

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
August 3, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Council held at 442 N. Grand Street, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Rochholz.

The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America were led by President Rochholz.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President Rochholz, Trustees Mastenbrook, Beck, Doorn, Carlin and Rance.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Officer Eric Ray, Rob Coffman, Phyllis Rose, Kim Parker, Martha Gammill, Ron Gammill, Brianna Wurtsmith, and David Wurtsmith.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Rance, seconded by Carlin, to approve the agenda with the deletion of 8. Discussion of Information from Prein and Newhof and DPW regarding wells.

By Roll Call:

Rochholz	Nay
Carlin	Aye
Mastenbrook	Nay
Beck	Nay
Doorn	Nay
Rance	Aye

Motion did not pass, 2-4.

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Doorn to approve the agenda as presented.

By Roll Call:

Rochholz	Aye
Carlin	Nay
Mastenbrook	Aye
Beck	Aye
Doorn	Aye
Rance	Nay

Motion passed 4-2.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Doorn, seconded by Rance to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. By Roll Call, all aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Ms. Kim Parker told the Council that she is going to hold a Forum where the residents to ask questions to the candidates running for election.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Mike Presta of Prein & Newhof discussed information he received from the Kalamazoo County Health Department regarding private wells.

Mr. Presta made the following statements:

- He stated a permit is mandated to drill any well.
- He stated as the Ordinance stands now, when a well fails, that well has to be capped and a new well will be prohibited.
- He stated the County does not require well testing. He suggested getting legal council to see if the Village could mandate testing of wells.
- He stated if a well allows 70 or more gallons a minute, the State must be notified to handle the permit.
- He stated if there is an existing well in the Village that that the resident did not acquire a permit, the County will mandate it be capped.
- He stated there is a risk of contamination if a person has a well that is also hooked up to Village water.

Mr. Mike Presta of Prein & Newhof discussed the topic of right of ways in the Village of Schoolcraft. He made the following statements:

- He stated a typical right of way is 33 feet from the middle of the road..
- He stated in the Village of Schoolcraft there are streets that the right of way measurement varies. There are streets that are 82 and over 100 feet.
- He stated it is advisable the Village keep the right of ways the way they are.
- He stated to change the right of ways, the State would be involved and it is a long and costly process.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding Ordinance 251. An Ordinance to Allow the Keeping of Chickens, was discussed.

Trustee Beck made the following statements:

- He stated he thinks allowing 8 chickens is too many.
- He stated he thinks chickens should just be allowed in the R1 and R2 districts.
- He stated chickens should not be allowed near businesses.

Trustee Beck made a motion to shelf the ordinance until it is needed. Motion died due to lack of support.

Trustee Mastenbrook made the following statements:

- She stated some residential yards do not meet the criteria to have chickens.
- She stated an Ordinance is only as good as the enforcement.
- She stated she would like her written Comments and Considerations Regarding the Chicken Ordinance, that were included in the Council packet, to be attached to the meeting minutes.

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Motion by Trustee Rance, seconded by Doorn to end discussion regarding Ordinance 251.

By Roll Call:

Rochholz	Aye
Carlin	Aye
Mastenbrook	Aye
Beck	Nay
Doorn	Aye
Rance	Aye

Motion passed 5-1.

Motion by Rance, seconded by Carlin to set a date for a Public Hearing. By Roll Call:

Rochholz	Aye
Carlin	Aye
Mastenbrook	Nay
Beck	Nay
Doorn	Aye
Rance	Aye

Motion passed 4-2.

- b) The memorandum from Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary regarding Resolution 2026-11. A Resolution to Amend the 2026-27 Budget, was discussed.

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Rance to adopt Resolution 2026-11 as presented. By Roll Call, all aye.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The thank you note from the Fourth of July Committee was acknowledged for file.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Village President Rochholz made the following statement:

- He stated the Executive Committee Meeting scheduled for July 20, 2026 was cancelled because a member could not attend. Bills and accounts were not approved, therefore were added to the list for this meeting.

Village Manager Lutz made the following statements:

- She stated the USDA Loan has been approved for \$5,803,000, at 4.75% interest.
- She stated Stacy Sherman will organize the Christmas Walk, again, this year.

Trustee Mastenbrook made the following statements:

- She provided an update on South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority activities.
- She stated the 4th of July Ad Hoc Committee and the 4th of July Committee would like to meet to go over the 2026 preparations and activities.
- She stated at the time of appointing the Ad Hoc Committee, it was stated their duties would end after the event. She asked if the Committee could remain active until October to allow the meeting with the 4th of July Committee.

It was the consensus of the Council to allow the 4th of July Ad Hoc Committee to remain active until October.

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Elections.

The Council discussed the vacant, 2-year term, seat that is open now and will be open after elections, as no one is running for that seat.

Village Staff will contact Kalamazoo County Clerk to find out;

- 1) What is deadline for write-in candidates; and
- 2) Can a candidate that is running for a 4-year term fill the 2-year term seat until the elections, then take the 4-year term seat after elections.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Mike Rochholz, President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk