

**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
UNAPPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES
February 09, 2026**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The public hearing/regular meeting of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, February 09, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. by **President Chet Guild**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Members present – **Colburn, Griswold, Guild, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce**. Also present: **Mark Borden** – Village Manager, **Shirley Drain** – Village Treasurer, **Kerri Peterson** – Village Clerk
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – PUBLIC HEARING: Motion by Kanine to approve the agenda. Supported by Griswold. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
5. **PUBLIC HEARING: FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET**
 - A. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
 - B. **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** None.
 - C. **ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC HEARING:** President Guild called for adjournment of the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.
6. **CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** President Guild called the regular council meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
7. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion by McParland to approve the agenda. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS:** None.
9. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**
 - A. **MANAGER: Mark Borden (Code Enforcement, DPW, DDA):** Borden spoke on the appropriations spending request. Representative Pat Outman is reaching out to his constituents to see what is in pressing need for our infrastructure. Based on our recent water study as part of the DWAM grant, they came up with \$2.4 million in improvements we should consider making sooner rather than later. The request can be up to \$2.5 million, so we are going to make that request to Representative Outman for \$2.4 million. We have a lot of 10” water mains, some 8” water mains, some of it is upgrade to the existing that’s underground. It also has residential water meters. **Borden** went on to say he would like to request the \$2.4 million as recommended by the consultants who did the water asset management study at Fleis and Vandenbrink. Part of the requirements of the request are letters of support and Borden asked the council if anyone would be willing to write letters of support of the water study to send in with the request. It was asked if water meters were going to be required. **Borden** responded that nothing in the study is required but it is recommended. We need just a simple letter stating we tried for three years in a row for grants for water infrastructure improvements and we have yet to be successful. We don’t have the means on our own to make these improvements, which is why we are asking for funding. He went on to say that it is not a loan, and it is not a grant. It is money we would get from the State. Discussion took place on the DWSRF. **Guild** asked if Borden has anything else to report on. **Borden** reported that the old Dollar General store is possibly being sold to O’Reilly Auto Parts. Running with Scissors is allegedly being sold for a Bigby Coffee. **Peterson** reported on the Curtis Building. The furnaces have been delivered but they cannot install them until the snow and ice is off the roof.

- B. PRESIDENT: Chet Guild:** Guild reported that after Borden's announced resignation, we received a call from the Lakeview Village Manager about a local gentleman concerning the Edmore Village Manager's position. He is highly recommended by the Lakeview Village Manager. Discussion took place and it was decided to post the position in the local newspapers, MML, and on our website. Colburn stated that the ad should include a salary range of \$77,000 - \$87,000 dependent on education and experience. Including that applications are open until the position is filled. More discussion took place and an interview date and time was set up for the recommended local gentleman with the personnel committee.

10. TREASURER'S REPORT: Shirley Drain

- A. TREASURERS REPORT & COMMENTS: Drain:** Drain reported, the books for January 2026 are closed and balanced with the bank. All ELF loans are up to date. Everything looks great. Cash balances look good. Heavy equipment funds look amazing.
- B. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS: Griswold moved to pay the bills. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING January 12, 2026: McParland moved to accept the January 12, 2026, minutes as printed. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
- B. BUDGET WORKSHOP JANUARY 26, 2026: Moore moved to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Colburn. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

13. NEW BUSINESS

- A. APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:** Adjustments for the 2025-2026 budget. McParland moved to accept the budget adjustments. Supported by Kanine. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- B. APPROVE 2.7% COLA SALARY INCREASE FOR ALL VILLAGE STAFF FOR FY 2026/2027:** Increase recommended by the Personnel Committee. Motion by Moore to approve the 2.7% COLA increase for all village staff for 2026/2027. Supported by Colburn. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- C. APPROVE 4% INCREASE FOR WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR FY 2026/2027:** This is an alternative to the recommended 9.9% increase. The 4% increase would take the quarterly residential bill from \$203.40 every three months to \$211.50 every three months. This is an increase of \$8.10 every three months or \$2.70 per month. Griswold moved to approve the 4% water and sewer rate increase for 2026/2027. Supported by McParland. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- D. ADOPT BUDGET RESOLUTION:** Discussion took place. McParland moved to adopt the Budget Resolution Fiscal Year 2026-27. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- 1. VILLAGE STAFF CLOTHING ALLOWANCE:** Discussion took place on the clothing allowance, and it was agreed the DPW needs them but questioned the need for the office personnel. Motion by Colburn to lease uniforms for the DPW from Cintas for the cost of \$4507.36. Supported by Kanine. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.

