

APPROVED MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
Village of Antioch, Lake County, Illinois
Municipal Building: 935 Skidmore Drive, Antioch, IL 60002
June 24, 2026**

I. Call to Order

Mayor Gartner called the June 24, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:31 pm at the Antioch Municipal Building located at 935 Skidmore Drive, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor and Village Board led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen. Also present were Mayor Gartner, Attorney Stach, Administrator Lichterman and Clerk Romine. Absent: Trustee McNeill.

IV. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

There were no Trustees attending remotely.

V. Mayoral Report

Mayor Gartner announced the upcoming concert and 4th of July holiday, and recapped the first farmer's market and summer wine walk. He said the Board will be discussing zoning certifications at our next meeting for new businesses and park security will start this Friday at Sequoit Creek Park.

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Reports

1. **Report and Recommendation of Staff re: Façade Rebate Grant Request for Toasties Soda Bar (320 W IL Route 173)** - Community Development Director Mark Janeck reviewed the request for a façade grant from Toasties Soda Bar located at 320 W IL Route 173. The applicant is requesting approximately \$14,000 for improvements to exterior signage and awning. Staff reviewed the application and costs. He added that the code referenced a limit of \$10k on façade grants, but the Village Board is able to go above that.

Trustee Pierce asked if this was discussed with staff prior to the improvements. Director Janeck said they did the improvements and installed the items before the request was made. Trustee Pierce believes the board should have a chance to review before the improvements are made and the funds are requested. Director Janeck said the Village Code doesn't require prior approval and added that the sign company chosen was a higher amount than other quotes received by approximately \$1,500. Trustee Pierce recommended prior approval be considered in the ordinance. Mayor Gartner agreed that he doesn't recall approving façade grants historically after improvements were made. Trustee Bluthardt believes if they are requesting an amount over what the code allows they should come before the board before improvements are made. Director Janeck said he can prepare a text amendment to ensure they come in before improvements, and alter the amount. Those present discussed the code requirements and the under-utilization of the program in recent years.

VIII. Consent Agenda

Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented, waiving the second reading on ordinances:

2. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing and Approving a Six (6) Month Moratorium on Tobacco Licenses in the Village of Antioch, Illinois

APPROVED MINUTES

3. Approval of an Ordinance amending Section 10-10-3 of the Village Code Related to Light Industrial Uses in the Transitional Core District
7. Approval of an Ordinance Granting Variances to Allow the Construction of a New Building at 212 Depot Street, Antioch, Illinois
8. Approval of an Ordinance Amending Sections of Title 13 of the Antioch Village Code Regarding Development and Construction Fees for Antioch, Illinois
9. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Sell, Salvage or Otherwise Dispose of Surplus Equipment for the Village of Antioch, Illinois

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

IX. Regular Business

1. Approval of the June 10, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented - Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve the June 10, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez and Pedersen.

NO: 1: Pierce.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. Approval of an Ordinance granting a Variance for an Electronic Message Board at 1350 South Main Street, Antioch, Illinois – Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve an Ordinance granting a variance for an Electronic Message Board at 1350 South Main Street, Antioch, Illinois, waiving the second reading.

Trustee Macek questioned the setback for the sign, and expressed concern with the line of sight would be impacted. Staff responded that the setback is 12 feet 2 inches.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Mack, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Approval of an Ordinance Granting Land Use Relief for the property located at 1350 South Main Street in the Village of Antioch, Illinois (*Special Use – Electronic Message Board*) - Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve an Ordinance granting land use relief for the property located at 1350 South Main Street, Antioch, Illinois (*Special Use – Electronic Message Board*), waiving the second reading.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Mack, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Public Hearing re: an Ordinance Making Appropriations of Sums of Money for all the Necessary Expenditures of The Village of Antioch for all Corporate and Special Purposes For The Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2026 and Ending April 30, 2027 – Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Bluthardt, to open the public hearing. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

APPROVED MINUTES

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Presentation by Finance Director Peterson - Finance Director Peterson reviewed the draft appropriation ordinance, and announced the certificate of publication and availability of the ordinance at the Village Hall. He noted that the rates and amounts were doubled from budget figures to accommodate price changes and setting the spending authority for the Village of Antioch.

There were no Trustee or public comments.

Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Bluthardt, to close the public hearing. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. Consideration and approval of an Ordinance Making Appropriations of Sums of Money for all the Necessary Expenditures of The Village of Antioch for all Corporate and Special Purposes For The Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2026 and Ending April 30, 2027 – Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve an Ordinance Making Appropriations of Sums of Money for all the Necessary Expenditures of The Village of Antioch for all Corporate and Special Purposes For The Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2026 and Ending April 30, 2027 and waiving the second reading. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

11. Consideration and approval of payment of accounts payable as prepared by staff in the amount of \$897,104.52 – Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve payment of accounts payable in the amount of \$897,104.52. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

X. Administrator's Report

Administrator Lichterman discussed the beginning of the 2026 road program. He announced that park security begins Friday and is a 30-day administrative agreement to get them out there for the holiday. He expects further approval on a July agenda. He thanked staff for the upcoming holiday preparations, and for the work on recent events. Administrator Lichterman said staff is working on getting shade and umbrellas at Sequoit Creek Park in the same design as what is currently in place. He announced the quarterly meeting is scheduled for July 17 at noon at village hall.

XI. Village Clerk's Report

No report.

XII. Department Reports – Police Department 6-month

Police Chief Guttschow presented his bi-annual report for the police department to the Mayor and Village Board. Chief Guttschow discussed operations strains experienced by the department, primarily because staffing has not kept pace with demand. He discussed current vacancies in the department, the limited hiring pool, a lateral turnover to neighboring agencies, and a relatively new patrol force with less experience. He discussed the nationwide trend and issues facing local law enforcement. Chief Guttschow

APPROVED MINUTES

also discussed community growth, increased calls for service, traffic complaints, and the time necessary to complete complex investigations. Chief Guttschow presented long-term solutions focused on filling vacant positions, strengthening succession planning, and maintaining compliance with training and reporting mandates. He also highlighted improved technology through the Flock cameras and drones, and wellness measures intended to support recruitment and retention. He added that the facility they are currently occupying is at capacity, and the limitations it places on future growth. He advised that a space-needs analysis and planning will be necessary in future capital planning.

Trustee Macek asked about the potential to provide workout facilities for staff. Administrator Lichterman said they are currently working on a heavily discounted membership at a local gym for employees.

Trustee Bluthardt agrees that improvements are necessary, and hopes the Board can make decisions on what amenities can be done financially. He added that public safety and police should be the number one concern for the Village Board.

Trustee Martinez asked whether Field Training Officers receive any additional compensation. Chief Guttschow stated that, under the contract, FTOs receive one additional hour of pay per shift, which he described as average. He noted the challenge of identifying officers with the experience and training needed to serve as FTOs and expressed concern that the Village is investing in highly trained officers who may later leave for other agencies. Trustee Martinez suggested exploring retention incentives such as signing bonuses, gym membership credits, or other subsidized expenses, and noted that additional PTO could be considered during the next contract negotiations.

Trustee Pierce noted that Antioch is a small community with limited resources and emphasized the need to find practical retention strategies, particularly since the Police Department already represents a significant portion of the budget. Chief Guttschow stated that comparisons to neighboring departments are difficult due to differences in department size, organizational structure, and available resources. There was also discussion of a potential future model for combining resources through a shared law enforcement pool.

XIII. Trustee Reports

Trustee Bluthardt asked parks and public works to schedule tours at the 2 main construction sites; Centennial Park and the new Public Works Facility for trustees on a Saturday or evening.

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees regular meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES

VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING Village of Antioch, Lake County, Illinois Municipal Building: 935 Skidmore Drive, Antioch, IL 60002 June 24, 2026

I. Call To Order

Mayor Gartner called the June 24, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:55 pm at the Antioch Municipal Building located at 935 Skidmore Drive, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

II. Roll Call

Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez, Pierce and Pedersen. Also present were Mayor Gartner, Attorney Stach, Administrator Lichterman and Clerk Romine. Absent: Trustee McNeill.

III. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

There were no Trustees attending remotely.

IV. Mayoral Report –

No report.

V. Public Comment -

None.

VI. Regular Business

1. Approval of the May 27, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented - Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to approve the May 27, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Macek, Bluthardt, Martinez and Pedersen.

NO: 1: Pierce.

ABSENT: 1: McNeill.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. Discussion regarding Library Impact Fees – Administrator Lichterman discussed the proposed impact fees for the library, and will clarify with counsel and report back to the board.

VII. Other Business

None.

VIII. Executive Session

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk