



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
COUNTY OF LAKE,
TOWN OF FREMONT

The Fremont Township Board of Trustees met at 22385 W. Illinois Route 60, Mundelein IL 60060 on January 12, 2026 to conduct a Regular Meeting.

Diana O’Kelly	Supervisor
Charmaine Kaufman	Town Clerk
Alicia Dodd	Highway Commissioner
Joe Herchenbach	Assessor
Jeri Atleson	Town Trustee
Christine Seidner	Town Trustee
Connie Shanahan	Town Trustee
Keith Voss	Town Trustee

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE

Supervisor O’Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustee Siedner, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Atleson, Trustee Voss, Supervisor O’Kelly

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Assessor Herchenbach, Commissioner Dodd, Clerk Kaufman

OTHERS PRESENT

Arnie Wallace, AJ Preskuski, Cynthia Darnell, Vivian Venute-Shields, Patrick Shields, Nick Tonkery, Deb Molina, Rick Molina, Anne Waller, Lou Bruno, Nine Citizens. Groot Industries representative Josh.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Trustee Shanahan moved, and Trustee Voss seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting.

All in favor, motion carried.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Resolution recognizing Lou Bruno

- Supervisor O’Kelly requested to move up the Resolution recognizing CERT Leader Lou Bruno to 7.1 due to the number of community members in attendance to recognize Lou. Supervisor O’Kelly read the resolution and presented Lou Bruno with a framed copy. Lou Bruno gave his remarks.

7.2 Groot Waste Hauler Discussion

- Supervisor O’Kelly introduced Groot Industries Sales Representative Josh Molnar and solicited comments from the public.
- Mundelein resident Nick Tonkery suggested the use of small sized waste containers, possibly 35-gallon size. He also remarked about the difficulty with Groot’s customer service regarding the landscape waste pick-up service.
- Mundelein resident Cynthia Darnell is very happy with Groot and wanted to recognize Groot employees Parker and Greg who go above and beyond in her neighborhood.
- Josh Molnar from Groot appreciated the feedback from the residents. He also stated the first contract cycle was not perfect, but both sides learned a lot.
- Supervisor O’Kelly to follow up with Josh Molnar by March when they anticipate the new contract to be ready.

7.3 Action Fence Contractors

- Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Seidner seconded the motion to approve payment to Action Fence in the amount of \$7450.00.

All in favor, motion carried.

8. PARKS REPORT

Parks Manager Herb Riedel submitted the following report:

- Parks are closed until late March/early April.
- Staff was busy during December helping with Admin and Seasonal items.
- Staff is planning on buffer area maintenance this winter between Behm Park and Saddlebrook.
- Staff is planning on Property line work along west and south property line.

9. COMMUNITY GARDEN REPORT

None

10. ELECTED OFFICIAL REPORTS

Assessor

Assessor Herchenbach submitted the following report:

- The county has completed all hearings for the 2025 tax year, and we can now start processing our workload for 2026.
- The Illinois Governor signed into law an increase for the income threshold for Senior’s to qualify for the freeze raising the household income to \$75,000.

Clerk

No Report

Highway Commissioner

Commissioner Dodd submitted the following report:

- Multiple snow/salting events took place.
- Crew worked on roadside tree maintenance between snow events.

Supervisor

Supervisor O’Kelly submitted the following report:

- This year we adopted 209 seniors and provided them with Holiday Gift Bags. 111 family members were adopted. 45 families were given a holiday meal.
- Our community was very generous with food, gift cards, and financial donations.
- Special thanks to Nancy Lech for coordinating these programs.

- Supervisor O’Kelly attended the swearing in of our new clerk, Char Kaufman.

Trustees

- Trustees Seidner is sad about the dissolution of the CERT team but is thankful to have been part of CERT.

11. GA/EA/FOOD PANTRY REPORT

November (Nov) and December (Dec) 2025

- 2 GA Nov, 2 GA Dec
- 0 EA Nov, 1 EA Dec
- 177 food pantry assistance Nov, 74 food pantry assistance Dec
- 44 LIHEAP applications Nov, 37 LIHEAP applications Dec
- 3 Benefit Access applications Nov, 1 Benefit Access application Dec
- 0 Farmers Market Coupons Nov, 0 Farmers Market Coupons Dec
- 28 NiCor Sharing Nov, 14 NiCor Sharing Dec
- 1 RTA Pass Nov, 0 RTA Pass Dec
- 0 IDHS/SNAP Medicaid Nov, 0 IDHS/SNAP Medicaid Dec
- 16 Diaper Bank Nov, 16 Diaper Bank Dec
- 0 License plate stickers Nov, 6 License plate stickers Dec

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

14. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- Trustee Voss moved, and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of:
Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of **\$23,376.45**
Permanent Road Fund in the amount of **\$499,090.60**
and General Town Fund in the amount **\$103,116.98**
ROLL CALL:
Aye: Trustee Seidner, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Atleson, Trustee Voss, Supervisor O’Kelly
All in favor, motion carried
- Trustee Voss moved, and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of the General Assistance Fund in the amount of **\$9,004.51**.
All in favor, motion carried.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Trustee Atleson moved, and trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to go into Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. for the purpose of Land Acquisition discussion. Commissioner Dodd attended the Executive Session.
- Trustee Shanahan moved, and trustee Voss seconded the motion to adjourn Executive Session at 7:04 p.m.
All in favor, motion carried.

16. ADJOURN

- Trustee Shanahan moved, and Trustee Voss seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.
All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Charmaine Kaufman, Fremont Township Clerk

Approved: