

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK
HELD ON January 13, 2026, 8:00 P.M.

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Shawn Staples, Police Chief; Mr. Brian Kolosh, Fire Chief; Mr. Ed Stewart, Director Recreational Services; Mr. Travis Bandstra, Director Community Development; Mr. Michael Cramer, Director Public Works; Mr. Tim Lapp, Village Attorney; Mr. John Hilsen, Village Engineer; Ms. Pat Mahon, Deputy Village Administrator; Mr. Will Neibert, Assistant to Village Administrator

Absent: Mr. J Wynsma, Village Administrator; Mr. Dillion Herman, Village Treasurer; Ms. Julia Huisman, Director of Communications

President De Graff called the meeting to order, and Clerk Penman called the roll.

Present: Trustees Larry De Young, Cindy Nylen, John Russell, Andrew Johnson and Prince Reed

Absent with Notice: Trustee Vickie Perkins

Pastor Phil Tarver of United Faith Center Ministries opened our meeting with a prayer. President De Graff thanked Pastor Tarver.

Minutes

Trustee Nylen moved that the reading of the **Minutes of the December 9, 2025**, meeting be dispensed with, copies thereof having been distributed to each trustee, and the **Minutes** as presented be approved. Trustee De Young seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Nylen, De Young, Russell, Johnson and Reed

Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Resident Comments

A resident expressed concerns with a video of her home being posted on Facebook by a realtor. Her home is not for sell and she did not give her permission to have her home included in the post. She sees this as an invasion of her privacy, which has left her feeling unsafe. Her concerns have been further exacerbated by the fact that the Village logo was on the post, which seems to imply that the realtor has been sanctioned by the Village. She placed a call to the realtor but has not heard back. President De Graff assured her that the realtor was not sanctioned by the Village. Mr. Lapp will investigate the legalities of the logo being used in the post and Chief Staples will follow up on the safety issue.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Hilsen had no report this evening.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Lapp presented a **Consent Agenda** containing seven items:

- a. Ordinance 2026-01: Conditional Use – Bauer Built – 555 E 162nd Street
- b. Ordinance 2026-02: Conditional Use – Top Hat Car Wash – 16035 Van Dam Road
- c. Ordinance 2026-03: Adoption of 2021 International Code Council (ICC) Building Codes & Amendments to Buildings and Building Regulations
- d. Ordinance 2026-04: Adoption of 2021 International Code Council (IFC) Fire Code
- e. Ordinance 2026-05: Authorizing Acceptance of the Right-Away – 16645 Vincennes Avenue
- f. Ordinance 2026-07: Declaring Certain Property as Surplus
- g. Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Property to Cook County Land Bank – 14728 Riverside Avenue

President De Graff asked the Trustees if there were any items, they wish to have removed from the Consent Agenda, if not, is there a motion to approve. Trustee Russell moved to approve the **Consent Agenda** as presented. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Russell, Johnson, De Young, Nylen and Reed

Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Community Development

Trustee DeYoung shared that we had 55 building permits last month, with a valuation of more than \$48,000,000.

Parks and Recreation

In Trustee Perkins' absence, Trustee Nylen shared that on Friday January 23, get ready for an unforgettable night of music as hometown artist Paul Hall brings his signature sound to South Holland. Known for productions honoring legends like Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan, Earth, Wind & Fire,

Frankie Beverly, and more. Pre- registration is required by January 16th. Doors open at 6pm, show starts promptly at 7pm.

Park permits for the 2026 calendar year are now available. Residents are encouraged to come in early to secure your favorite location for your summer family gatherings. Permit holders must be South Holland residents. Proof of residency is required.

Community Life

Trustee Nylen shared that our annual **Martin Luther King Tribute** will be held this Saturday, January 17, beginning at 10am at Spirit of God Fellowship. This event features music, performing arts, and a powerful message by Pastor Ray Bady of Valley Kingdom Ministries. Light refreshments will be served following the service.

