

**Village of Valparaiso  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

The Village of Valparaiso Board of Trustees held a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at the Valparaiso Senior Center. Chairperson Homes opened meeting at 7:00 PM with Brightenburg, Draper, Turnwall and Homes in attendance, Pierce absent, Nick Sanders Village Superintendent, as well as 17 members of the public and 3 government students.

Brightenburg moved to approve the January 13, 2026 regular meeting minutes, Turnwall seconded. YEA: All. Motion carried. Finance Report was presented: Brightenburg moved to approve. Homes seconded. YEA: Brightenburg, Turnwall, Homes. NAY: Draper. Motion carried. Sewer fund: Butler Public Power \$244.69 electricity, HTM Sales \$4568.40 Repair, Jones Bank \$60, Windstream \$62.78; Operation Fund: Butler Public Power \$526.53 electricity, Hawkins \$914.82 supplies, Jones Bank \$60 water cards, NE Dept of Revenue \$523.32 sales tax, Nebraska Public Health \$196 water testing. General fund: Amazon \$56.98 supplies, Ameritas \$638.04 retirement, Bromm Lindahl \$543.50 Legal, Butler Public Power \$1679.71, GBE \$10225.00 Audit, Jones Bank \$26 safe deposit box , Menards \$112.98 supplies, Oak Creek Lumber \$23.60 supplies, One Call Concepts \$1.21 professional, Otte Oil \$922.66 propane, January payroll \$11224.34, Quickbooks \$209.50 software, UNL \$213.54 Pesticide Training, USPS \$219.60 postage, US Treasury \$3086.09 payroll taxes, Wahoo Paper \$119.53 Legal, Windstream \$303.99 phone and Wright Way \$600 hydrojet. Utility fund: \$1342.50 bond interest.

Open forum: Bobby Draper approached the board about the electrical panel in fire department holding a couple of circuits for the parks and could we relocate them, as they are need them for the department. Sanders will investigate.

Chairpersons Report: none

Library Report: Fiala shared she is working on the fiscal year end report, with 1403 visits and 1278 check outs and 938 digital check outs. She also shared the upcoming open house on 2/21 and working on an activity in conjunction with the Easter Egg hunt and the adult book club starting soon. The library will be participating in the Val Days parade and will be having a visit in July from the State Paleontologist.

Parks board was reported on by Niki Draper. She announced the upcoming Father/Daughter dance with dinner, raffle items and etc.

Pet Committee will be working with the sheriffs department on dangerous dog information, more info coming soon.

Sanders reported on maintenance activities including: lagoon training for Alderson, recent sewer back up and the need to remind patrons of what should/shouldn't be flushed, he will be attending the rural water conference in Kearney.

Couple of anonymous letters were copied and shared with the trustees, as well as one note with regards about snow removal during a minimal amount of snow (less than 2 inches).

Turnwall made an apology to Mike Blazek for an inappropriate text message response.

Oak street update – Karen asked how the trustees would like to proceed. Nelson to reach out to legal team about contacting Butler RPPD about the easement on the poles.

Bridge update – SENDD survey was mailed out January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Brightenburg excused herself due to illness at 7:32 pm.

Nextlink easement was a concern of numerous citizens at the meeting. Chuck Pekarek shared valuable information as well as Turnwall and Sanders sharing past information they learned from Greg Bouc. Nextlink has not been in contact since the previous meeting.

Properties with ordinance violations – Ashley Line made a statement with regard to the property at 332 W 5<sup>th</sup>, the condition of their property and the numerous animals at that address. Turnwall will be gathering the complaint letters (at least 3) for Nelson so she can share with legal team to determine best way to proceed.

Ballfield contracts – awaiting signatures.

Library director salary increase – Draper moved to move this topic to executive session, Homes seconded. Motion carried.

Life Church Building – Max Smith thanked the board for allowing him to speak on behalf of the church. Due to the disrepair and poor conditions, they are financially unable to use their current facility for worship. They are entertaining the ideas of a controlled/training burn of the building or just the removal of the building in hopes to replace it with a new facility. Turnwall moved to approve the demolition of the church, with the burn option as a last resort due to the close proximity of the houses and etc in the neighborhood. Draper seconded. YEA: Draper, Turnwall, ABSTAIN: Homes, Motion carried.

Saunders County Mutual Aid Resolution was presented for passage as 2026-1. Turnwall moved to approve, Draper seconded. YEA: All. Motion carried.

Building permits: none.

Blazek asked for speed limit signs to be placed on A Street. Homes moved to approve the installation of the signs, Turnwall seconded. YEA: All. Motion carried.

Turnwall moved to enter executive session at 8:04 pm. Homes seconded.

Homes moved to adjourn executive session at 8:42 pm. Turnwall seconded.

Turnwall moved to approve the pay increase for Marie Fiala, Library Director to \$20. Draper seconded. YEA: All. Motion carried.

Homes moved to adjourn at 8:43 pm.

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Stephanie Nelson, Clerk

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Dan Homes, Chairperson