

# JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

---

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS  
21801 TORRENCE AVENUE, SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS  
JANUARY 27, 2026 – 7:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Marva Campbell-Pruitt called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

A) Mayor Marva led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B) Roll Call:

Present: Trustees Jones, Sapp, Sterling and Winston  
Trustee Burns and Trustee Johnson were on remotely.

Absent: None

C) Meditation: Pastor John Pitts

Trustee Dr. Tonyia Winston provided the meditation in Pastor Pitts' absence.

### 2. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Marva asked for a motion to recess to executive session.

Motion: Winston Second: SAPP

Ayes: Burns, Johnson, Jones, Sapp, Sterling, Winston

Nays: None

Motion carried

The meeting was recessed to executive session at 7:14 pm.

Mayor Marva asked for a motion to reconvene.

Motion: Winston Second: JONES

Ayes: Burns, Johnson, Jones, Sapp, Sterling, Winston

Nays: None

Motion carried

The meeting was reconvened at 7:46 pm.

Mayor Marva asked for roll call.

Roll Call:

Present: Trustees Jones, Sapp, Sterling and Winston

Trustee Burns and Trustee Johnson were on remotely.

Absent: None

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – VILLAGE CLERK DEBBIE WILLIAMS ASKED TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES APPROVED.**

- A) Approve Journal of Proceedings for 1-6-26 Committee of the Whole
- B) Approve Journal of Proceedings for 1-13-26 Regular Board Meeting
- C) Approve Journal of Proceedings for 1-20-26 Committee of the Whole

Mayor Marva asked for a motion to approve the Journal of Proceedings above by consensus vote.

Motion: Winston      Second: Jones

Ayes: Burns, Johnson, Jones, Sapp, Sterling, Winston

Nays: None

Motion carried

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Fields commented on the MLK Celebration. MLK stood for Freedom of Speech- let freedom ring. The residents are silenced. Words do create chaos, but it depends how you handle the chaos. David gave accolades to the six trustees. Let your voices be heard. Bud Mason-GLCAP observer- in his unofficial/official capacity. Bud has been working behind the scenes and planting seeds for 12 years with our water. Sauk Village is a very formidable force. With trial and error there are very high expectations of keeping and growing the Sauk Village Water Department into a better place.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

A) Financial Matters

i. Mayor Marva asked for a motion to Approve Transfers, Payroll and Accounts Payable Distributions in the Combined Amount of **\$638,160.81** and authorize the Finance Department to Remit Payments.

Motion: Jones      Second: Winston

Ayes: Burns, Johnson, Jones, Sapp, Sterling, Winston

Nays: None

Motion carried

**6. PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

A) Mayor Marva asked for a motion to Approve a Resolution Supporting the Renewal of a Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment Clarification for 22500 Sauk Pointe Drive (Wille Brothers Company)

Motion: Johnson      Second: Winston

Ayes: Burns, Jones, Johnson, Sapp, Sterling and Winston

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

A) Mayor - Marva Campbell-Pruitt

Mayor Marva reported the Sauk Hospitality Group provided all of the food at the Unity Breakfast. The service and the food was fantastic. Mayor Marva thanked Trustee Winston for her work on securing the grant that will bring the five Town Hall meetings to the village. The Town Hall meeting provided great resources to the residents. Thanks to the Clerk and the trustees that attended. We are running out of space. There was standing room only. We need a bigger space to hold the events. The next Town Hall meeting will take place on February 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm in the rotunda. Nicor, ComEd, LiHeap will be on hand to discuss the programs they offer and provide energy assessments.

There is a sign up for the Sauk Village Newsletter in the back of the room. Please leave your information if we don't already have it.

Various candidates for public office will be here tomorrow for a Meet and Greet sponsored by the League of Women Voters. This is a non-partisan event with 18 candidates responding they will be present.

B) Village Clerk – Debbie Williams

Village Clerk Williams stated both the Town Hall Meeting and the Unity Breakfast were very well attended despite the cold. Thanks to everyone who participated.

