

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 2026**

VP Moorman Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with Trustees Greco, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum present. Student Council members Dillon, Fares, Franklin, and Tucci were also present.

Also present were Village Administrator Thomas Durkin, Finance Director Heather Wagonblott, Director of Community Development Scott McMaster, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Chief of Police Adam Bogart, Village Attorney Adam Umek and Village Clerk Kristin Hall.

VP Moorman Schumacher informed everyone present that anyone who speaks at the meeting shall be deemed to have given his/her consent to the recording of their likeness and speech. This meeting is being recorded.

CITIZEN/SPECIAL REQUESTS/PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT

VP Moorman Schumacher stated the students learned a lot about the process of village government today, and this is one of those things. Every public meeting has to have the opportunity for the public to make comments, so because we have the committee of the whole meeting and then we adjourn that, we call to order the board meeting. It sounds like it's incredibly redundant. We have to ask for public comment at both of these meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consider Approval – Minutes – Committee – March 3, 2026**
- B. Consider Approval – Minutes – Board – March 3, 2026**
- C. Consider Approval – Minutes – Executive Session – March 3, 2026**
- D. Approve Payment of the Bills List of March 16, 2026 for \$715,288.89**
- E. Approve Payment of Manual Checks of March 16, 2026 for \$2,247.84**
- F. Approve Payment of Net Payroll Expenses for the period ending March 1, 2026 for \$178,392.19**

Trustee Slocum made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read. Seconded by Trustee Scaggs.

ROLL CALL AYES: Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Dillon, Fares, Franklin, Tucci and Mosley.

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM VILLAGE OFFICIALS

A. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Consider Approval – Approval of Job Description and Authority to Advertise for Position of Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk

Consider Approval – Approval of Job Description and Authority to Advertise for Position of Marketing and Communications Manager

Trustee Slocum made a motion to approve the Job Description and Authority to Advertise for Position of Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk and the Job Description and Authority to Advertise for Position of Marketing and Communications Manager. Seconded by Trustee Perinar.

ROLL CALL AYES: Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Dillon, Fares, Franklin, Tucci and Mosley.

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

Durkin stated that the monthly report was attached if there were any questions.

B. ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

Petrick stated I have nothing formal but there's something he wanted to point out in his monthly report. The report now includes FOIA statistics now that we have a FOIA officer. For the past month, we have received 18 village FOIAs and 20 police FOIAs. 8 of the police FOIAs were for videos which we all know are the time consuming part of the FOIA process. All eight of those requests came from out of state. We are still stuck to the statute that is causing us to give YouTubers material to be able to make their videos.

C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Consider Approval – Final Plat of Subdivision for Whispering Oaks Unit 5

Trustee Scaggs made a motion to approve the Final Plat of Subdivision for Whispering Oaks Unit 5. Seconded by Trustee Greco.

ROLL CALL AYES: Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Dillon, Fares, Franklin, Tucci and Mosley.

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

McMaster stated that the monthly report was attached if there were any questions.

D. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

Discussion – Finance Treasurer's Report – February 2026

Reminder – Special Budget Workshop Meeting for Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 Proposed Budget on Monday, March 23, 2026 at the Channahon Municipal Building at 5 p.m.

Wagonblott stated that the monthly reports were attached if there are any questions. As a reminder, Monday the 23rd starting at 5pm is the budget workshop and dinner will be provided. She did distribute the paper copy as well as email last week. If you have any questions between now and next Monday, please feel free to reach out.

E. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Consider Approval – An Updated Intergovernmental Agreement with Minooka Community High School District #111

Trustee Perinar made a motion to approve An Updated Intergovernmental Agreement with Minooka Community High School District #111. Seconded by Trustee Greco.

ROLL CALL AYES: Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.
STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Dillon, Fares, Franklin, Tucci and Mosley.
NAYS: NONE **MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

Bogart stated that the monthly report was attached if there were any questions.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Consider Approval – A Resolution in Lieu of IDOT Surety Bond

Trustee Greco made a motion to approve A Resolution in Lieu of IDOT Surety Bond. Seconded by Trustee Perinar.

ROLL CALL AYES: Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.
NAYS: NONE **MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion – Statistical Monthly Report – February 2026

Dolezal stated that the monthly report was attached if there were any questions.

H. VILLAGE ATTORNEY

Village Attorney Adam Umek stated he had no report.

LIAISON REPORTS

Trustee Sam Greco and Trustee Patricia Perinar – Finance/Human Resources

Trustee Greco stated I have a memo from Wagonblott. The fiscal year 2027 budget public hearing will be held on Monday, April 6th at the board meeting. The required notice for the public hearing will be printed in the local newspaper on Wednesday, March 25th and posted on the village website. And then she already mentioned our budget meeting on March 23rd at 5 pm.

