

VILLAGE COUNCIL

MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*

ROBERT PESTRONK, *Chairman*

DANIEL AHR, *Vice Chairman*

MARTHA SOLT, *Secretary*

ROY SCHAEFFER, *Treasurer*

MICHAEL MEZEY

CHERYL TYLER

JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

**FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE
COUNCIL**

Conducted via Livestream Monday,

March 10, 2025

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor

Bobby Pestronk, Chairman

Daniel Ahr, Vice Chairman

Martha Solt, Secretary

Roy Schaeffer, Treasurer

Michael Mezey

Cheryl Tyler

Julian Mansfield, Village Manager

Jason Goldstein, Assistant Village Manager/Chief Innovation Officer

RECORDING OF MEETING

Recording of this meeting may be found at:

<https://www.regionalwebtv.com/village-of-friendship-heights>: The reference time on the recording time is noted for each topic.

CALL TO ORDER (00:00:02)

- Chair's announcements (00:00:16)
- Village Manager's Report (00:14:41)
- Comments from the public
 - o Lynn Welley (00:18:40)

- o **Al Muller (00:22:53)**
- o **Ken Niles (00:26:30)**
- o **Evan Smith (00:29:50)**
- o Comments from the Council (00:31:56)
- o Mayor's announcements (00:36:32)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (00:37:51)

- o Public session minutes of February 10 Council meeting
- o **Councilmember Solt moved, Mayor White seconded, to adopt the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Council meeting. (For: Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, White, Pestronk; Against: none; Abstain: Ahr, Tyler)**

TREASURER'S REPORT (00:40:33)

OLD BUSINESS (00:51:01)

- o Discussion/vote on recommendation from Parks and Grounds Committee for signage in Village parks (00:51:01)
- o **Councilmember Ahr moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded, to express to the community our expectations for behavior in the Village's parks.**
- o **Councilmember Schaeffer moved to amend the motion to discuss signs posting park rules. Councilmember Ahr and Councilmember Mezey accepted the amendment. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Tyler, White, Pestronk; Against: Schaeffer, Solt; Abstain: none)**

NEW BUSINESS (01:21:05)

- o Discussion/vote on Village property tax rate for FY 2026 (01:21:05)
- o **Councilmember Schaeffer moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded to commit an additional \$250,000 from the Donohoe air rights payment to the capital improvement account budget for 2026. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White; Against: Pestronk; Abstain: none)**
- o Discussion/vote on revision to Village investment policy (removed)
- o Approval of Red House lease (removed)
- o Appointment of election judges for Village Council election (01:22:28)

- o **Councilmember Ahr moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded, to appoint the following three people as Council election judges: Phyllis Meltzer, Bill Corey, Andrew Friedson. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White; Pestronk Against: none; Abstain: none)**
- o Discussion/vote on proposals for New Initiatives budget and recommendations from Community Advisory Committee (01:24:23)
- o **Councilmember Solt moved, Councilmember Tyler seconded, to accept the File of Life project to be funded at \$2,200 and to direct the Village Manager to work out logistics. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White, Pestronk; Against: none; Abstain: none)**
- o Discussion/vote on purchasing speed radar sign to be donated to the Montgomery County Police Department for use on Willard Avenue (removed)
- o Discussion/vote on EV charging stations (01:42:33)
- o **Councilmember Solt moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded, to approve allocation of \$25,000 to the capital budget in 2026 for the purchase and installation of two level 2 charging stations and to direct the Village Manager to work with Council Members to identify optimal locations on village owned or controlled property, and bring the final proposal back to the Council for approval. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White, Pestronk; Against: none; Abstain: none)**
- o Discussion/vote on Personnel Committee recommendations for staff salary general increase and change to benefit eligibility requirements (02:01:40.28)
- o **Councilmember Solt moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded, to increase staff salaries across the board by 3.5 percent starting July 1, 2025. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White, Pestronk; Against: none; Abstain: none)**
- o **Mayor White moved, Councilmember Mezey seconded, to require newly hired employees to work an average of 30 hours per week per pay period for full-time benefit eligibility. (For: Ahr, Mezey, Schaeffer, Solt, Tyler, White, Pestronk; Against: none; Abstain: none)**

ADJOURNMENT (02:21:28)

- o The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

 4/17/2025

Martha Solt, Council Secretary