C) Legal Counsel - No report

D) Village Engineer- Melanie Arnold, Robinson Engineering

Melanie stated the installation of the fire hydrants were complete for the Build Up Cook Project. The final restoration would likely not occur until the spring.

## 8. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS

A) Police Department- Chief Mack Sanders

See attached report

B) Fire Department- Chief Keith Damm

Chief Damm stated the department assisted Ford Heights with a multi-car accident today.

See attached report

C) Finance Department- Interim Director Fred McMillon

See attached report

D) Village Administrator- Interim Director Anthony Finch

Mr. Finch stated the department heads have not met since December. Kudos to the first responders working in the cold and Public Works sometimes for 10-12 hours at a time. Mr. Finch spoke on Freedom of Speech and the attacks over the last few years. We can speak without the nastiness. Residents don't want to hear that nonsense. The village is not broke, but department heads have been told not to spend money unnecessarily.

Anyone wanting to meet to discuss the finances can make an appointment on Saturday or Sunday after church.

E) Community Development - Interim Director Hilda Fernandez  
Report given by Cathy Boettcher.

During the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> the Community Development Department brought in \$12,121.00 in revenue.

29 Building Inspections, 33 inspections, 15 new contractor licenses

F) Public Works- Interim Director Adam Winiecke- Absent

**9. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES -NONE**

- A) Trustee Aretha Burns
- B) Trustee Raven Johnson
- C) Trustee Tyesha Jones
- D) Trustee Diane Sapp
- E) Trustee Michelle Sterling
- F) Trustee Dr. Tonyia Winston

**10. GENERAL COMMENTS FROM MAYOR MARVA CAMPBELL- PRUITT- NONE**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

MAYOR MARVA ASKED FOR A MOTION FOR A CONSENSUS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:40 PM.

MOTION: TRUSTEE JOHNSON      SECOND: TRUSTEE WINSTON

ALL TRUSTEES RESPONDED IN FAVOR.

SAUK VILLAGE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

---



BOARD MEETING REPORT

January 23, 2026

Reporting Period December 20, 2025 to January 23, 2026

The Police Department answered 633 calls for service.

The Police Department had 18 arrests for the reporting period.

The Department had the following online training classes offered through Police Law Institute:  
New Illinois laws-

Conducted Emergency Response Class (CPR) conducted by D/C Barret of the Fire Department

End of Report

Respectfully,

  
Mack Sanders  
Chief of Police

**SAUK VILLAGE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

---



"Pride & Progress"

January 26, 2026

Chief Sanders-

These are the total tickets that were written for the months of: **November, December, and January 25, 2026.**

November 2025: Total Tickets: 69 Snow Tickets: 40

**Total Fine Amount: \$3,950.00**

**Snow Ticket Amount: \$2,000.00**

December 2025: Total Tickets: 44 Snow Tickets: 5

**Total Fine Amount: \$2,800.00**

**Snow Ticket Amount: \$1,500.00**

January 2026 up to the date of 01/26/2026: 61 tickets Snow Tickets: 30 tickets

**Total Fine Amount: \$3,050.00**

**Snow Ticket Amount: \$1,500.00**

**Ticket total: 174 tickets**

**Total fine amount: \$12,650.00**

**Total snow ticket amount: \$3,750.00**

Respectfully,

*Jacelyn K. Hooks*

Sauk Village Police Department

**Records Division**



# SAUK VILLAGE

• FIRE DEPARTMENT •

---

## Community Safety Outreach

Residents are also encouraged to inspect and replace or clean furnace filters as needed. Dirty filters can contribute to carbon monoxide buildup, reduced heating efficiency, and increased fire risk.

### Free Smoke Detectors

The Sauk Village Fire Department currently has free smoke detectors available for Sauk Village residents.

Residents in need may contact the Fire Department to obtain detectors and request installation assistance if necessary.

---

## Winter Safety Message

As we enter the heart of winter, the Fire Department reminds residents of the increased risks associated with prolonged cold weather. This season typically brings a rise in furnace malfunctions, frozen pipes, and carbon monoxide incidents.

