The Andover Village Board met on Monday, July 6, 2026, with the following members present: Kevin Betcher, Elma Gay, Dan Heiar, Jennifer Hirsch, Valli Putnam, Conner Riddell, and Mike Mielke. Also present were Julie Grymonprez, Treasurer, and Mike Halpin, Village Attorney. Jennifer served as recording Secretary.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 1, 2026, meeting. Elma made a motion to approve the minutes, and Connor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 29, 2026, Building Committee meeting. Connor made a motion to approve the minutes, and Valli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Statement of Financial Condition as of June 30, 2026. Dan made a motion to approve the statement, and Valli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Village of Andover bills dated June 3, 2026, through July 5, 2026. Connor made a motion to approve the bills, and Elma seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Village of Andover water bills dated June 3, 2026, through July 5, 2026. Elma made a motion to approve the bills, and Connor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors/Resident Comments

Chuck and Cindy Vestal expressed concerns about weeds and overgrown trees encroaching onto their property from Perry property 716 3rd St. / 218 North Oak Street (Vestal property). Although the property owner has been notified, the issue has not yet been resolved. Dan and Mike volunteered to speak with the homeowner to help address the situation.

Correspondence

A new resident asked Valli whether the Village provides a welcome packet for new residents. Elma noted that the information typically needed by new residents is already included in the Village newsletter. Mike shared a welcome packet template developed by Kevin Clark, which could serve as the basis for creating an enhanced welcome packet for the Village.

Water System

Mike reported that the water project has been advertised for bids, with a pre-bid meeting scheduled on-site for July 8 at 10:00 a.m. Bid opening is set for July 18 at 10:00 a.m. at the IMEG office in Ottawa.

Village Hall Repairs

Jennifer and Mike provided an update on the project's progress, including identifying specifications for the composite decking and railing system, as well as evaluating whether prefabricated stairs are a viable option. The committee agreed that the project should be bid as a single, complete project. The committee will meet again in July to finalize the project specifications.

Park Committee

Elma reported that, after speaking with the Parks Director in Kewanee, she learned that the playground equipment manufacturer should be able to provide the installation specifications. She also shared a photo of the accessible playground at Schadt Park as a reference.

Ditching

Nothing to report.

Updating Storm Warning Siren

Melissa Bonner submitted a FEMA pre-application for grant funding, contingent upon the Village's adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. If awarded, the grant would fund upgrades to the Village storm warning siren.

The required local match is 25%, not to exceed $4,000. Elma moved to authorize up to $4,000 from the General Fund to cover the Village's required match. Valli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other Old Business

Mike discussed the approved street plan and schedule.

Pest Control

Mike reviewed three quotes for pest control with the Board. Quotes were submitted by Emerick Pest Control, Four Seasons Pest Control, and Orkin. Quotes were comparable. Jennifer made a motion to engage Emerick Pest Control, with Valli seconding. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval

The Village received the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for review. Ricky Newcomb, Bi State representative, attended the meeting to answer questions and provide an overview of the plan. He explained that the plan is updated every five years and that future revisions can be made through Board resolutions. Adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan makes the Village eligible to apply for FEMA hazard mitigation grant funding. He also noted that the plan has already been approved by both counties and numerous cities and villages throughout the region.

Elma moved to adopt Resolution 2027-03, with the addition of storm siren updates to the plan. Connor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Burn Piles

The Village noted residents are using Village property to burn items. Mike suggested sending a letter to residents notifying them of the improper usage of Village property. Elma noted including this information in the newsletter.

Fire Extinguishers for Women's League Building and Historical Building

Goetz (Getz) updated the two fire extinguishers for the Women's League Building and Historical Building. Goetz (Getz) will invoice the Village, and the Historical Society will reimburse the Village. The Village of Andover uses Tri-State. Mike suggested adding the two buildings to the existing Village's account with Tri-State.

Other New Business

Elma is working with Sarah to have an open mic night at the Gazebo for July or early August.

Adjournment

Valli made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully, Jennifer Hirsch