



Meeting Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Spesia called the Coal City Village Board Meeting to order on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM. A roll call was conducted with Trustees Dave Togliatti, Trustee Pam Noffsinger, Trustee Ross Bradley, Trustee Bill Mincey, and Trustee CJ Lauterbur present. Absent, Trustee Dan Greggain. Also in attendance were Attorney Mark Heinle, Matt Halloran of Chamlin Engineering, Chief Mike Imhof and Matt Fritz, Village Administrator.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mayor Spesia asked if there were any corrections, comments, or questions regarding the June 24, 2026 Village Board meeting minutes. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve.

Motion to approve the June 24, 2026 Village Board meeting minutes was made by Trustee Togliatti and seconded by Trustee Lauterbur. The motion carried with all Trustees voting yes.

4. Approval of Warrant List

Mayor Spesia asked if there were any questions from the Board regarding the warrant list. Hearing none the motion to approve was made.

Motion to approve the warrant list was made by Trustee Mincey and seconded by Trustee Lauterbur. The motion carried with all trustees voting yes.

5. Public Comment

Mayor Spesia outlined the rules governing public comment, including the three-minute per speaker limit, a 30-minute aggregate cap, and requirements for civil discourse. The overwhelming majority of comments during this session were focused on the proposed Aligned Data Centers development. The following residents addressed the Board.

Donna Petty, resident of Diamond, expressed opposition to the proposed data center. She cited concerns raised in another community regarding similar projects and questioned the financial structure of the proposed TIF district, potential tax incentives, and long-term fiscal impacts. She urged the Board to require strong community protections, including enforceable agreements, local labor provisions, monitoring requirements, and accountability measures if the project proceeds.

Amy Schoeneck, resident of Morris, formally Coal City, expressed concern about the proposed data center and requested greater transparency throughout the process. She encouraged the Board to consider the views of the broader community when making its decision.

Luke Konechy, resident of Coal City, expressed opposition to the project. He raised concerns regarding the ownership and scale of the proposed development, questioned comparisons to other

management for adjacent neighborhoods. Chamlin Engineering has prepared a professional services agreement to design the project, manage the bidding process, and oversee the awarded contractor. The total fee for engineering services is \$5,000. The Board expressed a desire to have the work completed by year's end, weather permitting. Village Engineer Ryan Hansen noted the design work would likely take only a few weeks.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Chamlin Engineering to complete the necessary work to gather bids and oversee the work of the successful contractor related to cleaning the stormwater ditch alongside the ComEd easement was made by Trustee Lauterbur and seconded by Trustee Mincey. The motion carried with all Trustees voting yes.

7. Authorize Final Payment for S. Broadway Reconstruction

Village Administrator Fritz presented this item as the formal close-out of the South Broadway Reconstruction Project, which originated in 2014. The State of Illinois, having completed its final accounting, billed the Village for its remaining 20% local match obligation under the Local Partner Agency (LPA) Agreement with IDOT. The total local agency share for the project was \$967,496.18; after crediting previous payments of \$774,149.08, the final amount due is \$193,347.10. This payment will be made from the Village's TIF fund and brings the project to full closure.

Motion to authorize the final payment under the LPA Agreement to IDOT for the Village's 20% match of \$193,347.10 was made by Trustee Bradley and seconded by Trustee Lauterbur. The motion carried with all Trustees voting yes.

8. Authorize Mayor to Enter into Contract for Fall Fest Laser Show

Village Administrator Fritz presented a contract with Laser Encore, Inc. for a 20-minute outdoor laser light show to be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at Fall Fest. The Festival and Events Committee recommended the laser show as this year's featured entertainment attraction, following the successful drone show held the prior year. The total contract cost is \$9,500, paid in two installments of \$4,750 each. The Village will also be responsible for providing a hotel room for the crew and renting a snorkel lift to erect the projection screen. Village Attorney Heinle noted that the contract's jurisdiction clause requires any litigation to be venued in Minnesota, and recommended attempting to negotiate Illinois jurisdiction, though he did not consider it a deal-breaker given the low likelihood of litigation. He suggested approving the contract subject to final negotiation on that point. Mayor Spesia also asked that the cancellation deposit language be clarified to allow for rescheduling rather than forfeiture in the event of rain.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Laser Encore, Inc. for the provision of a laser light show on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at Fall Fest, pending legal review and final negotiation, was made by Trustee Lauterbur and seconded by Trustee Mincey. The motion carried with all Trustees voting yes.

9. Petition for Annexation of 320 W. Division

Village Administrator Fritz presented this item for Board review, noting that no action was required at this meeting. The property at 320 West Division Street, located at the northwest corner of Mary and Division Streets, is owned by Chad and Dana Grunwald and is approximately 2.13 acres currently

Village Engineer Matt reported that paving work at the water treatment plant was underway and anticipated to be substantially complete by the end of the week, with public works to follow with concrete work. Additional project specifications are being assembled for bid, with a bid date to be set later in the month. The Valerio Road bid opening is scheduled for the following week.

Regarding street improvements, a bid opening for Valerio Road was scheduled for June 14 at 10:00 AM, with Motor Fuel Tax and Non-MFT road projects to be bid shortly thereafter.

16. Report of the Chief of Police

Chief Imhof reported that the Fourth of July holiday weekend was safe, with multiple fireworks complaint calls but no injuries. Looking ahead, he noted that a community event — "Santa Claus Comes to Coal City" — is scheduled for the coming weekend from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, featuring show vehicles, family activities, and approximately 100 Marines participating in their Family Day celebration. Illinois Street will be closed in front of the baseball field for the event.

17. Report of the Village Administrator

Village Administrator Fritz reported that the Village has been coordinating with the Coal City Fire District to install a Nicor gas tap on the east side of Fire Station 1 to supply natural gas to both the fire district's and the Village's generators. The Nicor connection has been finalized, and a final invoice is pending. Fire Station 1 has moved into its new space and is currently retrofitting the original building.

Fritz also reported that Trustees Lauterbur, Togliatti, and staff member Brandon have been meeting with residents affected by the upcoming North Broadway construction project. A meeting with affected homeowners is planned for the following week to review large-format plans and continue moving the project forward.

18. Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn at 7:54pm was made by Trustee Lauterbur and seconded by Trustee Mincey.
The motion carried with all trustees voting yes.*

X 

Kayla Melvin
Village Clerk