

The Andover Village Board met on Monday, January 5, 2026, with the following members present: Kevin Betcher, Elma Gay, Dan Heiar, Jennifer Hirsch, Valli Putman, and Mike Mielke. Also present was Julie Grymonprez, Treasurer; Dave Riddell, Water Operator; Ron Grymonprez, Village Employee, and Mike Halpin, Village Attorney.

The minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Trustees noted minor grammatical corrections within the minutes. Dan made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections as stated, with Conner seconding the motion. Motion carried.

The Statement of Financial Condition as of December 31, 2025 was reviewed. Elma made a motion to approve the Statement of Financial Condition and Valli seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bev reported the Village received a donation from Divergent Communications.

The bills for the Village of Andover through December 2, 2025 through January 5, 2026 were reviewed. Dan made a motion to approve the bills and Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The water bills for the Village of Andover through December 2 through January 5, 2026 were reviewed. Elma made a motion to approve the bills and Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors/Resident Comments

None.

Correspondence

None.

Water System

Mike does not have any updates from Jack. Mike Halpin is following up on the USDA loan paperwork. Dave Riddell reported there is a water leak at the corner of 5th Street and Mulberry at the old garage. It is being fixed tomorrow. The water leaking is running right to the drain. Dave also said the company we had purchased our water meters from is no longer handling that model. He is working with a firm in Springfield that stocks the model we are currently using. Meters can last from 5-10 years and the EPA recommends replacing them every 10 years.

Southerland House

Nothing new to report.

Cell Phone

Mike is working with Verizon in Moline to get a cell phone for the Village Clerk. It would cost approximately \$98 a month if we sign up for the insurance. It is an iPhone 16 and he should have it tomorrow. Once Bev has the new phone she will send the new number to all members and post it on the Andover Facebook page and make necessary notices in the next newsletter.

New Building Inspector

Stuart Etheridge has completed the final inspection at the new house being built in Andover and has submitted his final bill as inspector. Bev said she has met with Jim Reans and given him a copy of our ordinances.

List of Local Contractors

Copies of the local contractor list developed by Mike was distributed. The list includes contractors within a 20 mile radius of Andover that we have used before. Elma said 5 Cities Construction is based in Coal Valley and should be added to the list. Elma will send Mike the contact information.

Christmas Walk

Elma said she received many positive comments. The manger photobooth was very popular. Pastor Liz recommended we combine our festivities again next year. The live entertainment was also very popular. Elma said she will meet with members of the planning committee at the church early next year to discuss different options.

Village Hall Improvements

Elma said the representative from 5 Cities Construction was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

Further Old Business

Conner handed out some information on handicap park equipment. He said he will set up a meeting with the Park Committee Members to discuss adding some handicap equipment.

Valli reported we were awarded \$5500 for our grant which was for handicap accessible park equipment from the Coulter Trust. She read the letter she received. Bev said we have not received the check yet but she will watch for it. Elma said the Coulter Trust also gave \$550 to the Ron Peterson Memorial Garden. She wrote the grant application and the money may be sent to the Village. If it is, it will be forwarded to the Jenny Lind Chapel.

New Business

Ron said snowmobilers marked up our new sidewalk in the park. Dan will mention our concerns to the area snowmobile club which marked out a trail in Andover. It was thought by some members that this was not the club but individuals who lived in Andover because they also went through some yards and fields without permission.

Adjournment

Conner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Josephson, Village Clerk