MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD

GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
OCTOBER 5, 2026

Call to Order	Mayor Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Other Officials in Attendance	Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; Jake Litz, Assistant Community Development Director Jeremy Gaughan, Police Chief
Roll Call	**PRESENT: 6 - O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross** **ABSENT: 0 -**
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Hood led the Pledge of Allegiance.
A. PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
B. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA	It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Roll call,** **AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross** **NAY: 0- None** **ABSENT: 0- None** **Motion Carried.**
C. CONSENT AGENDA / OMNIBUS VOTE	The Village Administrator read the consent agenda for an omnibus vote as follows. 1. Approval of minutes from the September 28, 2026 meeting. 2. Approval of Bills for the period ending October 5, 2026 in the amount of $657,397.38. It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve the Consent Agenda for an omnibus vote as read. **Roll call,** **AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross** **NAY: 0- None** **ABSENT: 0- None** **Motion Carried.**
D. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS	None.
E. REPORTS	None.
F. OLD BUSINESS	None.
G. NEW BUSINESS	1. Approval of Ord. 2026 – 75 vacating a portion of Dorchester Avenue right-of-way adjacent to Lot 5 Block 25 and Lot 2 Block 38 of Fred'K H. Bartlett's Third Addition to Northwoods. Administrator Muetz stated Mike Fallos and William Maloney have petitioned the Village to vacate the right-of-way at the end of Dorchester west of First Street. He stated this section is approximately 160 feet long by 60 feet wide. The petitioners desire to add the area to their existing properties that they own. With both property owners owning the property adjacent to the right-of-way to the tracks, this has no impact on any other property owners. Administrator Muetz stated all Village Departments reviewed the request and had no objections to the vacation. The Planning & Zoning Board reviewed the request on September 16th and is forwarding a unanimous favorable recommendation. It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee of-way to

approve of vacating a portion of Dorchester Avenue right-of way adjacent to Lot 5 Block 25 and Lot 2 Block 38 of Fred'K H. Bartlett's Third Addition to Northwoods.

Roll call,
AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2026 – 76 amending Chapter 78, Section 78-41 of the Gurnee Municipal Code regarding the impoundment of motor vehicles.

Chief Gaughan stated the Police Department is requesting to amend the Gurnee Municipal Code as it relates to vehicle impoundment in an effort to simplify the Village's vehicle seizure and impoundment process, establish a consistent administrative fee and add fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer and aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer as qualifying violations. The Village's vehicle seizure and impoundment framework was established approximately 19 years ago and was most recently amended in 2023. As currently written, it authorizes impoundment for driving under the influence and three narrowly defined suspended or revoked license circumstances (a DUI-related suspension or revocation; two or more active suspensions or revocations, subject to specified exceptions; or a suspension or revocation involving a driver with three or more moving violation convictions during the preceding 12 months). There is a $750 administrative fee for DUI and DUI-related license suspension or revocation cases and a $500 administrative fee for the remaining repeat-offender suspended or revoked license cases. Over time, these distinctions have become increasingly difficult to administer. The proposed ordinance replaces the three narrower suspended or revoked license categories with one operational rule covering a violation of Section 6-303 of the Illinois Vehicle Code when the person's driver's license, permit, privilege to operate a motor vehicle, or privilege to obtain a driver's license or permit is suspended or revoked under Illinois law or the law of another state. Impoundment would not apply when every active suspension or revocation forming the basis of the violation is based solely on one or more of four non-safety-related grounds. The proposed ordinance also includes provisions making vehicles used in connection with fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer and aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer subject to seizure and impoundment. Under the proposed ordinance, the owner of records would be responsible for a $750 administrative fee, plus applicable towing and storage charges, before the vehicle is released.

Trustee Ross asked if repeat offenders are still addressed under this amendment. Chief Gaughan stated that right now there are two different fines that we use. There is a $500 fine for different suspended and revoked driver's licenses. There is $750 for driver's license that is suspended or revoked for a DUI. Now there would only be one fine of $750 and repeat offenders are automatically in that category.

Trustee Garner asked for clarity on if repeat offenders are still in that category. Chief Gaughan confirmed.

Trustee O'Brien asked the difference between fleeing and aggregated fleeing. Chief Gaughan stated that fleeing and eluding and then aggravated fleeing and eluding, one could have been when they fled and caused substantial criminal or substantial property damage or they hurt someone while they tried to flee. Those situations would raise it to an aggravated fleeing and eluding.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of amending Chapter 78, Section 78-41 of the Gurnee Municipal Code regarding the impoundment of motor vehicles.

Roll call,
AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Police Department request to purchase 11 Daniel Defense DDM4V7 Duty Rifles and associated equipment from the low proposer, Acme Sports, Inc., at a total cost of $24,750.00.

Administrator Muetz stated this request is the second phase purchase and consists of 11 additional rifles and related equipment. He reminded the Board earlier in the year the Department solicited proposals from three firms it has used in the past, with Acme providing the lowest quote. As this was a planned replacement this year, the appropriate funding was included in the FY 26/27 Approved Budget.

Trustee Garner asked what happens with the old rifles. Chief Gaughan stated under the first purchase in June, they were traded in for a credit. He stated this purchase will add rifles to the Department; therefore, no old rifles will be traded in at this time.

Trustee Ware asked where Acme is located. Administrator Muetz said the invoice indicates Seymour, Indiana.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Ware to approve Police Department request to purchase 11 Daniel Defense DDM4V7 Duty Rifles and associated equipment from the low proposer, Acme Sports, Inc., at a total cost of $24,750.00.

Roll call,
AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

4. Approval of issuing a one Class 1 Liquor License to Catherine Millar to operate Giordano's located at 7105 W. Grand Avenue, Gurnee (change of ownership).

Administrator Muetz stated Giordano's recently went under a change of ownership. In conjunction with that, the restaurant has applied for a Class 1 Liquor License to continue to allow alcohol sales at the location. The Police Department conducted the necessary background check and found nothing to preclude issuance of the license. Since a Class 1 already exists for Giordano's the Municipal Code does NOT need to be amended. Rather, the Village Board only needs to issue the current license to the new manager.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve issuing a one Class 1 Liquor License to Catherine Millar to operate Giordano's located at 7105 W. Grand Avenue, Gurnee (change of ownership).

Roll call,
AYE: 6- O'Brien, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ware, Garner, Ross
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Hood adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Selene Beltran,
Deputy Village Clerk