

The Village of Oblong Board of Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025, in the Farley Room of the Municipal Building.

Members Present: Mayor Teresa K. Fielder, Treasurer Ladora Boyd, Clerk Stacey Brock, Trustee Dave Hasty, Trustee Terry “Toad” Ochs, Trustee Earl Deckard, Trustee Byron Sanders, and Trustee Justin Yager. Trustee Carrie Hays was absent.

Others Present: Public Works Superintendent Terry Manhart, Chief of Police Colton Williamson, Dana Tylka, Angie Catt (Oblong Chamber of Commerce President), Haley Bricker (CCDA), Twilla Davis, and Angela Ridgway (Robinson Daily News).

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by the Mayor. Teresa asked everyone to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Motion by Byron, with a second by Toad, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of August 6th, 2025. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
3. There were no deletions or additions to the agenda.
4. There were no Delinquent Water Bill customers this month.
5. Angie Catt (Oblong Chamber of Commerce President) stated the bricks for the fire pit were delivered on Sept. 2nd and they will start laying them on Sept. 4th. Each brick will be sealed with an epoxy sealant. The fire pit is on order. The gas insert will be installed by the supplying company.

Angie asked the Board for permission to shut down South Range Street early on Friday October 24th (day before Fall Follies) to allow for vendors to get set up and start selling that evening. There is no school that day so the request was changed from 3:15 on that day to 1:00 pm. The Board approved the early shut down.

Angie followed up as to whether or not there is a policy about radio-controlled boats on the lake. She has looked into purchasing a buoy and other items to allow for safe access to the lake to have RC boat races in the future.

6. The Mayor read a letter from Carrie Hays in regard to her resignation as Trustee from the Village Board, effective August 2025. Motion by Byron, with a second by Earl to approve the resignation. Five (5) ayes, motion carried. Mayor T expressed her gratitude and appreciation for Carrie’s involvement on the Board and in our Community. Mayor has 30 days to appoint a new Board Member for Carrie’s seat.
7. Motion by Byron, with a second by Earl, to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-O-664 “An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers’ Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax for the Village of Oblong, Illinois.” Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
8. Motion by Earl, with a second by Byron, to adopt Resolution 2025-R-6 “Resolution Committing Local Funds.” Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
9. Clerk, Stacey Brock, presented a payment plan from Jamey Tracey with FRSB for the Park Meadows Loan Renewal. Her recommendation was to renew the loan with annual principal and interest payments and for the loan to be solely managed by FRSB without participation. Motion

by Byron, with a second by Dave to approve the renewal as presented. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.

10. Stacey presented a new Revolving Loan Fund Application and Cover Sheet to be used going forward. Motion made by Earl, with a second by Byron, to approve the new Application and Cover Sheet. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
11. Mayor T brought a delinquent water bill to the Board. The amount due for 510 S. Adams St. is currently \$2596.99 due to water leaks that were known but not fixed. The Mayor requested to file a Utility Lien against the property owner and Small Claims on the renter/customer. Motion by Toad, with a second by Dave to have Steve Greene file both. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.

12. Mayor's Comments:

- a. Update: 107 & 109 S Range – Until the time a petition to the court is filed, we are ok as long as the owner continues to move forward with building repairs, the Village is able to hold steady. Ms. Higgins called our Clerk on August 20th, stating that she has paid Barko Roofing half the price for repairs. Barko Roofing is to be calling her to let her know when the work is supposed to begin.
- b. Pusey vs. Village of Oblong: Spoke with Meghan Tweed on August 8th, (IML Risk Management Assoc. Senior Claims Specialist). This case is considered a “Nuisance Case”, meaning it has a specific dollar amount attached to it for the items he is suing us for. Our Attorney, Doug Keane from Chicago, suggested to offer the complainant a \$5000 settlement. We are awaiting a response from Pusey's attorney.
- c. Atkins Mini Park: More great news from our community! The Village of Oblong was awarded a \$5000 check from the Elks Charitable Commission Board. Beard's Fencing has placed the order for the fence and we have written a check for half the cost for a down payment. Stacey is working on a few grants to help fund this project. We also received a \$450 donation from our Monicals Night, and have been receiving generous donations from family members and individuals who support this park. We would like to name the park at some point in the future. If you have any suggestions, let The Mayor or Kelsey Meeks know.
- d. Safe Routes to School Grant: Did a walk through on W. Missouri St. to Oblong Grade School on Monday, August 25th, with Angela Payton (Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission) and John Stone (Stone & Waggoner). October 13th is the deadline for the grant. John is preparing a cost estimate for the project along with an aerial map. We will need plenty of Letters of Support for this project. It would be great to have one from all Board Members and any residents that have children or grandchildren using this route to go/come from Oblong Grade School.
- e. B & H Electronic/Appliance Recycling Event: Will be held on Saturday, September 6th from 9am-11am at the Oblong Park. This is open to everyone regardless of where they live. This will be the final one for the year.
- f. Republic Services Fall Clean Up: Tuesday, September 23rd. Those participating must be paid up Republic Services customers and live inside the Village limits.
- g. Metal Meet: Will be held October 7th through 11th at the Oblong Park.

Grant Updates:

- Congressman Mike Bost FY2026 Community Project Funding: Our grant application is still pending for the South Range Project.
- DCEO Office of Grants Management update: Awaiting on the reimbursement grant of \$50,000. This grant is waiting for a bond release. This money will be to reimburse the utility work in Park Meadows Subdivision.

- OSLAD Grant: Brooke from South Central IL Regional Planning Commission is working on a close out package to make final reimbursements to the Village.

13. Reports of Committees:

POLICE: Taylor Smith started the academy three weeks ago. Colton gets a report every Friday. Taylor is testing at the top of his class!

BUILDING/PARK: No report this month.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTS: The Northwest 4-way light is out. This is due to wires being cut from the new firehouse construction. There will be new wires ran to rectify this.

STREET/ALLEY: No report this month.

WATER/SEWER: Looked into gravel cost for behind Gage Postlewait's building. Estimated to take 3-4 tons at \$22-\$23 per ton.

FINANCE: Dave thanked everyone for their involvement in the Revolving Loan Application redo.

TREASURER'S REPORT: All Revolving Loan payments are current.

CLERK'S REPORT: No report this month

PARK MEADOW SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE: Toad stated Michael Brown with Munson Construction quoted \$2500 to dig the brush out of the North lake West of Keith Bomer's, North up to the dam. Toad also stated the need to find out who has jurisdiction over the dam to dig it out.

14. Motion by Toad, with a second by Dave, to pay the monthly bills that were on the Warranty List. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
15. The Mayor reminded all Trustees who haven't done so to complete The Open Meetings Act online training and give a copy of completion to the Clerk.
16. Toad inquired about the progress of the website. Stacey stated it has been a few months since taking it over. Now that she is acclimated with it, she has questions and has scheduled a training session with Mark Tull for Friday, September 5th. Minutes have been up to date since March 2025 and more additions to come.
17. Motion by Dave, with a second by Earl, to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 pm. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Stacey Brock, Village Clerk