MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2026, IN THE COTTONWOOD ROOM A

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:
Present: Chairman Clark and Members Towne and Witten
Absent: None
Chairman Clark declared a quorum present.

Attendees: Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Administrator, Mandi Florip; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson; Trustees Armstrong and Smolic

Resident: Eileen Carruthers

C. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE

Meeting minutes of June 10, 2026, were reviewed. It was moved by Member Towne and seconded by Member Witten that the regular meeting minutes be approved and be placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. UPDATE ON THE MAITNENANCE OF THE SOUTHERN CORNER LOT AT RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD AND BRADLEY ROAD

Chairman Clark indicated Dunlap Lawn Service spent two-days clearing the debris and removing the dead trees at this corner lot. In addition, Chris Dunlap tagged a number of dead trees with orange ribbon at this corner to be removed as part of the winter tree removal program. Trustee Armstrong continues to observe this corner lot for blooming flowers along the fence line in order to plan next year's planting scheme.

E. UPDATE ON DUNLAP TREE EXPERTS FALLEN TREES REMOVAL AT WHIPPOORWILL PARK AND OAK HILL LANE

Chairman Clark indicated both of these locations dead trees have been removed.

F. UPDATE ON OLD SCHOOL ROAD TRAIL RESURFACING PROJECT WITH CHICAGOLAND PAVING COMPANY

Chairman Clark stated she was a little apprehensive if the trail had enough material when completed. However, Chicagoland Paving installed the required amount of material the bid specification stated. As a result, Chicagoland Paving has completed the trail resurfacing project. The Chairman has received various praises from residents of the new trail area improvement. Village Engineer Scott Anderson stated if areas are washed out, this matter is a village issue not a contractor to repair. The material appears to be finer than the Lake County Forest Preserv utilizing on their trail. One area along the intersection of Old School Road and Meadowoods Lane will need further grading to reduce the material run off from the trail. Once this grading is complete, Chicagoland Paving will return to add additional material on the trail.

G. DISCUSS THE LANDSCAPING REQUIRED AT WHIPPOOWILL PARK FOR THE ANNUAL PICNIC

Chairman Clark spoke to the Carl who will be supplying the additional four or five truckloads of dirt for Whippoorwill Park. This new dirt area also has a large rotted tree stump that will be removed prior to the soil grading. Once the dirt has been delivered, Green Concepts will grade the new soil area and seed it.

Chairman Clark added Dunlap Lawn Service will also be removing the cages around the trees on the northside of the park. Lastly, Dunlap Lawn Service will be mulching the park early August in preparation for the picnic.

A motion was moved to approve Green Concepts to grade and seed at Whippoorwill Park in the amount of $1,603. The motion was moved by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Witten. The motion was carried.

H. DISCUSS THE FOREST BUILDERS' INC, PROPOSAL FOR ANNUAL TRAIL MAINTENANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF $11,600

Chairman Clark stated a proposal was received by Forest Builders Inc to complete the annual trail maintenance. This proposal included two additional areas. Forest Builders will herbicide the trails and rake the material once the weeds have died. Chairman Clark asked Village Engineer Scott Anderson if additional material should be considered when raking as some area material is thinned out. Village Engineer Scott replied, he didn't anticipate the cost of labor nor material for this task in this proposal. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said weather permitting it will be done early August. A reminder was stated; the Village Clerk will need to be notified prior to applying the herbicide to communicate it to the residents.

A motion was made to approve the Forest Builders Inc trail maintenance in the amount of $11,600. The motion was moved by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Witten. The motion was carried.

I. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Clark indicated the patio area at Whippoorwill Park has weeds along all the pavers. Chairman Clark requested from Village Engineer Scott Anderson if they could treat the pavers with herbicide prior to the picnic. Village Engineer Scott Anderson responded the treatment would not exceed $1,500.

A motion was made to approve Forest Builders to treat the weeds at the patio area at Whippoorwill Park in the amount not to exceed $1,500. The motion was made by Member Witten and seconded by Chairman Clark. The motion was carried.

Chairman Clark stated this committee will also be cancelling their August meeting.

A motion was made to cancel the August 12th Committee meeting. The motion was moved by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Towne. The motion was carried.

Resident, Eileen Carruthers thanked the village for their efforts in clearing the open space parcels to naturalize them. However, some parcels have a number an invasive grass specie that can grow up to 12 feet tall. They are called phragmites. The Costco corner on Route 60 and Riverwoods Road is filled with this grass. Chairman Clark stated this grass was also located at Riverside and it has been treated by Pizzo & Associates. In addition, the Everett parcel has this grass. Ms. Carruthers asked if the village had any plans for the corner lot off of Route 60 and Riverwoods Road. Chairman Clark replied not at this time.

Ms. Carruthers mentioned she noticed one evening that Whippoorwill Preserve Farm parcel side had sprinklers on late in the day. Trustee Towne added the HOA controls the watering program along Riverwoods Boulevard. The village will notify them of their sprinkler systems.

Ms. Carruthers mentioned the Preen Weed Preventer can also be used at the Whippoorwill Park patio area to treat the weeds in the spring to prevent the seeds from germinating.

Member Towne asked if the trail area across the AbbVie building 10-acres dead branches and trees have been removed. Chairman Clark said she will ask Chris Dunlap to walk the area, to tag anything that needs to be removed. The tree removal will be included for the winter tree program.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk