

## Village of Ashmore Board Meeting Minutes

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Date: July 22, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: 6:01 p.m.

Location: Ashmore Municipal Building

### Pledge and Attendance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Kurt Crail.

#### **In Attendance:**

- **Mayor** Kurt Crail
- **Trustees:** Bill Edwards, Terry Price, Kyle Sims, Bryan Watson, Cathy Wellborn (via phone)
- **Absent:** Trustee T.C. Grissom
- **Others Present:** Michelle Redd (City Clerk), Linda Halloway (Treasurer), Jake Johnson (Superintendent),  
Seth Flach (Milano & Grunloh Engineering)

### Engineering Report – Seth Flach (Milano & Grunloh Engineering)

- Unsewered IEPA grant application was unsuccessful.
- IEPA loan application was submitted; Village approved for \$5,210,229 loan with \$2,344,603 in principal forgiveness.
- IDOT approved the PDR; however, the Village's ITEP application is pending.
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant application opens August 1, 2025.
- Village has applied for \$400,000 through IDOT's additional funding pool (decision pending).
- OSLAD grant not pursued due to 50/50 match and lack of Disadvantaged Community status.
- 2025 DCEO Public Infrastructure Grant announcement expected soon.
- Mayor Crail raised NOFO funding; Seth noted it may extend off ITEP.
- Phase 3 Water Funding discussed.
- Seth followed up with City Clerk on USDA compliance/ADA materials for July 23 meeting.
- Trustee Bryan Watson inquired about OSLAD and temporary pickleball court possibilities.
- Discussion of U of I nuclear energy concept – noted as interesting, but limited by radius.
- Final engineering topic: Illinois EPA WPCLP shows strong funding potential for sewer plant.

## Clerk Report – Michelle Redd

- Roll Call of Attendance by Clerk.
- Audit is still open; awaiting update from auditor.
- Tasty Tuesday event is going well.
- Sent survey to Eastern Illinois University student volunteer program for Fall 2025.

## Superintendent Report – Jake Johnson

- Mosquito spraying to be scheduled.
- Water samples came back good.
- Two small water leaks addressed; one involved setter change-out/Service lines.
- Oil and chip work left Maple Street short by 800 gallons.
- Mowing is up to date (Tim).
- Discussion on hiring a new employee and releasing a part-time worker.
- Daryll Cox from County Board called about new housing on vacant lots; meeting scheduled with Samantha from Coles County; July 23, 2025.
- Oil and chip funds misbid – Trustee Bryan Watson asked if funds would be recouped; Jake stated they would be saved.

## Approvals and Ordinances

- **Approval of June 24, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Terry Price, seconded by Bryan Watson. All Aye (T.C. Grissom absent). Passed
- **Treasurer's Report of Payables:** Motion by Bryan Watson, seconded by Bill Edwards. Roll call: All Aye.
- **Accounts Payable:** Approved.
- **Ordinance #25-0624A** (Title 1, Chapter 3): Motion by Bill Edwards, seconded by Cathy Wellborn. All Aye. Passed Ordinance
- **Ordinance #25-0624B** (Village Return to Work – RTO): Motion by Kyle Sims, seconded by Terry Price All AYE. Passed Ordinance
- **Ordinance #25-0624C** (FY 2025-26 Appropriations): Motion by Cathy Wellborn, seconded by Bryan Watson. All Aye. Passed Ordinance

## Property and Project Discussions

- Mayor Crail updated on Percy House demo (estimated at \$7,000). Trustee Kyle Sims asked about using Village equipment; Mayor stated outside contractor is more cost-effective.
- Village pursuing ownership of Bloxom and Decker properties.
- Trustee Cathy Wellborn asked for status on Decker property progress.
- Mayor Crail requested legal consultation with Taylor Law on how to sell these properties and recover demo costs.

## Field and Park Improvements

- Superintendent Jake Johnson recommended contacting Phelps for a formal estimate on electrical work at the baseball/softball fields.
- Board approved estimated \$5,000 for electrical work. Motion by Cathy Wellborn, seconded by Kyle Sims. All Aye.
- Trustee Kyle Sims discussed adjusting field bases to host more games; Baseball and Softball
- Trustee Bryan Watson emphasized need for a universal pitching mound.
- Trustee Cathy Wellborn raised concern about a road dip near the park; Jake added it to his repair schedule.

## Pickleball Court Planning

- Mayor Crail appointed Trustee Bryan Watson and Superintendent Jake Johnson to plan temporary improvements.
- Trustee Kyle Sims wished to be part of the planning group.
- **Note:** Base material for pickleball court to be on August board meeting agenda.

## New Business – Verizon Cell Tower & Adjournment

- Trustee Bryan Watson initiated discussion on Verizon cell tower; a corporate conference call is being scheduled.

### Attendance Notes:

- Jake Johnson entered at 6:03 p.m.
- Seth Flach exited at 6:14 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Motioned by Trustee Bill Edwards, Seconded by Terry Price, All vote AYE.