- E. CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR VILLAGE CREDIT/DEBIT CARD FOR ANDY ANDERSEN, DPW SUPERVISOR:** Andy currently needs to go to the village office to pick up the debit/credit card before he can make any purchases. This will make it easier for him to do his job more efficiently. **Motion by McParland to authorize a debit/credit card for Andy Andersen, DPW Supervisor, with a \$1000 limit. Seconded by Colburn. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
- F. ADOPT MEETING DATES AND TIMES FOR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE 2026/2027 FISCAL YEAR:** Dates presented as follows – March 09, April 13, May 11, June 08, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 09, and December 14 of 2026, January 11, and February 08 of 2027. Meeting dates are the second Monday of every month at 7 p.m. **Motion by McParland to adopt the meeting dates for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
- G. CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR THE JAMES CLARK LAWSUIT AGAINST THE VILLAGE OF EDMORE:** Discussion took place. Borden and Mr. Clark met, and Mr. Clark was not interested in our offer. He wants all the property and not part of the property. He is not willing to pay any fees. He wants to go to court and feels the judge will award him the property for adverse possession. Mr. Hutson is agreeable with no issues, but he doesn't want to spend more than \$500. There is a March 5, 2026, court date. **McParland** feels we need to follow through with our obligation to the village. **Colburn** feels the court needs to determine if the property even belongs to the village first before we can sell it. He asked if we could ask the attorney to get a judgement on the whole strip of property. If it's not ours, they aren't coming after the village, they would be going after someone else. **Borden** responded that Mr. Clark feels the judge is going to give him that property due to adverse possession. We don't know who owns it. Our attorney advises that you cannot buy title insurance on railroad property. Mr. Clark wants a clear title. At this point, Mr. Clark wants to take it to court. **Colburn** is concerned that this is going to keep happening. He cannot get adverse possession on municipal property per state law. That is clear. What is not clear is whether we own the property. The judge should be required to make a decision on that first, as how can you award adverse possession on something where there is no clear title. **Borden** stated that if we don't defend it, our attorney has advised the judge will most likely award the original complaint. Discussion took place regarding the options presented. **Borden** spoke again stating when the subpoena was issued, he responded to the court that we tried to sell it, but Mr. Clark did not like our offer. Mr. Clark's attorney has asked Borden to settle and has also written a letter to the judge for an extension trying to settle this out of court. Now Mr. Clark wants to stay in court. The council agreed to allow Colburn to also communicate with our lawyer about this lawsuit. Negotiation with Mr. Hutson will be done independently. **Motion by McParland to continue with option 2 of having our attorneys defend the village in the lawsuit. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Guild. ABSTAIN: Pierce. MOTION PASSED 6-1 ABSTAIN.**
- H. ACCEPT AND ACKNOWLEDGE VILLAGE MANAGER'S RESIGNATION. DISCUSS NEXT STEPS:** **Borden** spoke to the board about his departure. March 6th, 2026, will be his last day. He is willing to help and support the new manager during this transition. **Motion by Griswold to accept Mark Borden's resignation. Supported by McParland. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

14. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

15. **COUNCIL COMMENTS: Guild** approached the council about possibly purchasing a piece of property in town. The property is on 5th Street; it is 8 acres in the area of the ball diamonds and cemetery near Charlotte Street. This has flooded in the past and we could use it for retention pond runoff that is adjacent property. There are also another 10 acres for sale on the east side of 5th Street we should investigate. It could make a nice sub-division someday.
16. **ADJOURNMENT: Pierce moved to adjourn. Supported by Moore. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
President Guild adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Village President

Village Clerk

Approved for Publication

NEXT MEETING: February 09, 2026