Village of Byron
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Stevens

Pledge of Allegiance Led By: President Stevens

Roll Call – Present: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Also Present: Village Administrator Todd Thomas and Reed, Clerk. Marc Arter, DPW; Mellentine, Treasurer; and Attorney Gormley.

Approval of Agenda: Willett moved to approve the agenda; McDowell seconded. Voice Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes for August 10, 2026, and August 24, 2026, as written. Motion by Willett; seconded by Campbell. Voice Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None

Public Comments-Agenda Items: The public discussed the placement of the Veterans Memorial in the cemetery and requested a different location, such as Eagle Park, on the school grounds, the corner lots owned by Ambrose, the fire department, or by the fallen soldier in the cemetery. Some other areas in the cemetery were suggested. They felt like it was just a Sexton project without any input from other sources. They felt we were being vicious against a neighbor and that markers were moved and that people are buried under the proposed area. They said it should have been discussed. Council members said they would take into consideration placing the memorial in another area and said we are not attacking or being vicious to anyone. We are only discussing the Veterans Memorial, which has to be placed on Village property. Another public member asked about dredging Shaw Lake (Byron Mill Pond). They added maybe a local farmer could do it. Stevens said we will check into it.

Treasurer's Report –Mellentine read report. Guttersohn motioned to accept report pending audit; seconded by Bibbee. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None. She also informed council of a CPFA membership to complete her training for $200.00. She said she still had money in her training account for it. Mellentine gave an audit summary stating that the audit completed is outstanding debt completed with an unmodified clean audit. The general fund saw an increase. Mellentine also said Kim said Thank you for letting me work for the Village of Byron.

Approval of Bills: Campbell reported 38 Checks with zero voided, 225E-227E, 29540-29574, totaling $74,546.68. Willett moved to pay the bills; seconded by Chapman. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None

Bills Awaiting Approval (Blue Folder)- None

Committee Reports:

Police Report- Guttersohn read the report.

DPW Report – Thomas introduced the new DPW Operator, Mark Arter. Arter mowed and weed-whipped from Lehring Road to Silver Lake and the Byron Road branch. All of us welcomed Arter.

Cemetery Report: Guttersohn read the report. Guttersohn explained that he met with Home Depot about the Veterans Memorial, and they will supply all materials for our project. The Village needs to remove the sod, bring the area up to grade, install the flagpoles, and have one or two porta-johns. Home Depot will take care of the rest; possible to have it done in one day, and it will take place in October. The name of the memorial will be The Ellen May Tower Veterans Memorial, as she is the icon of the cemetery. Members of the public claimed the Village has attacked Woodard, and McDowell asked how we have attacked her. They also requested a design change. All of Council requested a copy of the unrecorded deed. Gormley said there is a 40-year rule for unrecorded deeds, or it could be a wild deed. Willett, Bibbee, and Stevens thanked all for coming to the meeting and sharing their concerns. More discussion took place on the subject.

Village/Zoning Administrator/ Code Enforcement: Thomas reported no permits at this time. He said he has been going around with Arter and that they have done some restoration on Eagle Park (reseeded, added straw, and weeded). Shoulder restoration is a future project, along with Arter keeping a list of signs needing replacement. He added that Arter has a plan for hydrant flushing. Thomas lowered the dam gate and had issues with the I-beams, along with rust holes. A resident suggested contacting the Corps of Engineers for repair. The opening by the railroad tracks, approximately a 3x4 opening, would cost $700.00 or $800.00 for a lid. Possible to do in-house.

DDA Report: Baker-Murph said the Planning Commission went over the temporary use ordinance, and I have a meeting with Gormley on Thursday. I would like council to approve it at their next meeting. Pavillion is completed. Fishing platform cost has risen, and the contractor was injured but is recovering.

Commissioner Report: Howard said they are looking for prosecutors to replace those who have left. Boilers for the early voting building need to be replaced. We are doing some zoning changes on M52 and Grand River, from a doctor's office to a veterinary clinic. Applied for the Woodberry grants for the drug court. Campbell asked when the county was going to mow shoulders, and Howard said to call the road commission.
911 Commission: None

Old Business: None

New Business:
Event Permits: Stevens went over each permit. Homecoming permit motion by Willett to approve; seconded by McDowell. Voice Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None. Car Show permit motion to approve by Guttersohn; seconded by Bibbee. Voice Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None

Any Other Business from Council /Comments: Stevens said that Beverly is asking for a parade committee because the Chamber is being closed down. Bibbee thanked everyone for the signs and flower boxes, and for those who attended the meeting. If anyone is interested in attending a recycling event on September 17, 2026, let me know. They are providing free lunch. Willett said Come to the car

show; it supports the fireworks. Thomas said thanks to Guttersohn for fixing the truck, Kundinger for backhoe repairs, Mellentin and Reed for their outstanding work, and also to the DDA and Council for moving forward and supporting us. Mellentine and Stevens said thanks to all.

Items For Next Agenda: None

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:11 pm; moved by Guttersohn and seconded by McDowell. Voice Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Bibbee, Willett, Chapman, McDowell, Campbell, and Stevens. Nays: None. Absent: None

MaReed	10/12/26	Vicki Stevens
Marsha Reed, Clerk	Date	Vicki Stevens, President