The Village encourages all South Holland residents and business owners to sign up for **Smart911** Emergency Alerts. You can receive alerts via text, voice message or email about weather events, major road closures, and other emergencies within the Village. To sign up for the alerts, visit southholland.org/smart911.

Finance

Trustee Russell moved for **Approval of payments of vouchers as listed on Registers #228, 229, 230, 231, and 232 for a total of \$10,145,429.55** covering day-to-day operations, vendor payments and payroll. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Russell, Johnson, De Young, Nylen and Reed

Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Public Safety

Trustee Johnson shared that the South Holland Fire Department recently celebrated the retirement of Lieutenant Steven Devaney on January 6, 2026. Lieutenant Devaney served the community for over 30 years, including 26 years with the Fire Department. During his career he earned his Paramedic certification, graduated from the Fire Academy, became an Arson Investigator, was hired full-time in 2002 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2022. He also served on several committees supporting department operations and leadership. His experience and commitment helped shape the department and prepare the next generation of firefighters.

The department also recognizes the retirement of Deputy Chief Bryant Krizik on January 9, 2026. Deputy Chief Krizik provided 10 years of service to South Holland and 45 years of total service to the fire service. His career included service with multiple departments and a lasting impact as an instructor with the Moraine Valley Community College Fire Science Program, where he mentored and developed future firefighters and officers. His leadership and dedication have left a strong foundation for continued growth and professionalism within the department.

Earlier this afternoon, Firefighters Michael Scanlon and Thomas Farr were promoted to Lieutenant, filling two vacant positions created by recent promotions and retirements. These promotions reflect the department's ongoing commitment to developing strong leadership and ensuring continuity, experience, and operational readiness for the future.

Congratulations to all and thank you for your service to the Village of South Holland.

As winter weather continues, the South Holland Police Department reminds residents to stay safe and be prepared for changing conditions. Please monitor weather advisories, keep emergency supplies in your vehicle, and limit travel during severe weather when possible. Additionally, as temperatures drop, remember not to leave your vehicle running unattended while warming it up, and always lock your vehicle when not in use. These simple steps can help reduce the risk of vehicle theft and keep our community safe.

Public Works

Trustee Reed shared that construction on the **Family Athletic Center** is continuing between bursts of winter weather. Footing, foundations, and the rerouting of ComEd lines will take place over the next couple of months in preparation for the construction of the building.

Construction continues at the location of the **SoHo Shops at Town Center**. Public Works has installed the water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure. Electrical conduits will be installed soon, and the remaining tiny shops will be delivered. Work is anticipated to be substantially completed by April.

As Town Center grows and changes, the Village has identified parking as a major concern. Beginning in late January, contractors will construct two large parking lots on the Old Roosevelt School and the current Roosevelt Park area. The addition of well-lit, safe, and landscaped parking areas will be a huge benefit to the visitors, workers, and businesses in Town Center.

Starting in the spring and continuing through the fall, Public Works will be removing all of the Callary Pear Trees on South Park Ave from 160th Place to 161st Place and replanting new trees down the corridor. The current trees were planted more than 20 years ago and have outgrown the tree wells, contributing to poor health and damage to infrastructure. We will replace the trees with a variety of species to provide interest and color throughout the year.

President DeGraff spoke of the many plans and work underway with the Town Center projects. There is a lot to look forward to, with what is going to be happening to the heart of our town. Town Center won’t look anything like it does today. We will have the new Family Athletic Center and the SoHo Shops, a gathering of new incubator-type businesses that are going to bring a lot of life to Town Center and South Park Ave. We are excited about the future!

There being no additional business to come before the President and Board of Trustees, Trustee Nylen moved that this meeting adjourn. Trustee De Young seconded the motion. Ayes all on the roll. Meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting of the President and the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2026, at 8:00 PM, in the Council Room of the Municipal Building, County of Cook, South Holland, Illinois.

Sallie D. Penman, Clerk

Approved by:

President