

JOHNSON VILLAGE TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026

Present:

Trustees: Ellis O'Hear, Will Jennison, BJ Putvain, Darrell Wescom

Others: Erik Bailey, Ashley Isabell

Absent: Ken Tourangeau

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. *Call to Order*

BJ called the meeting to order at 6:02.

2. *Review of Agenda and Any Adjustments, Changes and Additions*

No changes to the agenda were needed.

3. *Review and Approve Minutes of Trustee Meetings*

Approval of minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

4. *Members of the Public*

No members of the public were present.

5. *Moldy Boxes of Vault Files, Employee Safety, Town Industrial Park*

BJ said the village says the boxes of moldy documents mostly belong to the town. The town says they mostly belong to the village. No one really knows. The idea was that Rosemary was going to go through them, but that didn't happen. He thinks an outside source that deals with mold should come and deal with them, but employees would need to be involved. Erik said he is willing to put on a mask and do a quick inventory to determine who owns most of them.

Darrell suggested that we could move the boxes to the mill house. BJ said we could hold them there for the minimum amount of time required and then throw them away. Erik said different types of documents have to be held for different amount of time. Land records have to be kept forever, but these are not land records. There are some things that we are not required to keep but that are still useful to have. BJ asked where these were taken from. Erik said from the floor of the vault. BJ said they could be important then. Erik said there are probably two dozen boxes. Ellis asked about the possibility of storing them in the cold storage building. There was discussion about space that might be available there.

BJ suggested that before the next meeting Erik should notify the town administrator that we plan to move the boxes by a certain date and that the town should respond before then if they have any issues. The board agreed to that. Will said we should have addressing the boxes on our radar for next year's budget.

BJ said he thinks we should have cameras at the 2 exterior doors and in the reception area. The selectboard discussed the idea at a recent meeting and they discussed paying half the cost, with the village to pay the other half. Cameras could be a deterrent and if something happens they could provide evidence.

Will asked Ashley if she feels cameras at the entrances would be beneficial to her safety. Ashley said she would say so. She finds it strange that we don't have cameras.

Will said he thinks it warrants research on cost. BJ said he thinks the cost would probably be \$300 for three cameras. The annual fee for storage would be about \$100 per year. Will suggested an alternative would be to use local storage that would get overwritten after a certain amount of time. He suggested doing research and coming back with prices for different options. BJ said one unknown cost is the cost to have an electrician put in three plugs. Will suggested the cameras could be hardwired to a hard drive. It was agreed that BJ will look into options

Darrell said he is curious about who is responsible for the water and sewer lines at the town industrial park that are within the village limits. He believes the gate valve should be at the bottom of the complex and the town should be responsible for maintenance and repairs within the industrial park.

Erik said the town said it is the village's choice how much we own. If we don't want to own what is in the industrial park, we don't have to. Darrell said he doesn't think there is a benefit to us from owning it. BJ asked if Erik can get a copy of the map of the industrial park and send it to board members. He suggested letting the town know sooner rather than later that we want them to own the infrastructure in the park.

6. ***Executive Session to Conduct Interviews***

BJ moved to go into executive session as allowed by 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to conduct interviews for the open office assistant, Darrell seconded and the motion was passed at 6:26.

The board came out of executive session at 8:00.

Will moved to hire Lauren Stoddard as the office administrative assistant, which will be a 32 hour per week position with a starting wage of \$22.50 per hour, increasing to \$23.50 per hour after the 6-month probationary period, BJ seconded and the motion was passed.

7. ***Adjourn***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01.