traffic Light Issue when the village is without electric power. This project will ensure safety conditions on St. Rt. 39/Traffic

JOHN LITTLE
*No Reporting

JEFF MCDONALD
*No Reporting

JEFF GARDNER
*No Reporting

FISCAL OFFICER
*Fiscal Officer presented the 2026 Permanent Appropriation Ordinance # 2026-3 for review. The following funds were appropriated: General Fund $345,950; Street Construction Fund $22.000; State Highway Fund $3,200; Cemetery $9,500.
(See passage in Resolution/Ordinance Section)

Next meeting will be held on February 3, 2026 at 7:00pm.
Meeting Adjourned

_____ _____Date
Thomas J. Gardner, Mayor

_____ _____Date
Darissa R. Lute, Fiscal Officer

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

Motion moved by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Jeff Gardner approving the 2026 Permanent Appropriations as stated on an emergency basis. **(ORDINANCE 2026-03)** Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Jeff Gardner yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Jeff McDonald yay, Steve Adams yay.
Motion made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Jeff McDonald to pass and enact said **ORDINANCE 2026-03**. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Jeff Gardner yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Jeff McDonald yay, Steve Adams yay.

Motion moved by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Jeff McDonald to establish salaries & wages for employees as stated on an emergency basis. **(RESOLUTION 03-2026)** Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Jeff Gardner yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Jeff McDonald yay, Steve Adams yay. (All wages and salaries were approved in October 2025 with the exception of the cemetery laborer's salary). The Union Cemetery Board approved a pay raise from $450 to $560 (semi-monthly) for the summer season. Therefore, the village had to approve the pay increase on Resolution 03-2026.
Motion made by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Steve Adams to pass and enact said **RESOLUTION 03-2026**. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Jeff Gardner yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Jeff McDonald yay, Steve Adams yay.