

Village of Joy

200 West Main Street, Post Office Box 265
Joy, Illinois 61260-0265
309-584-4127

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Joy Village Board was called to order at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday July 16, 2025 by Village President Larry Hunt. The meeting was held at Village Hall, 200 West Main Street, Joy, IL.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was called by Village President Larry Hunt.

Village Trustee Patsy Peterson-absent

Trustees present: Kristy Lee, Paul Hampton, Jason Huston, Jeremy Lane, Rory Conway.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton arrived to the meeting just after roll call.

Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett-present

Public Present-Josh Hicks, Police Chief Gordon Nichols, Village Treasurer Pam Westfall, Kaneta Keller

Brian Glasgow with ION was not present for the meeting. Village President Larry Hunt discussed the report that Brian emailed.

Two humidifiers were purchased for the treatment plant, one for the chemical room and one for the softener room.

The cleaning of the holding tank and water was completed. Everything went well. A detailed report with photos was forwarded to the Village of Joy from Viking Industrial Painting.

The VFD on well #2 has not been repaired yet. Britton will be contacted to inquire about the time line for the repairs.

The recent rains has cause a lot of extra flow through the lift station. Flows have increased 15-20 times the normal rates. ION suggests addressing the issue of infiltration.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton arrived at the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Village of Joy Police Chief Gordon Nichols address the Village Board. The State of Illinois has approved all of the paper work and the Village of Joy's Police Dept. is now official. Chief Nichols stated he has a 120 hour refresher course and a 4 hour fire arm refresher course to complete. The fire arm refresher is scheduled for August 1. After these things are complete, Chief Nichols can legally begin patrolling 20 hours per week, give or take depending on the situation. The primary issues to be address is people not stopping at stop signs, speeding on hwy 17 going through the Village of Joy, keeping nuisance under control. Chief Nichols plans to patrol at various times, of which some may be foot patrol one or twice a week to check on the elderly in the Village.

The Village Board of Trustees reviewed the information on the Axon body cameras. The cost for one year is approximately \$1,517.24 per year. Axon furnishes the body cameras and maintains them. The system is cloud based. Mercer County Police Dept. and other area small department are actually using the same system.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton asked about the replacement turnaround time on the camera if it needs repairs. Officer Gordon Nichols will request information of the turnaround time from Axon and relay the information back to the Board of Trustees. The information from Axon is an estimate. Chief Nichols request the Village of Joy Board of Trustees consider and approve the Axon Body Camera System.

Mercer County Police Department is happy with the system. Village Trustee Rory Conway asked who uses the system other than Mercer County. Chief Nichols- most of the area departments. The system takes the liability off of

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the local police departments.

A portable radio is also needed. The Village Board of Trustees reviewed an estimate from Galesburg Communications Inc. for \$1,125.00. The radio includes everything and works on the same system as Mercer County. Village Trustee Paul Hampton asked if the estimate includes a mic. Yes the system includes a mic.

A radar gun will be needed at a later date. Patrol has not started yet, but it will be necessary to have one later. The issue will be discussed at the August meeting. Village President Larry Hunt asked Gordon Nichols to inquire on the Stinger II Radar Gun.

Village President Larry Hunt- The initial start-up of the police department is the most expensive.

Chief Gordon Nichols as driven the squad car around town several times now and seems to be doing good.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton commented that it may need a new lens on the spot light because it is cloudy. Village President Larry Hunt said he has a buff kit and it may just need buffed out. Will try that first.

One of the trouble spots in town for traffic, is the NE corner of town. Cars go very fast down Edwards Street and do not stop at the stop sign.

After discussion Village Trustee Rory Conway made the motion to approve Axon proposal for a body camera for the Village of Joy's Police Dept. for \$7,586.22. Jeremy Lane 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

After discussion Village Trustee Paul Hampton made the motion to approve Galesburg Communication's proposal for: Kenwood NX-3300 Public Safety Portable Radio for \$1125.00. Kristy Lee 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

Village Treasurer Pam Westfall introduced herself to the new trustees from the last election. She addressed the issue of water coming up in her basement after the last big rainfall. It pushed her floor drains plugs out. She inquired about sewer and ditching regular maintenance. Pam said she is suffering because of the actions of her neighbors. Village President Larry Hunt said it is scheduled to begin ditch work in her area on Illinois Street and South Penn Street on Monday, July 21, 2025. The sewer will also be jetted in that area. A 9.4 inch rain fall was recorded in the area Friday. Before leaving the meeting Treasurer Pam Westfall encouraged all the trustees to call her should they have any financial questions. Pam left the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton questioned if the VFD at Well#2 repairs could be covered under the Village of Joy's insurance.

Village Employee Joshua Hicks contacted Kevin Shaw to inquire about the timeline for cutting down the tree that was approve in a prior meeting. Kevin Shaw's truck is shut down for repairs and the Village of is still on the schedule and the tree at 201 E. Illinois will be addressed first.

Minutes Review-no complaints against LRS since the last board meeting. Can VFD repairs be covered by insurance? Village Trustee Jeremy Lane asked about the progress on the flag pole-Village President Larry Hunt and Trustee are planning to put the pole together and set up in the park soon. The new flag pole is 22 feet tall.

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After review and discussion, Village Trustee Rory Conway made the motion to approve the June 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Jason Huston 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

After review and discussion Village Trustee Rory Conway made the motion to approve the payment of the July 2025 Expenditures. Kristy Lee 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

Balance Sheet and P&L reports were reviewed and discussed.

Delinquent accounts report was reviewed and discussed.

State Wide Zoning Ordinance-no update.

