

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Sue Stillwell

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Scott Koepfel

VILLAGE CLERK

Tracey R. Conti



VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Heidi Lendi

Matthew Bonnie

Sean Michels

Anthony Speciale

Nora London

Michael Roskopf

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**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2026, 6:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Lendi at 6:00 pm.

Trustee Lendi stated that President Stillwell is out due to a family matter and she will be taking over the meeting as President Pro Temp.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Trustee Lendi asked everyone to join her in the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Roll Call**

On April 21, 2026, the Village Board meeting was held in person at the Sugar Grove Library.

**Present:** Trustee Heidi Lendi, Trustee Nora London, Trustee Anthony Speciale, Trustee Sean Michels, Trustee Michael Roskopf.

**Absent:** President Susan Stillwell, Trustee Matthew Bonnie.

**Additional Attendees:** Village Administrator Scott Koepfel, Village Attorney Brian Miller, Police Chief Patrick Rollins, Finance Director Karin Johns, Community Development Director Danielle Marion, Public Works Director Brad Merkel, Village Clerk Tracey Conti.

**4. Public Hearing**

**5. Proclamations**

**a. Presentation of a Proclamation to Declare the Month of May 2026 as Motorcycle Awareness Month in the Village of Sugar Grove.**

Trustee Lendi read the presented proclamation to the board.

**b. Presentation of a Proclamation Declaring April 20 -24, 2026, as National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week in the Village of Sugar Grove.**

Trustee Lendi read the presented proclamation to the board.

**c. Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing April 24, 2026, as Arbor Day in the Village of Sugar Grove.**

Trustee Lendi read the presented proclamation to the board.

Trustee Lendi asked if a tree will be planted as a Village again this year, Director Merkel said yes in Veterans Park. Trustee Michels asked what type of tree, Director Merkel said a burr oak tree.

Motion by Trustee Michels, seconded by Trustee Roskopf, to approve the three proclamations presented.

**Ayes: Michels, Roskopf, Lendi, London, Speciale ; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

## 6. Presentations

## 7. Appointments

### a. Recommendation to Ratify the Utility Rate Committee Appointments as proposed by President Stillwell.

Director Johns stated that the Village has a settlement agreement with Prestbury involving Utility Rate Committees meeting every three years. Prestbury has selected three members that would like to participate in the committee. Members of this committee will include Marlene Deck, Patrick Kinnally, Mark Miller, Village Trustee Anthony Speciale, PW Director Brad Merkel, PW Utilities Foreperson Chris Lemke, and Finance Director Karin Johns.

Motion by Trustee Speciale, seconded by Trustee London, to discuss and approve a Recommendation to Ratify the Utility Rate Committee Appointments as proposed by President Stillwell.

**Ayes: Speciale, London, Lendi, Michels, Roskopf; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

### 8. Airport Report – Trustee Speciale stated that the Aurora Mayor joined the last meeting along with many others and progress has been made with JA Air and REV Air. The mayor was looking for ideas to help businesses, and a follow-up will be held.

Administrator Koeppel wanted an update on the solar field from Director Marion. She said that the week prior permits were issues for both solar farms that were approved through the special use.

Trustee Speciale added that they are working on replacing the sign out front as well.

Trustee Michels asked if the idea of annexing the airport into the Village has been brought up, Trustee Speciale said he will bring it up.

## 9. Public Comment on Scheduled Action Items

## 10. Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval:** March 31, 2026, Village Board Meeting Minutes.
- b. **Approval:** April 7, 2026, Village Board Meeting Minutes.

- c. **Approval:** Vouchers.
- d. **Approval:** March 2026 Treasurer's Report.
- e. **Resolution:** Authorizing the Execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police (Sergeants).
- f. **Resolution:** Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for Police Pension Actuarial Services with Lauterbach & Amen.
- g. **Resolution:** Amending Refuse Rates for the Village of Sugar Grove.
- h. **Resolution:** Setting Vehicle Use Fee (Infrastructure Maintenance) for the Village of Sugar Grove.
- i. **Resolution:** Setting Zoning, Subdivision, and Building Permit Fees and Other Charges.
- j. **Resolution:** Authorizing the Village's New Home Fee.

Trustee Michels asked for item 10d to be removed.

Motion by Trustee Michels, seconded by Trustee Roskopf, to approve the Consent Agenda with item 10d removed.