Trustee Perinar stated last week she attended the regional partner meeting here at Village Hall which we hold or they hold here every four to six weeks at 8:30 in the morning. She knows not everyone can attend it due to the open meetings act. If you get the opportunity to attend, she finds it very enlightening. It's very interesting. They have a lot of information out there that is so helpful. Having IDOT at that table with all the amount of things that are going on in our community is great. It's so nice to hear what all the other surrounding areas are involved in as well. Shorewood, Diamond, Wilmington, Minooka, Channahon, Grundy County, all at the table with us. It's just head spinning sometimes, but we're making great progress.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated it is and it's really nice to have everybody in the same room. Part of it is knowing that our neighbors share similar conditions and so we all can work in the same direction with the same goal in mind.

Durkin stated the Village of Minooka and CN did reach an agreement. The intermodal portion of their facility will have access to McLindon Road. That project then is going to move forward. As we continue through the process, as you know, we have to approve the industrial park portion of that. We will be meeting with them very soon to move that forward. Over the next couple months we'll be having the required hearings.

Trustee Host stated on the settlement amount that Minooka got, was that for the roads or just legal fees?

Durkin stated my understanding is that there was some contribution towards future road maintenance in addition to some reconstruction of portions of the McLindon road as part of that.

Trustee Scott Slocum and Trustee Scott McMillin – Community Development

Trustee McMillin stated earlier this evening, Casey Caldwell called him to let him know that the business up on Municipal Drive is pumping storm water through a 2 ½-inch pipe into the street. It's just going to be a frozen mess up there. Durkin has assured me and Trustee Greco that they're going to address the situation. It's got to stop. We've written tickets and warnings. They should not be doing what they're doing up there. We need to address that. Durkin and I took a tour up on Bridge Street a couple weeks ago. The contractor in charge left the project in disarray over the winter. We got some improvements done and its not done right but it's better than it was. Once again, we're at this point they could be out there working, finishing that project and they're not. I don't understand it. Durkin got some action moving which was great. On another note, he has had this thought in my head about building an observation deck near the Briscoe Mounds. I think an observation deck down there would be great along with some type of a building complex for the Native American History. He also saw that State Rep Rachel Ventura has been working members of the Potawatomi tribe and Shabbona, the state park, the beautiful lake up there. He thinks she may be a good resource to help us get something moving. I'd like to give Durkin the okay to start conversation with her after seeing that article. It pretty impressive article and I think it would bring a lot of tourists.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated there are a ton of bird watchers here and she thinks that's a wonderful place to put an observation deck because there is always an assortment of waterfowl and other birds there. She further stated we've long talked about Briscoe mounds and that they're an underutilized resource. If there's something we can do to improve that and bring people out here.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated regarding the water pumping. I know this has been an ongoing issue. I know Dolezal's done some engineering and studies. I just talked to Silverman about this today. They have three tickets outstanding now. They are set up for the adjudication process at the end of the month of March. Silverman's suggestion was that the adjudicator order them to cease and desist, and then that would be an enforceable order. We wouldn't have to start over through the court system with ticketing and that it would be enforceable order to take before a judge if we needed to.

Trustee Slocum stated as of last week Great American Bagel was two to three weeks away from opening. You can't really tell from the outside but they want to open so they can start bringing in some revenue. It looks like they have furniture inside today. There's still nothing on the Q bar as Great American Bagel is going where Will County Brewery used to be right next to Kiddie Campus.

Trustee Mark Scaggs and Trustee Chantal Host – Public Works and Facility

Expanding on Chief's comments regarding FOIA requests; Trustee Host noted that Petrick also highlighted the significant financial burden these requests place on the town. Host pointed out that the process has become increasingly troublesome and costly as requests shift toward multimedia formats, such as video footage.

Drawing from a recent search, Host mentioned that if a person's likeness—such as that of a police officer or other town employee—is used for profit without their permission, it may violate the

right of publicity. Since YouTubers often monetize this footage, Host suggested that the town investigate whether a specific individual is consistently filing these requests.

By establishing a link between the requests and commercial exploitation, the town might be able to slow the frequency of filings, stop them altogether, or even seek a share of the revenue. Host concluded by noting that this issue has been a topic of discussion within the Illinois legislature, adding that there is further "not so great news" on the matter that had not yet been addressed.

Trustee Host shared a recent legal development involving Grundy County, where the county lost a case against Equities Solar Illinois. The appellate court's decision, handed down on March 10, carries significant implications for the town's future.

The core of the issue involves solar companies seeking leases on farmland, particularly in the geographic center of town near McKinley Woods Road. Host expressed personal concerns that such projects would be both an eyesore and a "nightmare" for the community.

The lawsuit arose after Grundy County denied a special use permit for the solar company. On appeal, the court found that the Illinois State Legislature's solar legislation is heavily skewed in favor of business interests. Host argued that these amendments fail to consider the "bigger picture," specifically the right of local governments to determine their own community standards. Despite the time and resources spent on the town's comprehensive plan, Host noted that local control is being stripped away. The courts are currently bound by the law as written. To restore local authority, residents must contact their state representatives and senators to advocate for further amendments to the current legislation.

