

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF FISHER, ILLINOIS  
REGULAR MEETING  
*February 12, 2026***

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Fisher was held on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at the Fisher Community Center, 100 E. School Street, Fisher, Illinois. Village President Michael Bayler called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, leading the audience in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll, finding the following members physically present:

Village President Michael Bayler; and Trustees Tucker Bayler, Brock Deer, Debra Estes, Roger Ponton and Angela Seidelman. Trustee Daniel Spaulding was absent.

Other Village personnel present: Mary Hubbell, Office Manager/Treasurer; Jon Priest, Chief of Police; and Jeremy Reale, Village Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Seidelman moved to approve the agenda as prepared. Trustee Deer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Bayler moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2026 as presented. Trustee Seidelman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rob Gossett, representing Fisher AMVETS Post 52, informed the Board that they were still waiting to receive a final response from Fisher school district officials regarding the proposed community flagpole project.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Bayler shared an email communication he had received on the status of the upcoming bridge replacement plan. IDOT had contracted for the design/construction procurement for the project, so it was continuing to move forward. He also reported that Illinois American Water was planning to seek another consumer rate increase. The anticipated impact on average residential customers would be an additional \$14.00 for water and \$28.00 for sewer fees each month. Village Attorney Marc Miller noted that a group of area communities had jointly secured legal representation to protest the rate increase before the Illinois Commerce Commission, and he advised the Board that he could obtain an estimate should Fisher elect to share in the costs for that attorney.

**PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS**

Trustee Estes moved to authorize payment of the monthly claims for all funds as presented. Trustee Bayler seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Deer, Estes, Ponton, Seidelman and Bayler (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Spaulding (1)

The motion carried by roll call vote of 5 to 0, with 1 member absent.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### *(A) Finance & TIF*

Trustee Estes reported that she and Ms. Hubbell had largely completed preliminary work on the FY27 budget proposal, with a draft budget to be made available to the Board in March for review. She also noted that \$150,000.00 in surplus funds had been transferred from the General Fund account into the Money Market account. Trustee Estes informed the Board that Jacob & Klein had advised that the installation of new fencing at the car wash would not be a TIF-eligible expense. As the Board had previously agreed to reimburse the developer for the costs of the fencing in order to secure a buffer to area residential properties, she advised that the matter would be placed on the March meeting agenda to authorize reimbursement for the project out of general funds.

### *(B) Public Works*

Trustee Deer reported that the new chairs and rack for all-purpose use at the Community Center had been received. As the rack was too large to fit through the door to the closet where the chairs are stored, he had requested pricing for having a larger door installed. He also reported that he had investigated the possibility of trading the Village's 2019 mower for a new one. The cost to purchase a new mower would be \$16,500.00, with \$8,000.00 expected to be given on the trade. This item would be placed on the March meeting agenda for consideration.

### *(C) Judiciary*

Trustee Ponton asked Chief Priest about the next anticipated replacement of one of the squad vehicles. Chief Priest responded that he expected a new squad would be needed within a year. The consensus of the Board was to go ahead and begin pricing replacement vehicles. There was subsequent discussion among the Board members about potential visibility and traffic safety concerns at the intersection of Third and Randolph Streets.

### *(D) Parks & Recreation*

It was reported that the contract for the annual Independence Day fireworks show would be brought forward for Board approval at the March meeting. The Village had budgeted \$15,000.00 for the event.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**(A) Resolution No. 2026-01, A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE PLACEMENT OF A SOLAR FARM ALONG ROUTE 136 BY NEW CARBON ENERGY**

Trustee Bayler moved to pass Resolution No. 2026-01. Trustee Deer seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Estes, Ponton, Seidelman, Bayler and Deer (5)  
NAYS: None (0)  
ABSENT: Spaulding (1)

The motion carried by roll call vote of 5 to 0, with 1 member absent.

**(B) Consider Draft Ordinance prohibiting residential ground-mounted solar within the Village of Fisher**

President Bayler noted that the vast majority of solar panels already installed in the community had been roof-mounted; however, he believed it would be appropriate for the Village to be proactive in addressing the potential for ground-based implementation. A draft ordinance had been prepared and distributed to the Board which would limit any ground-mounted solar panels to a maximum height of 6 feet with additional requirements for fencing. During discussion, it was further suggested that the ordinance include provisions regulating ground-based solar on commercial properties that are contiguous to residential properties. Village Attorney Miller noted that this would involve an amendment to the Village Zoning Ordinance which would thus require a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission. The consensus of the Board was to direct the Village Attorney to prepare a draft ordinance and notice of public hearing for March.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Bayler moved that the meeting be adjourned. Trustee Deer seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeremy A. Reale, CMC/RMC  
Village Clerk

APPROVED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026

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Michael Bayler  
Village President

I, the undersigned Village Clerk of the Village of Fisher, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held February 12, 2026 as the same appears in the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

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Village Clerk