

Village of Big Rock



Regular Board Meeting/Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, September 9th, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Park District Building
7 SOUTH 405 MADISON AVE
BIG ROCK, IL 60511

CALL TO ORDER

President Matt Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President **MATT FITZPATRICK**

Trustee **TED MCCANNON**, Trustee **MARK LYNCH**, Trustee **TIM MAY**
Trustee **CORY SCHOLLMAYER**, Trustee **HALEY MASON**

ALSO PRESENT: Village Treasurer **BRIAN PHILLIPS**, Village Clerk **LINDSEY ZAMBRANO**,
Village Attorney **JOHN ZEMENAK**

ABSENT: none

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Fitzpatrick led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Fitzpatrick asked for a moment of silence in honor of our Armed Forces and their Allies.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Aaron Laho, resident, expressed that he would like the Village to enforce the lighting ordinance. He outlined the order of events from his perspective. Trustee May, President Fitzpatrick and others explained in further detail the current Village position.

Will Shimkus, resident, notified the Village that when the sidewalks were installed in front of his home, it cut the roots of a large tree in the easement and began the process of dying. President Fitzpatrick will review and take appropriate action.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer Phillips gave an explanation about two minor bill adjustments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Bills for September 9th, 2025
Approval of August 26th, 2025 Village Board Minutes

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Mark Lynch; Second: Cory Schollmeyer;

Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Y= Yay, N= Nay, A= Absent)

Tim May-Y Ted McCannon-Y Mark Lynch-Y Cory Schollmeyer-Y Haley Mason-Y

RECESS TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

*Motion to recess to the Committee of the Whole:
Motion: Mark Lynch, Second: Cory Schollmeyer Voice Vote: 5-0, Time: 7:09 p.m.*

PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

The State of Illinois is going to pay for 80% of HINCKLEY ROAD bridge, the Village is responsible for 20%. The planning will be upcoming.

DRAINAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

TIMBERVIEW RD drainage will be done this year. A tree is growing in the right of way on JEFFERSON.

STREET MAINTENANCE REPORT

Trustee Lynch met with a contractor for sidewalk and truncated ADA ramps. 600 feet of sidewalk and asphalt to update. The quote was outlined.

Culverts in TIMBERVIEW and JOHN ST will be addressed by O'Donnell Excavating soon.

Trustee May asked if we can we have patching or tar for crack sealing and preservation. President Fitzpatrick said it is planned.

DEPT. OF BUILDING/SAFETY/ZONING REPORT

Solar Farm Moratorium

Attorney Zemenak discussed the recent zoning moratorium meeting at the Big Rock Planning and Zoning Committee. The Village received a few inquiries from solar companies, which prompted many questions from the Board. This proposed regulation allows the Village to do its research regarding the impacts on community during the moratorium period. It passed 6 to 1 by the PZC Committee. There is a company that is looking to install a solar farm in Big Rock. They were offered the opportunity to attend the meeting before the moratorium was voted on; they decided to send materials to represent the project instead of attending. Attorney Zemenak outlined for the Board some of exclusionary zoning concerns and the limits of what the community can regulate. The Village can study in a committee with the planning and zoning committee. This 6-month moratorium is for all commercial solar projects.

Will Shimkus, resident that lives adjacent to a proposed project, was allowed to speak about what he has learned. He outlined his multiple concerns as well as his recommendations to the Board if they are to consider such a project such as additional fire hydrants installed because of the high fire risk.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Audit from Sikich is starting tomorrow.

COMMUNITY REPORT

Plowing Match is in two weeks.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Mason discussed concerns about a resident that neighbors are worried may need a mental health check or a welfare check due to the state of his property as well as his appearance. Clerk Zambrano said she had received a complaint as well. Attorney Zemenak outlined some of the things the Village can implement.

Trustee Mason asked if the township had decided on their contribution to the Big Rock Fire Department's new storm alert system. President Fitzpatrick gave a report that he was informed that the Township had it on the agenda. The Village is planning to cover 1/3, the Fire Department 1/3, and if the Township agrees, 1/3. This system will allow residents to receive alerts via their cell phones even if they cannot hear the siren, as many in Big Rock cannot hear it currently.

Trustee Schollmeyer how the search for a code enforcement officer was going. **President Fitzpatrick** updated that **Hinckley** is trying to hire a full-time code enforcement that could work for our Village part time. They take it to their Board for discussion this week.

Trustee Lynch checked in with **President Fitzpatrick** about if the winter supplies were ready. **President Fitzpatrick** affirmed it was and that the Village will soon review the IGA with the Township for Snow Removal.

VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Attorney Zemenak confirmed that **Kathy Metzger** had submitted her official resignation letter as Trustee of the Village of Big Rock. He outlined the rules for **President Fitzpatrick** to appoint a replacement for the remainder of her term of 1.5 years. The Board can approve it or reject it. The Board is allowed to reject the nomination twice. **President Fitzpatrick** publicly asked if anyone is interested to throw their names in the hat for consideration.

RECONVENE THE REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Motion to reconvene the Regular Board Meeting:

Motion: Mark Lynch, Second: Tim May Voice Vote: 5-0, Time: 7:55 p.m.

MOTIONS:

Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 2025-16, an Ordinance Imposing a Zoning Ordinance moratorium for a 6 month period for all zoning applications, zoning and building permits, zoning approvals, development activities, and operations of commercial solar energy facilities (a/k/a solar farms) to allow the Village of Big Rock to study, draft, and approve Zoning Ordinance regulations for such facilities.

Motion: Mark Lynch, Second: Tim May

Roll Call Vote 5-0, (Y= Yay, N= Nay, A= Absent)

Tim May-Y Ted McCannon-Y Mark Lynch-Y Cory Schollmeyer-Y Haley Mason-Y

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Tim May, Second: Mark Lynch Voice vote: 5-0 Time: 7:56 pm