6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Newbold. A roll call was answered aye by Trustees Feder, Kearns, Heinecke, Geppert, Fitzgerald and Stoops. Also present were Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works, and Tim Buehler, Chief of Police.

VISITORS

Matt Ridlen

Ridlen was present to address Trustee Feder regarding a “pile of mess” that needs to be cleaned up at 404 North St. There was a brief debate on the mess and who was using the dumpster he previously had there, Feder said he will get it cleaned up. He advised Chief Buehler to issue him a ticket if he is indeed in the wrong.

READING THE JOURNAL(MINUTES)

The minutes from the June 16, 2025, Regular Board Meeting was presented to the Board for approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Stoops, to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2025, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

Mayor Newbold mentioned that there will be a meeting regarding a St. Clair County Sheriff’s Department program. He will bring more details to the Board once he has the information.

VILLAGECLERK

The Clerk stated that the Homecoming Committee requested a parade donation from the Village in the amount of $500.00 for the Bicycle Brigade.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to donate $500.00 to the New Athens Homecoming Committee to sponsor the Bicycle Brigade for the parade. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

TREASURER’STIME

The Treasurer was not present.

POLICECHIEF

Chief Buehler submitted the activity log for June.

Buehler noted that there were no incidents at the homecoming but there was one incident during the parade.

The Chief stated that the Village attorney has posted a placard on the door of 502 S. Johnson St. He will proceed tomorrow.

Buehler noted that there were several calls on July 4th regarding fireworks. One ordinance violation was given.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Chris Remick noted that the fireplugs have been installed at the school. He also noted that the metal is cleaned up at the marina and the man-lift will be here until Friday. Once they’re done with the boat slips, they will start trimming trees.

REPORTOFSTANDINGCOMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

Nothing to report.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

The monthly bills were presented to the Audit Committee for review and approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to approve the monthly bills as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

WATERANDSEWER

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL

Risk Management is requesting all participants to approve a ‘Return to Work Policy.’ The Clerk has forwarded the policy to RMA and is waiting to hear back from them if it is satisfactory.

Trustee Feder requested an executive session regarding personnel at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

The Village received two bids for demolishing the house at 1105 S. Mill St. Wm. Wachtel bid $13,500 and Blomenkamp bid $12,500.

A motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Stoops, to accept Blomenkamp’s bid for demolishing the house at 1105 S. Mill St.in the amount of $12,500. A vote was answered aye by all members present, except for Trustee Feder, who abstained from voting.

CEMETERY

Nothing to report.

ORDINANCE

Nothing to report.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Trustee Stoops said he has been in contact with Rep. Kevin Schmidt regarding grants.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ADA

Nothing to report.

MARINA

Nothing to report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Clerk noted that the Village has a ten-year lease agreement with IDNR for property where one of our lift stations is. The agreement started last year at $242 per year. It was suggested to pay the remaining nine years since they will not be forwarding a yearly invoice.

A motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Feder, to enter into executive session at 7:06 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The meeting returned to regular session at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Stoops, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

 Steve Newbold, Village President

Nancy Ritter, Village Clerk