

## Village of Ashmore Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 26, 2025

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Village Hall

---

### **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

- Mayor Kurt Crail led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Note: meeting was Partially written and recorded due to clerk's illness.
- Roll call conducted by Treasure Linda Holloway due to Clerk Michelle Redd's illness.
- Board Members Present: Bill Edwards, Kathy Welborn, TC Grissom, Kyle Sims, Terry Price, Bryan Watson, Mayor Kurt Crail
- Cathy Welborn was remote.
- Board Members Absent: Michelle Redd (Clerk, due to illness)
- Staff/Guests: Engineers from Milano&Grunloh, Nancy Meese (community guest), Tyler Heline (Coles County Police)

### **Public Comments – Noise Complaint**

- Nancy Meese discussed her concerns regarding TGM elevator noise, decibel levels, and code enforcement.
- Mayor Kurt Crail and Trustee Bryan Watson explained decibel limits and enforcement procedures.
- Discussion included light placement on the towers which are now currently off, harvest operations coming up, and potential conflicts. Mrs. Meese also wanted to discuss the code enforcement and the harmonious living for those in the Village that are affected by the noise from TGM fans.
- The board highlighted that at the time a letter/survey was discussed and created by Jackie Freezeland, the past city clerk.
- The letter/survey to the community regarding noise was explained; the Board clarified a vote was not required as it is part of day-to-day code enforcement.

### **Guest Tyler Helein Coles County Police Department Report**

- Officer Tyler Heleine attended to check in with the Village and address concerns. A couple of complaints about speeding were noted.

- Mayor Crail mentioned concerns regarding minibikes being operated in the Village. Trustee Terry Price clarified that minibikes under 49cc require a license.
- Officer Heleine stated he would give additional attention to community patrols.
- Mayor Crail will oversee side-by-side permit compliance checks.
- Issues of residents running stop signs and speeding through town were discussed. Specific complaints were noted about certain vehicles.
- Officer Heleine also shared positive news regarding an increase in staffing at the Coles County Sheriff's Department with recent academy graduates.

Tyler Heleine Exited at 6:05 pm

### **Engineers / Grants Updates**

- Unsewered IEPA Grant: Approved; first application for \$5 million was unsuccessful; construction NOFO pending.
- IEPA Loan: Village approved for \$5,210,229 loan with \$2,344,603 in principal forgiveness.
- ITEP / IDOT: PDR approved; application submitted Sept 30, 2025; awaiting additional funding announcements.
- SRTS (Safe Routes to School): 2025 application period Aug 1 – Oct 13, 2025; Village applied for \$400,000; awaiting award announcements.
- OSLAD: No application this year; Village did not qualify as a Disadvantaged Community.
- DCEO Public Infrastructure Grant: Submitted Dec 4, 2024; award announcement pending.

Lee Beckman Exited at 6:10 pm

### **Approval of Minutes**

- **Motion to approve July 22, 2025, minutes: Terry Price**
- **Second: Cathy Welborn**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; TC Grissom – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye, Bryan Watson – Aye.**

### **Clerk's Report**

- Clerk Michelle Redd was absent due to illness.
- Roll call and attendance conducted by Linda Holloway.

### **5. Mayor's Report**

- Update on ongoing audit, finalizing remaining items.

- ADA-compliant website updates are in progress.
- Approval of Finance Committee Board Minutes dated June 23<sup>rd</sup> was Tabled by Board: could not find minutes sheet due to clerk illness.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- **Motion to approve: Bryan Watson**
- **Second: Cathy Welborn**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; TC Grissom – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye, Bryan Watson- Aye**

### **Superintendent Report**

- Jake Johnson reported water samples came back clean.
- Preparation for upcoming Ashmore Harvest Festival (Sept 12–14) and clean-up day (Sept 20).
- Discussion on promoting the Harvest Festival via City Clerk, local media, and community events.

### **Unfinished / New Business**

- Recycling
  - Kyle Sims noted recycling date Sept 20; information will be posted online.

### **Garage Sale Promotion**

- Jake Johnson knew Clerk was promoting the community garage sale.
- c. Harvest Festival
  - Promotion of Harvest Festival discussed; community engagement encouraged.
  - Cornhole and other activities highlighted.

### **Economic Development Membership**

- Approval of \$1,000 to join Coles County Economic Development Program.
- **Motion: Cathy Welborn**
- **Second: Kyle Sims**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; TC Grissom – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye; Bryan Watson – Aye**

### **Ordinance Number 250826 – Water Tampering / Service / Use**

- **Motion: Cathy Welborn**
- **Second: TC Grissom**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye; Bryan Watson – Aye, TC Grissom-AYE.**
- Ordinance placed on file.

### **Resolution 25-0826 – SRTS Grant**

- **Motion: Bryan Watson**
- **Second: Bill Edwards**
- **Vote: TC Grissom – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye; Terry Price – Aye  
Bryan Watson -Aye, Bill Edwards- Aye.**
- Resolution approved.

### **Stone River Group – Aggregation Rates Discussion**

- Targeting rates under \$0.0910 per kWh.
- **Motion: Bill Edwards**
- **Second: Bryan Watson**
- **Vote: Kyle Sims – Aye; TC Grissom – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Bill Edwards – Aye;  
Cathy Welborn – Aye; Bryan Watson – Aye**
- **Motion carried.**

### **Board Approval – Sale of Lots / Bloxom and Decker Properties**

- Discussion of Bloxom lot at 309 East Charleston Rd; acquisition of Decker property at 111 Poplar expected in 2–3 weeks.
- Copies of transaction documents printed during meeting due to Clerk error; Cathy Welborn attended remotely and later received documents via email.
- Mayor Crail read two options from Taylor Law; Tracy from Taylor Law will draft a resolution, stating house must be torn down within 90 days.
- Mayor Crail mentioned Crossroads Realty agent and appraiser involvement; tear-down expenses are buyer's responsibility.
- **Motion to proceed with sales: Cathy Welborn**
- **Second: TC Grissom**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Bryan Watson – Aye; Terry Price – Aye;  
TC Grissom – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye**

### **Pickleball Court / Gym Discussion**

- Bryan Watson checking in on past discussions of a potential pickleball court.
- Jake Johnson and Mayor Crail discussed dimensions, location in parking lot, bathroom access.
- Pickleball court to be placed on September agenda.
- Discussion on air conditioning for gym, possible donation discussion with Brook Cottle, and potential assistance from Prospect Bank for split-system units.

### **Adjournment**

- **Motion to adjourn: Bill Edwards**
- **Second: Terry Price**
- **Vote: Bill Edwards – Aye; Terry Price – Aye; Kyle Sims – Aye; Cathy Welborn – Aye; Bryan Watson – Aye; TC Grissom – Aye,**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.