Noted- There is a reimbursement to Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett for \$419.20. The reimbursement is for the computer and printer, mouse and mouse pad for the Joy P.D. and a mouse pad for the clerk's office. The items were purchase on Amazon using the village clerk's personal account because the Village of Joy's account was locked for several days. Police Chief Nichols needed the laptop to begin working on his refresher courses.

Fuel Tanks-Village President Larry Hunt said to go ahead and order the fuel tanks from Halcomb Oil. Two tanks to set behind Village Hall. 300 gallon tanks. 250 gallons of E15 and 250 off road diesel non bio. Village President discussed installing video cameras outside to watch the tanks. Discussed buying gas from Blick's for the small engines such as weed eaters and portable generators.

Joy Fest- Village Trustee Kristy Lee wants to have a beer tent and sell pork chops at Joy Fest, September 20, 2025. Beer price list was included in the board packets for review and discussion. It was discussed to shop around for good sales for the pork loins for the chops. At Fairway Sam's, Hy-vee for example until the best price is found. Will also check on prices for small bags of chips.

The insurance for the beer tent is already included in the Village of Joys insurance. It will be a special event permit. The state of Illinois requires a one day permit to sell beer at a cost of \$25.00, and a one day permit from the Village of Joy. The beer has to be purchased from a distributor, which requires the liquor licenses/permit from the State of Illinois.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton stated the ice from the ice machine in Aledo is not very hard and melts really fast. He suggested buying quick frozen ice from somewhere.

If the beer tent is approved. ID's will be checked. A wrist band will be required. It was discussed selling tickets for beer. Prices for the beer was discussed. If the beer tent is permitted the time it closes will depend when the bands are finished.

Suggestion boxes were discussed for the event, to gather input from the public, and will be considered moving forward for the next fest.

Boxes of unopened beer can be returned with a possible restock fee from the distributor for a refund.

Village President Larry Hunt said his concern with the beer tent is that it will be located in the park, and who will pick up the trash.

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Kaneta Keller-Ber will not be sold to over intoxicated people. The committee will do its due diligence. Trash is an all over concern not just because of people drinking. After the event there it is not a problem to pick up trash. It was discussed to have a container for cans only, so they can be recycled.

Village of Joy Police Chief Gordon Nichols-It mostly a day Event- the beer wrist bands can be marked or punched each time a beer is purchased, allowing a 6 beer limit.

If permitted it was discussed to open the beer tent around 2 p.m., but this time may change depending on events. It was merely an estimate during discussion. Each person will be ID then get a wristband. There will also be a list of rules posted.

Port-a potty rentals are being considered. Will check for pricing. It is considered to also have a handicap port-potty.

There will be a Car and Antique Tractor Show as well. Village President Larry Hunt said trophies will be given out this year. He will pay for the trophies.

There will be a bike raffle for the kids. The bikes will be purchase with Village of Joy Funds. It was asked how much money was collected for the bikes last year.

It was discussed to purchase a cotton candy machine and sell cotton candy at the fest. That issue will be looked into and machines will be priced out. A cotton candy Machine can be used for other event.

It was discussed to have the beer tent, pork chops and bags tournaments will be in the same area. The time to start selling pork chops has not been determined yet. The Community Church is using the Village of Joy's building to serve.

Next year all vendors will be charged a fee.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton asked if there is going to be any gymnastics. Twisters will be participating this year.

After discussion, Village Trustee Jason Huston made to motion to allow the beer tent in the park at Joy Fest. Jeremy Lane 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-no, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-no. The motion passed with a 3-yes, 2-no vote.

The committee will do its best to keep everything under control.

Village President Larry Hunt- Stern Beverage's trailers always have a good turnout.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton discussed wrist bands again. Hole punch bands and have a limit

Village Clerk requested to discuss the financials of the Fest. Suggested having Joy Fest operate under the Village of Joy to be able to use the tax ID # and insurance. Also suggested opening a special checking account with a transfer from general fund as a loan for operating cost that has to be paid back. All profits to stay in that account to use toward fund raisers throughout the year and next year's Joy Fest.

Village Trustee Rory Conway made to motion open a new checking account for Joy Fest and transfer \$6000 for a loan from General Fund to the new checking account to be created at CBI Bank and Trust to operate Joy Fest. Paul Hampton 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote. Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett and Village President Larry Hunt will sign checks and Paul Hampton Mayor Pro-tem will sign checks if Larry or Gwen are unavailable.

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Village Trustee Rory Conway said there are dogs running loose in the Village of Joy from the trailer park. Lot #7 and Lot#8. Letters for dogs at large will be sent to each.

Loud barking dog was also discussed. Police Chief Gordon Nichols wants to work with the states attorney with dog and cat issues. The issue will be discussed at a later date. There have been several complaints about cats at 104 W. Main Street. The Village of Joy is also experiencing a raccoon problem. Chief Nichols will speak with States Attorney about these issues.

Kaneta Keller suggested forming an organization in the Village of Joy to address the cat issue. Forever Friends may be in the Joy Fest Parade this year. Kaneta has been working with them, and hopes they have a tent to hand out information at the Joy Fest.

Village Trustee Rory Conway discussed fences on the property line. There was a discussion as to when the Village of Joy changed their ordinance. It was unclear, so past ordinances will be reviewed.

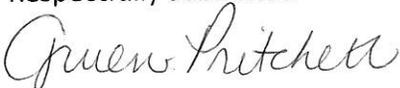
Police Chief Gordon Nichols left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Village employee Josh Hicks wanted to know if he could go purchase another live trap a Huffman's. Village President Larry Hunt suggested he check Huffmans price and then shop around for the best price.

Village Trustee Paul Hampton made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Jeremy Lane 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Kristy Lee-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Jason Huston-yes, Jeremy Lane-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Gwen Pritchett
Joy Village Clerk