Residents are encouraged to:

- Ensure heating systems are functioning properly
- Verify that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are operational
- Use space heaters only according to manufacturer instructions and never leave them unattended
- Check on elderly neighbors or individuals who may require assistance during extreme cold

The Fire Station remains available as a warming center for residents experiencing unsafe indoor temperatures. Assistance or information is available by calling 708-758-2225.

---

## Closing

The Sauk Village Fire Department extends its gratitude to our residents, village leadership, and dedicated personnel for their continued support.

We wish everyone a safe, blessed, and meaningful Thanksgiving holiday.



# SAUK VILLAGE

## • FIRE DEPARTMENT •

### Sauk Village Fire Department Monthly Report

---

#### Calls for Service

During this reporting period, the Sauk Village Fire Department responded to a total of 126 calls for service, broken down as follows:

- Structure Fires: 5
- Motor Vehicle Accidents (10-50s): 7
- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Calls: 101
- Fire Alarm Activations: 5
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms: 3
- Service Calls: 5

The department continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to rapid response, operational efficiency, and professional service to the residents of Sauk Village.

---

#### Training and Professional Development

The Fire Department logged 54 hours of training during the month, reflecting our continued emphasis on readiness and professional growth.

Training topics included:

- Thermal Imaging Cameras
- Four-Gas Detection Meters
- Reading Smoke Conditions

Upcoming training is scheduled for the week of January 26<sup>th</sup>, reinforcing the department's response to Carbon Monoxide (CO) Emergencies.

---

#### Intergovernmental Cooperation: Ambulance Donation

During the past month, the Sauk Village Fire Department completed the donation of a surplus ambulance to the City of Harvey Fire Department. This donation will assist Harvey as they work to reestablish Emergency Medical Services for their community.

We extend sincere thanks to the Mayor and Village Board for approving this action and recognizing the importance of regional cooperation. Your support enabled us to assist a neighboring municipality in a meaningful and impactful manner.

# Memo

**To:** Mayor Marva Campbell-Pruitt  
**From:** Freddy McMillon  
**cc:** Anthony Finch, Village Administrator  
**Date:** 01/10/2026  
**Re:** Finance Department Report – January 2026

---

## **PRIOR PERIOD FINANCES:**

The status of the Village of Sauk Village's finances is presently **impaired**.

The Village is currently four financial audits behind. Last financial records submitted for an audit were fiscal period 2020-2021. In speaking with a representative of the current audit firm, Baker and Tilley, they are prepared to issue a 'no opinion' audit statement for this audit. This is to say that the condition of the Village's financial records presented for this audit were in such disarray that this firm was unable to provide any productive critique, instruction or resolution on them. The former finance team did not produce accurate reconciled bank accounts, perform any account adjustments, or close fiscal periods. These impediments were aggregated to future fiscal periods and must be rectified one year at a time. **Solution:** After discussing possibilities with auditors, we are currently trying to complete bank reconciliations for 2021-2022, which we hope will create a feasible path for the future.

The detriment of being behind in audits decreases the Village's ability to apply for certain financial opportunities (i.e. certain grants, federal dollars, credit lines, etc.); and it jeopardizes fiscal accountability based on practical government financial practices. Whereas, I am not requesting a fraud audit, conditions of fiscal records are such that preparing documentation and locating files from prior periods for future audits has been dismal, at best. This situation has hampered the Village with compliance audits with entities like IMRF and MFT. **Solution:** We are utilizing a part-time employee to go through the mountains of documents and sort banking files to assist in finding some needed records. I have gone through training, obtained access to necessary software and updated our IMRF submissions, so that we are current. We are working with MFT to get them required data.

