

Village of St. Paris  
Council Meeting Minutes  
June 15, 2026

**Invocation Prayer:** led by Councilor Ervin.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Mayor Anthony Whitman. Present were Councilors Tony Hoyt, Terry Ervin II, Drake Huffman, Charlene Hess, and Shelley Valdez. Councilor Denise Beall joined after being sworn in. Also present were Village Administrator Jay Lewis, Fiscal Officer Gina Verlaney, and Sheriff's Deputy Jacob Farber.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Huffman to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:** None.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Valdez to approve the Council meeting minutes dated June 01, 2026. Motion passed.

**Mayor's Notes**

- Mayor Whitman announced the dates of the next Community Breakfast (June 20), the next Community Garage Sale (June 20), and the JSP Fireworks (July 27, 5:00 PM–11:00 PM).

**Financial Reports**

Financial Statements (May 31, 2026) – A **motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Huffman to approve the financial statements as presented. A roll call vote was taken; Council voted 5–0 in favor. Motion passed.

Bank Reconciliation (May 31, 2026) – A **motion** was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the bank reconciliation. A roll call vote was taken; Council voted 5–0 in favor. Motion passed.

Water/Sewer Account Adjustments (May 31, 2026) – A **motion** was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Ervin to approve the water/sewer account adjustments. A roll call vote was taken; Council voted 5–0 in favor. Motion passed.

Supplemental Appropriations (May 31, 2026) – A **motion** was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Valdez to approve the supplemental appropriations. A roll call vote was taken; Council voted 5–0 in favor. Motion passed.

**Police Report**

Jacob Farber provided a summary of police activity for May, including: 4 details, 3 court papers, 4 animal reports, 2 Non-injury motor vehicle, 1 domestic, 2 Alcohol related, 1 office report, 1 fighting, 5 emergency runs, 1 theft, 2 missing person, 1 rape, 1 sexual assault, 2 suspicious person, 3 suspicious vehicle, 6 traffic details, 5 follow ups, 1 vandalism, 1 harassment, 1 mental health crisis, 2 alarm drop, 1 false alarm, 6 traffic stops, 23 reports on complaints, 8 call 911, 61 building checks, and 2 welfare checks.

**Vacant Council Seat**

Mayor Whitman introduced Karen Bright as a person interested in the vacant council seat. Karen Bright spoke about her life in relationship to St. Paris. The second person, Denise Beall, spoke about her excitement for St. Paris and its growth. A motion was made by Councilor Huffman and second by Councilor Ervin to have Denise Beall fill the vacant council seat. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 5-0. Mayor Whitman swore in Ms Beall. She took the vacant seat and joined the meeting.

**Administrator's Report**

- Village Administrator Jay Lewis and Mayor Whitman visited the JSP board meeting Tuesday June 9. The Easement Agreement was signed along with a MOU between the JSP Fire Board, Village of St. Paris, and Johnson Township to explore further economic development opportunities to help fund JSP.
- Champaign County Engineers chip & sealed several streets and alleys.
- In prep for the chip & sealing a Skid Steer and Harley Rake were rented to prep the alleys.
- A curb painter was purchased. Curbs will be painted throughout the summer and fall.

**Committee Reports**

- **Finance Committee:** A meeting was held June 5, 2026. The committee is working on the 2027 Revenue Budget. The next meeting is June 24 at 4:00.
- **JSP Fire Board:** The next meeting will be held on July 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the firehouse.
- **Parks, Land & Buildings Committee:** The Pony Wagon Days is considering putting up a few things in Thornton Park to memorialize Michael Thornton, Frank Blair and Sam Ronicker.
- **Planning Commission:** A meeting was held on June 4, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building. The next

meeting is July 20, 2026 at 6:00 pm before the Council Meeting. A **motion** was made by Councilor Huffman and second by Councilor Hess to have a work session prior to the July 20, 2026 council meeting. Motion passed.

- **Public Health and Safety Committee:** No meeting. Councilor Hess stated she would like to discuss dogs with Deputy Tim Morris and Village Administrator Jay Lewis.
- **Street Committee:** No meeting.
- **Zoning Enforcement Committee:** No meeting.
- **Technology Committee:** No meeting.

**Old Business**

- Ordinance 2026-4 *The Sale of the Honda CR-V*. Mayor Whitman conducted the third reading. A **motion** was made by Councilor Huffman and second by Councilor Hess to pass Ordinance 2026-4. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 6-0.
- Ordinance 2026-5 *Cyber Security*. Mayor Whitman conducted the third reading. A **motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and second by Councilor Huffman to pass Ordinance 2026-5. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 6-0.
- Ordinance 2026-6 *Indigent Burials*. Mayor Whitman conducted the third reading. A **motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and second by Councilor Valdez to pass Ordinance 2026-6. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 6-0.
- Ordinance 2026-7 *Rezoning Property at 702 E. Main St*. Mayor Whitman conducted the third reading. A motion was made by Councilor Huffman and second by Councilor Hess to pass Ordinance 2026-7. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 6-0.
- Ordinance 2026-8 *Entering into a Contract with Solar Power & Light*. Mayor Whitman conducted the second reading.

**New Business**

- Mayor Whitman presented the Planning Commission’s recommendation for a zoning parcel amendment on State Route 235 with Terry Howell’s property.
- Mayor Whitman asked to add another item to the agenda. A **motion** was made by Councilor Valdez and seconded by Councilor Hess to add an ordinance to the agenda. Motion passed.
- Resolution 1404 *Entering into a Purchase Agreement with NECO for Water Meter Reading Equipment*. A motion was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Hess to approve Resolution 1404. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.
- There will be a meeting with MOU, JSP Board, Village of St. Paris and Johnson Township on June 29 at 7:00 at the JSP Firehouse. A **motion** was made by Councilor Hoyt and seconded by councilor Hess to have council attend this meeting. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2026-9 *Establishing a Stop Sign at the Intersection of Elm St and Springfield St*. Mayor Whitman conducted the first reading.

**Public Comments**

Alfredo Gutierrez, 2450 Sloan Rd, Urbana, warned the residents about doing business with Huffman Siding and Roofing. He explained how he felt this was a dishonest company. He also talked bout his involvement with The Special Olympics.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Huffman and seconded by Councilor Hess to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM. Motion passed.

Signatures:

|                                  |                        |       |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| _____                            | _____                  | _____ |
| Gina Verlaney, Fiscal    Officer | Anthony Whitman, Mayor | Date  |