



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES January 13, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gunsteen called the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 13, 2026, of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bartlett to order on the above date at 7:09p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chairmen Battermann, Deyne, Gandsey, Hopkins, LaPorte, Suwanski, and President Gunsteen

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Village Administrator Paula Schumacher, Assistant Village Administrator Scott Skrycki, Finance Director Matt Coulter, Director of Public Works Dan Dinges, Assistant Public Works Director Tyler Isham, Civil Engineer Nick Talarico, Planning & Development Director Kristy Stone, IT Director John Peebles, Grounds Superintendent Matt Giermak, Police Chief Ryan Conway, Village Attorney Kurt Asprooth, and Deputy Village Clerk Samuel Hughes.

3. TOWN HALL: None

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FINANCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN LAPORTE

1. Proposed Capital Budget 2 Discussion

Trustee LaPorte stated that he would turn it over to staff to present the Proposed Capital Budget. Mr. Coulter began his presentation going over the 2026-2027 highlights discussing expenditures over a five-year period, while the immediate focus is on 2026-2027. He stated that the budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 is \$17,080,000 and referred staff to the complete listing of the 2026-2027 project on page T10 of the PowerPoint. Mr. Coulter wanted to emphasize that at the next Board meeting when the board is asked to approve the Capital Budget that they are not approving the entire five-year program, but rather just the fiscal year 2026-2027. He stated that the reason they do it this way is so that the big infrastructure project can go out to bid now instead of waiting until the operating budget gets approved in April.

Mr. Coulter then went over the Expenditure Summary which covered Water, Sewer, Streets, Economic Development, Golf, and "Other". Mr. Coulter discussed all the upcoming projects including the main water replacement project, the water tower painting and the 4.75 million for the Country Creek Project. He stated that fiscal year 2028-2029 will be a big year due to the new water tower which is budgeted for 6 million which at this point would be dependent on getting an IEPA loan. He stated that there's also a 3.3-million-dollar budget for a second centrifuge at the treatment plant which would be dependent on getting an IEPA loan. He went on to say that we have 1.5 million for the Oak Ave. realignment, 4.75 million for the Country Creek Project, and 1 million for the Newport Culvert Replacement.



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES January 13, 2026

Mr. Coulter then went over a chart showing expenditures by category detailing the percentages for each of them. He moved on to discussing the list of water projects along with the Water Fund Projections. He stated that the predictions for the current fiscal year 2026 include a cash to drop from 5.6 million down to 4 million. He stated they're hoping to have a higher budget for the water main replacement program. Mr. Coulter stated that the projections for fiscal year 2027 do include the 8% water rate increase that was approved by the board as well as the 1 million transfers from the Capital Projects Fund which are the COVID funds. He stated that going past fiscal year 2027, the big expense will be the water main replacement program, which goes back to the water sewer study where they recommended that we replace at least 1% of our water mains every year.

Mr. Coulter then went over a chart detailing Water Fund Projections for 2026-2030. He stated that this does include rate increases of 8% for 2027-2030, and that even with the 8% increase, cash would fall off and by 2030 it would be close to a negative 7 million. He went on to say that is why the water sewer study stated that half of the costs for the water main project from fiscal years 2028-2036 would have to be funded by bonds, which would be about 30 million. Mr. Coulter stated that we would probably do three separate bond issuances for 10 million each.

President Gunsteen wanted to clarify that we're projecting the 10 million bonds in 2028. Mr. Coulter stated that we would have to issue it in 2027 for it to be available in 2028. He stated they would issue the first 10 million in 2027, the next 10 million would be in 2030, and then the last 10 million would be three to four years after that. Mr. Coulter stated that the point of the 8% increase every year would be to get our revenues to a point where they would be able to support doing the main water replacement at 1% without issuing bonds. Mr. Coulter stated that he will be speaking to our bond advisor, but the issue is that they have to spend the bond proceeds within three years. Trustee Hopkins asked what the process of speaking to the bond advisor was and if this would be someone new they were looking to speak with. Mr. Coulter stated it would be our current plan/bond advisor. He stated that she would come out later in summer to have those discussions with the board.

Trustee Hopkins asked whether we could try to limit the water main replacements to one area or break it apart: a smaller project versus tackling it on a large scale. Mr. Dinges stated that the 5 million is going to be much bigger so it will lend to itself. He stated that next year they have a section west of Oak that they're trying to do but still have to tackle other mains in that area. He went on to say that there's also water modeling; sections of mains throughout the village that would help with capacity needs such as dead ends. Mr. Dinges was asked if the increase of 1% was being too aggressive with water rate increases from a financial standpoint. He stated that he didn't think it was being too aggressive as the 1% is still counting on that water main to last 100 years, which as we know it doesn't. He went on to say that based on conversations with other communities, 1% is what other communities are striving for and it's important to move forward with this. He stated that we've seen an increase in water main breaks and this will assist in helping us stay ahead of it.