As the lead of the Finance Team, I am concentrating on these audits, to bring the Village's finances back into compliance. Unfortunately, I found bank reconciliements were incomplete in 2021-2022, as multiple transactions were not recorded, and activities were posted incorrectly in the software. This means that cash was not tied out to bank statements and true balances were not maintained. This makes providing an accurate cashflow statement improbable. Which is why I am reluctant to provide financial records that display any dollar amounts. **Solution:** We have set a deadline for finishing all bank reconciliements for 2021-2022 by the end of February 2026. Per our discussion with the auditor, if we can reconcile this period's cash to an acceptable amount of loss, then we can probably produce auditable records by which an opinion can be made. The goal is to tie out cash, by which reclassifications can be made to place dollars in proper accounts. However, without additional staffing, it may take longer. This will push back the availability of financial records for the next fiscal audit of 2021-2022. I am recommending that a Senior Accountant and Staff Accountant be hired as soon as possible. These individuals will need governmental accounting experience and full-time availability.

For all previously unaudited fiscal years, cash must be reconciled, accounts may require reclassifications of erroneously posted dollars, and documents must be retrieved and made available to auditors. I recommend that the Senior Accountant, Staff Accountant and I work primarily on these items until we can bring the Village's audit delinquencies within two years (2025-2026 and 2026-2027). Remember, we need to be within two audit years to apply for many financial opportunities. This process may take a few years, but it will leave the Village in a more substantial fiscal accountability position. This work will also enable the Village to purchase upgraded software for accounting and utility processing, which must work together with each other. The disarray of financial records includes the software. The adage – Garbage in, Garbage Out, applies here. If we upgrade or switch software with bad balances and unreconciled accounts, that will be transferred to the new software. We are optimistic that we will be able to transmogrify enough errors in the current system to make it possible to obtain new software that is user-friendly and accommodating to our team.

## **CURRENT FINANCES:**

Property tax receipts for 2025-2026 second disbursement have been delayed. This is a disruption in budgeted cashflow for the remainder of this fiscal year. **Solution:** A summary 'Freeze' on spending is in effect. Emergency and necessary purchases are being made, with priority being given to residential safety and essential service's needs.

Procurement matters seem to be a major obstacle with the Village. These contradictions, bureaucratic objections and ill-timed delays cost the Village – by causing halts to receipt of needed services and items. The Village loses out on cost-savings, hampered vendor relations and poor buying practices. I am attaching a copy of a proposed procurement policy that I believe can resolve many of these issues. If approved and abided by the Administration and Board, purchases should flow easier.

Sauk Village has not provided three (3) previous fiscal periods of Treasury Reports to Cook County. These reports list revenues and expenditures per fiscal years. These deficiencies are usually results of disorganized financial records, insufficient staffing, and reluctance or

unfamiliarity of the previous finance team to provide this information. **Solution:** The Village Administrator and I will work on extracting required information for submittals to the County.

The Village has many outstanding legal concerns that may have a financial impact. The Fiscal Team needs to know the status of those suits; and any financial problems they may have in future fiscal periods, as they must be reported to auditors. Whenever possible, the attorneys need to advise the fiscal team of these cases. We should discuss possible settlements and/or solutions to these issues – to insure the fiscal soundness of the Village.

I sent out requests for return of Village dollars by persons that travelled for the Village's benefit. I was met with objections, but for the most part, responses have been amenable. My memorandum was not posed to be a threat, but the implementation of strategic actions that the fiscal team should follow when dealing with delinquent accounts. We should not engage with those that properly owe the Village but provide our attorneys with a list of persons that we wish to have legal accords accessed to collect those funds.

#### **OTHER MATTERS:**

The Mayor and Trustees adopted Ordinance #25-010, Abating a Tax for General Obligation Tax Increment Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A on December 9, 2025. This abatement transferred \$464,200.00 dollars to the Bond Fund to pay 2025 obligations for the Series 2019A bonds. This ordinance was certified by the Village Clerk on the same day.

The Mayor and Trustees adopted Ordinance #25-011, Abating a Tax for General Obligation Refunding Tax Increment Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019C on December 9, 2025. This abatement transferred \$2,261,000.00 dollars to the Bond Fund to pay 2025 obligations for the Series 2019c bonds. This ordinance was certified by the Village Clerk on the same day.

The Mayor and Trustees adopted Ordinance #25-012, The Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the 2025 Tax Year on December 9, 2025. This ordinance was certified by the Village Clerk on the same day. The amount of the Levy was \$2,891,354.00.