**Ayes: Michels, Roskopf, Lendi, London, Speciale; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

Trustee Michels wanted to know if the water rates will be amended at this time. Director Johns said no the Utility Committee needs to happen first; the water rates will be brought before the board in May. Trustee Michels confirmed that it was recommended during budget to raise the rates by 1%, Director Johns said yes and she was unaware of the committee that was needed first. Trustee Michels commented on the water and sewer funds, and he doesn't feel there will be a deficit, and he doesn't want to approve the 1% without further discussion. Director Johns said included in the committee there will be long-term forecasting with upcoming projects.

Motion by Trustee Michels, seconded by Trustee Roskopf, to discuss and approve item 10d on the Consent Agenda.

**Ayes: Michels, Roskopf, Lendi, London, Speciale; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

## 11. General Business

### a. Ordinance: Adopting the FY 2026-2027 Budget.

Director Johns said the total budget for FY 2026-2027 is \$24,286,374 and this is a decrease of .7% from last year's budget of \$24,989,603.

Trustee Michels commented on building permits; Director Johns said the budget still reflects 94 in the General Fund and 50 in the Capital Fund. Trustee Michels doesn't understand why two different categories are being used for the same budget. Director Johns said the idea is that in

the General Fund the authority needs to pay for these expenses, the Capital Fund would not ensure the expenses until the revenues are received.

Trustee Roskopf asked if the 195 permits was from the builders, she said yes, it is what they had projected not including Crown. Director Marion stated that she had reached out to builders, Ryan Homes is at 45 for 5&6 and then another 20 for Phase I, Lennar is at 94 with an additional 20 through April of next year, she said Crown will be building at least 20 as well. Administrator Koepfel added other areas with lots and that Crown Area 1 starting in the fall building 5 homes a month. Staff still feel 194 is reasonable but if the board doesn't agree the number can be adjusted along with the budget. Trustee Michels explained how he feels it's too aggressive then brought up the vehicle funds report. Director Johns said this was sent in a memo to the board and shows the future road projects are starting to fund balance in future fiscal years.

Trustee Lendi asked Trustee Michels if he is seeing any delays with materials, he said no. Trustee Lendi doesn't have a problem with reducing it and wants to be a little more conservative.

Administrator Koepfel said the concern is whether or not there is revenues and expenditures, appropriations cannot be exceeded and if the number is too low the budget will need to be amended.

Trustee Michels brings up the Treasurers Report and states his confusion with the budget.

Trustee Roskopf asks what changes he would like to see, Trustee Michels wants a tighter budget, he thought there would be more projects to look at and discuss as well.

Trustee Speciale said this could be approved then at a future meeting Capital Improvement could be discussed and it could be amended. Administrator Koepfel recommended the board send him questions to be discussed.

Trustee Michels also brought up a list of other things staff are going to work on. Administrator Koepfel said a lot of the projects are drawn from the Capital Budget, he mentioned a strategic plan is being worked on as well as other projects. Trustee Michels wants to get started on the space needs analysis for the Village Hall and he mentioned storm water on the east and west side of the Village. He also wants to work on a transportation plan and move the Village forward.

Trustee Speciale said he agrees and a list should be made and then discussed at future meetings. He made a request for an additional \$7,500 for training in the water budget and mentioned Sugar Grove winning the winning the state's water taste test allowing the Village to compete at the

National Waterworks Association Conference. He would like to send water with a few staff members to this national conference.

Motion by Trustee Speciale, seconded by Trustee Roskopf, to discuss and approve Adopting the FY 2026-2027 Budget.

**Ayes: Speciale, Roskopf, Lendi, London; Nays: None; Abstain: Michels; Absent: Bonnie.**

**b. Resolution: Authorizing an Agreement Between the Village of Sugar Grove and the Sugar Grove Corn Boil, NFP.**

Administrator Koepfel said for the past few years there has been an agreement with the Corn Boil. This agreement is mainly for the services that Public Works and the Police Department provide. No large changes were made to the agreement this year, just regular updates. This agreement has already been adopted by the Corn Boil.

Motion by Trustee Speciale, seconded by Trustee Michels, to discuss and approve Authorizing an Agreement Between the Village of Sugar Grove and the Sugar Grove Corn Boil, NFP.

**Ayes: Speciale, Michels, Lendi, London, Roskopf; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

**c. Ordinance: Amending the 2021 International Building Code and 2021 International Fire Code.**

Director Marion stated that at the previous meeting the board had discussed the proposed amendment to the International Fire Code that was recently adopted. When the Fire Chief and Building Inspector were reviewing recent plans it was found that language needs to be added to state where a control room can be placed.

Motion by Trustee Speciale, seconded by Trustee London, to discuss and approve Amending the 2021 International Building Code and 2021 International Fire Code.

**Ayes: Speciale, London, Lendi, Michels, Roskopf; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

**12. Public Comment**

- A representative from the Corn Boil commented on needing volunteers.

