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VILLAGE OF PEPIN BOARD MEETING

Village of Pepin Municipal Building
Monday May 11th, 2026, at 7:00pm

MINUTES -

1. **Call Meeting to Order** -Randy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Roll Call**-Randy Kallstrom, Mike Michaud, John Hurtley, Shannon Van Allen, Kelsey Gilmore, Vicki Kosok, & Pat Sandstrom were all present. Others present were Julie Wheeler, Tracy Rundquist, Jon Seifert, Jeff Heit, Sue Fedie, Jesse Van Alstine, Thomas Pawlak, & Jesse Muenkel and members of the public.
3. **Public Comments**- There were no public comments.
4. **Clerk's Report**- Approval of 04.27.2026 Reorganizational meeting minutes. Mike made some suggested changes to items 6 & 10. Pat made a **motion** to approve the 4.27.2026 Reorganizational meeting minutes with the changes. **Second** by Vicki. All ayes, motion approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report**- Approval of Treasurer's Report. **Motion** was made by Pat to approve the treasurer's report. **Second** by Vicki. All ayes, motion approved.
6. **Sue Lowe**-Discussion/Action on reserving the lower park pavilion for a Garage Sale from May 13th-May 16th (All proceeds to go to the Fire Dept.) Sue was reminded that the Lower pavilion is also reserved on Sunday by another party so the space will need to be cleared out on Saturday evening. After some discussion a **motion** was made by Mike made a motion to approve the request to use the Lower Park pavilion for a garage sale from May 13th to the 16th with all proceeds going to the Fire Department. **Second** by Kelsey. All ayes, motion approved.
7. **Committees**-Fill any vacant committees and approve the committee appointments.
8. **Streets Dept.**-Discussion/Action on bid from Monarch Paving Company for the 2nd street paving project. A bid for paving was submitted via sealed bid by Monarch paving for the 2nd St. paving project. It was the only bid received. The contract was presented for approval by the board which then will be brought to the TIF committee for funding. After some discussion, Pat made a **motion** to approve the Monarch Paving Company for the 2nd street paving project for \$103,464.00. **Second** by Vicki. The motion was passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

9. **Library Report** -The Library report was provided in the packet.
10. **Tourism Commission Update** — Sue Fedie provided an update on Tourism Commission activities. The Commission meets monthly and has been actively working on several seasonal projects:
 - Updating directional arrow signage.
 - Creating new visitor maps in two formats: a printed brochure and a digital, mobile-friendly version.
 - Continuing updates to the Destination Pepin website to keep information current.
 - Purchasing new Christmas decorations for the upcoming holiday season.
11. **Police Report** — Officer Pawlak reviewed the April activity report.
 - Total calls: 57
 - Most calls involved traffic stops.
 - The department has received numerous complaints about dogs running loose and chasing people.
12. **Ambulance Report**- The ambulance report was provided in the packet.
13. **Fire Department — a) Monthly Report** — Chief Muenkel provided the following updates:
 - Training/Certification: The department has Fire Fighter I state test-outs this weekend. Two members remain to complete the requirements; once finished, the department will be 100% compliant.
 - Fundraiser: The annual Smash Burger fundraiser will be held June 20th at the Fire Hall.
 - Safety Reminder: Following a recent small fire in the village, Chief Muenkel reminded residents that small fires can spread quickly—especially under dry conditions. Please use caution and stay safe.

b) Emergency Response Vessel (Boat) — Discussion/Action
Proposal: Chief Muenkel asked the Board to consider funding the purchase of a 2017 Scarab 195 for \$28,000 to improve response to Lake Pepin emergencies (rescues, medical calls, and recovery operations).
Funding Options:
 - Proposed cost share: Fire Department \$5,000 and Village \$23,000.
 - If the Village is unable to fund its portion immediately, the Lund/Pepin First Responders offered to provide a loan to the Fire Department for \$23,000 at 5% interest.Budget Considerations: The Village Treasurer noted the expense would have needed to be included when the 2026 budget was adopted. She suggested exploring other funding sources for this year; otherwise, the Village could likely plan for the cost over the next four years in future budget outlays.
Motion: After discussion, Mike made a **motion** to approve the Fire Department's purchase of the boat, contingent on securing the \$23,000 loan from the First Responders. **Second** by Pat. All ayes, motion approved.

14. **Attorney's Report**-This past month attorney Seifert had discussions with the Village president and board members on ongoing utility issues, street contracts, and other related matters.
15. **Zoning Administrator**- Jeff went over the monthly report that was provided in the packet. There were no questions for Jeff.
16. **Public Comments**- Kathy Cole introduced herself and asked which committee is responsible for oversight of the Beach & who should she contact to understand the committee's strategy and how she might help? Members advised that the Infrastructure & Grounds Committee oversees the Beach. Once a committee chair is appointed at the next meeting, Ms. Cole may attend committee meetings to learn more and get involved. Committee meetings are publicly noticed in town and posted on the town website.
Dan Fedie asked about who used to sponsor a spring fire extinguisher inspection event. Chief Van Alstine thought it may have been the Yacht club. Dan thought it would be nice to set up an event like this again.
17. **Set the next meeting date.** The next meeting will be on Monday June 8th at 7:00PM
18. **Closed Session**- Pat made a **motion** to go into closed session Per SS 19.85 (1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. &
Per §§ 19.85 (1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.
Second by John. All ayes, the meeting went into closed session.
19. **Reconvene into Open Session**- for Discussion/Action on closed session items.
The **motion** was made by Shannon to end the closed session and reconvene into open session. **Second** by Vicki. All ayes, the meeting went back into open session. There was no action taken.
20. **Adjourn – Motion** to adjourn by Shannon. **Second** by Pat. All ayes, meeting adjourned.

Julie Wheeler-Clerk