Village of Manteno
Special Board Meeting
August 20, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Roll Call:
Trustee Mike Barry
Trustee CJ Boudreau
Trustee Todd Crockett
Trustee Joel Gesky
Trustee Peggy Vaughn
Trustee Annette Zimbelman
Also Present:
Annette LaMore – Mayor
Chris LaRocque – Village Administrator
Al Swinford – Chief of Police
Jim Hanley – Superintendent of Public Works
Brian Miller – Attorney
Steven Orth – Village Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Mayor LaMore at 6:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the opening invocation.

Roll call was done.

Public Participation:
Emily Herrman expressed appreciation for community support, put rumors to rest about her interactions with John Martin at the last Board Meeting, discussed the progress of her medical treatment, and commented on public participation.
Jake Smith thanked all who supported him and his cause, discussed the upcoming September 6th walk, and invited all to attend.
David Bergdahl stated that this was the most "intentionally dysfunctional" board and discussed his observation of Board performance at Manteno and at other municipalities.
CJ Boudreau discussed recent Board attendance issues and discussed positive items in the community.
Bob Forsythe discussed the recent absence of trustees at the last Board meeting.
Karen Brzezicki discussed the recent trustee absences.

Mayor LaMore requested a motion to enter a Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing hiring and appointments. Attorney Miller cited the applicable Illinois statutes and provisions of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the Closed Executive Session. Trustee

Barry made the motion, Seconded by Trustee Vaughn. Motion passed 6-0. The public session of the meeting was recessed at 6:20 p.m. for the Closed Executive Session.

Mayor LaMore requested a motion to reconvene the Public Meeting. Motion by Trustee Boudreau, Seconded by Trustee Crockett, Motion passed 6-0. Public Meeting was resumed at 7:13p.m.

Roll call.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT

CONSIDERATION RE: Motion to appoint Crystal Wolfe to Village Clerk to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Steven Orth (Ord 1-8-3). Motion by Trustee Barry, Seconded by Trustee Boudreau to approve appointment, Motion passed 6-0.

CONSIDERATION RE: Motion to appoint Jim Paicz as the Director of Building and Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer to fill an existing vacancy (Ord 1-22-1). The Board discussed the proposed appointment and determined that the appointment should be delayed. Motion by Trustee Boudreau, Seconded by Trustee Gesky to table appointment to a subsequent Board Meeting, Motion passed 6-0.

CONSIDERATION RE: Motion to appoint Crystal Wolfe to FOIA Officer (Ord 1-5-5 and 5 ILCS 140/3.5). Motion by Trustee Gesky, Seconded by Trustee Crocket to approve appointment, Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor LaMore discussed the scheduling of a Special Meeting on August 25, 2026, at 6pm to consider the Code Enforcement Officer appointment.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION RE: Motion to Approve Payment of Bills/Invoices in the Amount of $123,948.81. Trustee Barry asked for clarification of the bills related to Gotion activities and engineering services. Mr. LaRocque clarified that the Village would bill Gotion. Motion by Trustee Barry, Seconded by Trustee Boudreau to approve payment of Bills/Invoices, Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor LaMore discussed upcoming community events, including school being back in session, community cleanup day, and Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive.

Motion by Trustee Barry, Seconded by Trustee Gesky to adjourn the meeting, Motion passed 6-0. Mayor LaMore closed the meeting at 7:17 pm.

Minutes prepared by Steven Orth, Village Clerk.