VP Moorman Schumacher thanked Trustee Host for the update, noting that this exact project and the limitations of municipal law were discussed extensively with students earlier that day. Interestingly, the students were unanimously opposed to the project. However, it was explained to them that current state law prevents a "no" vote from being effective and that the town is currently involved in ongoing litigation regarding the matter.

Student Council Member Fares asked for clarification on potential actions. Since state law currently overrides local preference, could a petition from Channahon residents be presented to the state to force these projects to different locations?

Trustee Host agreed that collective action is the best path forward to convince elected officials that the current method for establishing solar regions is not what the community wants.

Host clarified that the Appellate Court—which governs both Grundy and Will Counties—interpreted the Illinois General Assembly's intent as prioritizing the expansion of renewable energy access for all residents. While that may be a noble primary objective, Host argued it is shortsighted because it ignores the long-term impact on local communities.

Host emphasized that "amendments can be amended." By sending a clear message to Springfield that the current framework is not working, the town and its residents can push for the legislative changes necessary to protect their local landscape.

Trustee Sam Greco and Trustee Mark Scaggs – Community & Legislative Affairs
Trustee Chantal Host and Trustee Patricia Perinar – Public Safety/Emergency Support
Trustee Scott McMillin and Trustee Scott Slocum – Natural Resources and Open Spaces

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that has long been my argument about this state law with legislators, that nobody knows what our towns need better than we know what our towns need. Somebody in Springfield does not know what Channahon needs or what Shorewood needs or what Minooka needs. It is the local elected officials who know what our towns need. I want comments from everybody up here that isn't an elected official because I already know what those guys say; but all of the students up here. What did you learn today? What was your favorite part about job shadowing?

Student Council Member Dillon stated the tour of the public works facility.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated this was the first year that the students took a tour of our public works facility down at the end of BlackBerry. Student Council Member Fares asked a very appropriate question earlier when they were in the building. He said, what happens when you flush the toilet? He said, it goes down. And I said, hopefully it does. Otherwise you have bigger problems. But what happens after that? So they went down to the wastewater treatment facility and got a tour and they learned all about how wastewater is treated.

Student Council Member Fares stated we had to take apart a water meter and put it back together. I think that was probably the coolest part. If it has to be a part of about the plant. I think it was how it can go from dirty brown water to pure water.

Student Council Member Dillon stated that her favorite thing was when we toured the police department.

Student Council President Mosley stated his favorite thing was when we went down to the sewage treatment plant.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated what was the most interesting thing you learned today that you didn't know about the Village of Channahon before?

Student Council President Mosley stated learning about the solar lawsuit.

Student Council Member Franklin stated I think my favorite thing was seeing Atlas and how he can sniff out the drugs. Atlas, is the canine unit and he's a Labrador. He's so cute. He's a chocolate lab.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated Atlas does a fantastic job. Atlas was provided to us by the Will County State's Attorney's Office through their League of Extraordinary Canines. Hutch, our previous canine, was the first police dog provided by the State's Attorney's Office through this program back in 2016. He was the first dog in, and Atlas is the 35th dog. There are canine units all over Will County provided by the Will County State's Attorney's Office. All of Atlas's veterinary care is donated by Mallard Point, and all of his food is donated by Tractor Supply. We have really wonderful community partners that help us to have that canine unit. Officer Ethan Anderson is his handler.

Student Council Member Tucci stated I think my favorite thing was also probably getting to meet

Atlas. It was really interesting to see the process on how the water gets filtered and cleaned.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated all right, is there anything else any of the parents want to answer? Anything about what happened to what went on today, what we did? This was our 11th Student Government Day. Thank you to the teachers at Channahon Junior High who sponsor the student government and for bringing the students every year. It's always a pleasure to see you and we appreciate your help in making sure that our future leaders have connections and become part of the community. Because at the end of the day, we're all going to move on at some point and these students are who will be coming up next.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Compensation, Discipline and Performance of an Employee of the Village of Channahon**
- **Probable or Imminent Litigation and Pending Litigation**

VP Moorman Schumacher stated we have executive session for probable or imminent litigation and pending litigation. There is nothing coming out of executive session. We are going to wrap up with the students before we go into executive session. Thanks again to the teachers, thanks to the parents for allowing us to have your students here today and for their commitment to their school and to our community.

Trustee Perinar made a motion to open Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. for Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Compensation, Discipline and Performance of an Employee of the Village of Channahon and Probable or Imminent Litigation and Pending Litigation. Seconded by Trustee Slocum.

ROLL CALL AYES: Host, Greco, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Slocum made a motion to close Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. for Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Compensation, Discipline and Performance of an Employee of the Village of Channahon and Probable or Imminent Litigation and Pending Litigation. Seconded by Trustee Scaggs.

ROLL CALL AYES: Host, Greco, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum.

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Slocum made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Scaggs.

VERBAL ROLL CALL: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED

Submitted by
Kristin Hall
Village Clerk