President Gunsteen stated that implementing a raise in the water rate will take us into 2027-2028 assisting with slowing down main replacements to help us catch up. Mr. Dinges agreed, stating that the water sewer rate always anticipated the 30 million to help get that fund up and allow us to move forward. He stated that they can be flexible with that number and can adjust to whatever rate the board wants to do



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES January 13, 2026

but bonds will be needed because we don't have that in the bank. Mr. Dinges went on to say that 8% on the water side is to pay back those bonds. Mr. Coulter stated that the 8% going forward for the next ten years will help pay back the bonds as well. He went on to say that if we didn't issue the bonds in 2027, they would be able to do bare bones going forward for the next few years as far as water main replacements go. Trustee Hopkins asked about the project with South Elgin allocated in 2027-2028. Mr. Dinges stated that we believe they have a water supply that's compatible but don't know what their water pressure or water flow is compared to ours. He stated that South Elgin currently has a water main located on the east side of 25 from a project they did years ago that would make it easy for us to connect to. He stated that within the Blue Heron business park they would make a connection to that with some valving; they think it's definitely worth looking into. Mr. Dinges was asked if this was worth adding to the budget; he stated that it's not a big-ticket item and would be worth it if it was feasible to help each other in emergencies if one or the other needed a water supply.

Mr. Coulter moved on to presenting Sewer projects by year. He stated that there's 1.1 million listed every year to put the sanitary sewer rehab back into the budget. He went on to say that the other big project for the next two years is the lift station upgrades for 1.05 million. Mr. Coulter then went over the projections for 2025-2030, stating that the actual cash for 2025 was close to 10 million and includes the 5% rate increases. He stated that with this increase, we would be close to the maximum level. Mr. Coulter also wanted to point out another big expense in sewer funds which is debt service payments of about 2 million a year for the wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Coulter presented the MFT Fund, stating that it's classified as a Special Revenue Fund which means the funds can only be used for certain uses such as building, maintaining, and improving local roads, bridges, and related infrastructure such as sidewalks, streetlights, traffic signals, etc. He stated that the chart shows the five-year program with total expenses coming out of the MFT totaling \$16,920,000. Mr. Coulter stated that we are budgeting 2.275 million out of the MFT fund; the remaining 2 million comes from the General Fund. He went on to say that this is why we implemented the Motor Fuel Tax at three cents per gallon as well as the 0.75% increase to our Home Rule Sales Tax. Mr. Coulter stated that other projects using MFT funds include the IDOT intersection improvements, specifically the Lake Street at Oak and Bartlett, North Avenue and Oak Avenue resurfacing and the Shick Road bridge.

Mr. Coulter then presented the biggest fund which is the General Fund; stating that the big projects are for the MFT maintenance program as well as the bike path projects. He stated that in 2027-2028, just over 5 million is for the stormwater system improvements, most of which would be for the Country Creek project. Mr. Coulter also went over the project slated from 2028-2030, going over the General Fund Projections between 2023-2029. He stated that the first three years are actual numbers, and we can see that our balance in the general fund is projected to climb as our income tax and sales tax have done really well. He went on to say that fiscal year 2027-2029 is when we see a decline which would be for the Country Creek project; stating that if that project does not happen then we would see a decent surplus in our General Fund. Trustee LaPorte asked about grants and whether those would help with some of the upcoming projects. Mr. Dinges stated that they're applying for everything that they possibly can but one of the issues they're running into is that most of the environmental storm water grants want an environmental benefit. He stated they're trying to be creative to qualify and see if we can get that funding. Mr. Dinges stated that the big projects are the Route 59 underpass and the Naperville Road PED crossing



**VILLAGE OF BARTLETT
COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 13, 2026**

for the tracks that Metra has advised that they have scheduled for this year. He stated they're in the process of trying to get the permits with IDOT and move forward with that connection. Mr. Dinges and Ms. Stone explained that they will likely put in a rapid flashing PED crossing so that people will be able to hit the button that will flash to stop cars. Mr. Dinges stated that this bike path would be built at the northeast corner of West Bartlett Road at 59 to connect up to the Maryville driveway.

Trustee Hopkins asked about Koehler field listed under "Other Projects" and what the plans and budgeted amounts were for that. Mr. Dinges stated that the stadium lights would be converted to LED and that's what's been budgeted for. He went on to say that there's funds included in there to improve the football field out there due to drainage issues. He stated that the park district gave them some contractors that they've worked with before to assist with the drainage issue. He stated there's also funds added to include under drains in the pond right to the south to improve drainage. Mr. Dinges wanted to mention that what's included in the budget is the full amount and that if they're able to get any of those rebates, that amount would be reduced to reflect that.

B. ADJOURNMENT

President Gunsteen moved to adjourn to Executive Session. Trustee Deyne moved to approve; the motion was seconded by Trustee LaPorte.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADJOURN

AYES: Chairmen Batterman, Deyne, Gandsey, Hopkins, LaPorte, Suwanski
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Jackie Cardoza
Executive Assistant