**13. Discussion Items**

**a. Axon Detention Room Cameras.**

Chief Rollins wants to discuss getting Axon cameras to be added in the new police department remodel. Something that was looked at during the design of the police department was to exclude any cameras in detention rooms, interview rooms, and cells so that it could be incorporated into the evidence camera system. This camera system is not sold through contractors and has to go directly through police agencies, and this helps with cost savings. Booking cameras are not required but are essential for police protection and most departments

have them. Existing cameras such as body cameras and the squad car camera will be interfaced with the new detention cameras.

Chief Rollins said that when there is a case there will be physical and digital evidence created and everything is uploaded to Evidence.com. Previously the system would take hours to upload any information. He mentioned that since this outside of the remodel there would be no project costs which would help with saving funds. It is required that Axon does the installation as well.

The current approved budget includes this, and the overall project cost is \$170,000 over a five-year period.

Trustee Speciale clarified that the price would be split over several years, Chief Rollins said yes and it would be \$34,083.96 per year.

Trustee Roskopf asked if the equipment cost would be lowered in the future, Chief Rollins said yes at the end of the five years it would be in-house additional costs would be for storage or a refresh. He added that most agencies are moving in this direction, Elburn is going with the same system.

Trustee Michels asked if Tri-Com supports this or have input, Chief Rollins said not in the interview rooms themselves, but they can see the body cameras and squad cameras.

Trustee London asked if the equipment is upgradeable at the end of the five years, Chief Rollins said yes but at a cost. She asked if maintenance is included as well, he replied yes for the five years.

**b. Replacement of two Chevy Tahoes.**

Chief Rollins said that there is a replacement schedule for all the squad cars and this budget year three cars were included in the budget, at this time only two need to be replaced. He said it is essential for officers to have nice squad cars since so much time is spent in them. He explained the reasoning for switching to Chevy Tahoe's to the board and their reliability. He said officers are typically out in the squad cars for an eight-hour shift sometimes more, the front-line cars are the ones that are on the replacement schedule. Patrol cars are typically rotated for five years, if they are still good after that time it will be used for a backup rotation. The Chevy Tahoe's come with two warranties; one is a five-year warranty for power training.

Many factors are looked at when replacing squad cars such as mileage, he said cars are often pushed hard while being on for long hours responding to various calls. Chief Rollins explained it is harder for the vehicle when it sits turned on rather than moving, engine hours turned on can be compared to 160,000 miles. He explained that he does keep up with maintenance as well on the cars.

The cars being replaced are going to be moved to secondary cars and the cars currently on the secondary line will be disposed of.

Trustee Roskopf asked how many primary cars there are currently, Chief Rollins said ten. He added that there will be more officers starting as well once they graduate academy.

Trustee Michels asked about the difference between the costs of the cars. Chief Rollins explained that every five years laptops are replaced and equipment is often replaced around the same time, mobile radio get used double the time. The cheaper car was an admin car with no equipment inside, Administrator Koeppel clarified that three marked cars are within budget.

#### 14. Reports

##### a. Staff

Administration – Trustee Lendi asked Administrator Koeppel to address Galena, he said he believes this is an IDOT project and information was put out once aware. Director Merkel said it is an IDOT right of way and the Village is not involved and one side of the road needed to be worked on at a time. Trustee Speciale added that Galena is an IDOT road going east.

Finance – Trustee Roskopf asked for a breakdown of businesses for grocery sales tax, Director Johns said this can't be given out business by business.

Community Development – Nothing to add.

Police Department – Chief Rollins added that two new officers will be joining the team as they are graduating from academy on Friday. The upcoming board meeting will have a ceremonial swearing in.

In June the Trustees will be brought to the police department remodel for a walk through.

Public Works – Trustee Michels asked if there have been any problems with all the rain, Director Merkel said no.

##### b. Trustees

Trustee Lendi – Nothing to add.

Trustee London – Nothing to add.

Trustee Speciale – Trustee Speciale attended an event at Rich Harvest Farm for Village Staff.

Trustee Michels – Nothing to add.

Trustee Roskopf – Nothing to add.

##### b. President

#### 15. Executive Session

- Personnel –5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

- Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- Property/Land Acquisition – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
- Sale of Property – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6)
- Review of Executive Session Minutes – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)

#### **16. Adjournment**

Motion by Trustee Speciale, seconded by Trustee Michels, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 pm.

**Ayes: Speciale, Michels, Lendi, London, Roskopf; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Bonnie.**

ATTEST:

/s/ Madeline Dossett

Madeline Dossett

Deputy Village Clerk