

Village of West Salem
Public Hearing
Ordinance No. 540 – Amend Chapter 6 of the Village of West Salem Code of
Ordinances to Establish Two-Hour Parking on South Leonard Street
June 17, 2025

Public Hearing called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees Present: Anderson, Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, and Leicht. Excused: Twining. Also Present: Teri Gile, Shaun Mullikin, Henry Heider, Dana Heider, Joan N., Dave Bentzen, Stephanie Bentzen, Joyce McLaughlin, John Molitor, SJ Lander, David Hundt, Ben Van Horn, Police Chief Scott Alo, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

Ordinance No. 540, if adopted, would establish two-hour parking on South Leonard Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with a potential forfeiture of \$75.00 for violating the Ordinance.

Ben Van Horn of the American Legion spoke in opposition of the Ordinance. Mr. Van Horn stated the Ordinance would be detrimental to the fundraisers and programs that the Legion hosts, which has returned \$1.4 million back into the community.

Dave Hundt of Hunter's Bar and Grill spoke in opposition of the Ordinance. Mr. Hundt said he thought the Ordinance was poorly written and did not feel \$75 was a fair fine.

SJ Lander of Silverado's spoke in opposition of the Ordinance. Silverado's has parking in the back, but would have to start towing offenders that would begin to park back there to avoid the two-hour limit.

John Molitor of Little John's spoke in opposition of the Ordinance. Mr. Molitor said while he does park on the streets and has for 32 years, he is not opposed to parking elsewhere for the betterment of the parking situation. Being a tattoo artist, he has clients come from all over the area and many times their appointments take longer than two hours.

Joyce McLaughlan spoke in opposition of the Ordinance and advised the Board that public parking signage was lacking and it was hard to know where public parking is in the downtown area.

Dave Bentzen of B's Place spoke in opposition of the Ordinance and said while it does not directly affect him based on his location, it will cause Leonard Street North of Hamilton to fill up with cars, taking a lot of his parking.

Teri Gile spoke neither in agreement or opposition. Ms. Gile suggested that businesses work together and by having owners and employees park off the street in public parking, the parking issue will be greatly reduced.

In total, 16 residents were opposed and 5 were supportive.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Curtis to close the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer

Village of West Salem
Regular Meeting
June 17, 2025

Regular meeting called to order at 7:26 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Anderson, Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, and Leicht. Excused: Twining. Also present: Teri Gile, Shaun Mullikin, Henry Heider, Dana Heider, Joan N., Dave Bentzen, Stephanie Bentzen, Joyce McLaughlin, John Molitor, SJ Lander, David Hundt, Ben Van Horn, Police Chief Scott Alo, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Attorney Bryant Klos, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims were presented for payment totaling \$144,616.97.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve all claims as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Ordinance No. 540

Trustee Lautz stated he thought \$25 was reasonable for a fine and if the parking issue were to come up again, the Board may look to revisit a similar Ordinance at a later date, and agreed that public parking signage would be helpful.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve Ordinance No. 540 - Amend Chapter 6 of the Village of West Salem Code of Ordinances to Establish Two Hour Parking on South Leonard Street. Roll call vote: Unanimous nay. Motion denied.

Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve the issuance of a Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License to the Friends of West Salem Baseball for the 3rd Annual Ringers for Dingers Cornhole Fundraiser at the Lion's Shelter on July 13, 2025, and to waive the application fee of \$10. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Flags of Honor

On behalf of the American Legion Post 51 Building Remodeling Committee, Rita Schmitz submitted a request before the Board to use of the Village Park and the Village Park Shelter from Wednesday, September 3 through Sunday, September 7, 2025, for a Flags of Honor event.

Motion by Trustee Curtis, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve use of the Village Park and Shelter September 3 through September 7, 2025, as requested. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Resolution No. 7.25

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Lautz to approve Resolution 7.25 Fireworks Permit for Flags of Honor 2025. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Resolution No. 8.25

La Crosse County Supervisor Dave Hundt requested the Village Board of Trustees pass a Resolution requesting the La Crosse County Highway Department lower the speed limit on County Trunk Highway M from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour from its intersection with State Highway 16 extending approximately 2,700 feet north to the Village boundary to match the speed limit on County Trunk Highway M to the south of State Highway 16. Police Chief Scott Alo said there has been 25 accidents since January 1, 2022 on this particular stretch of County Trunk Highway M.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve Resolution No. 8.25 – Resolution Requesting Speed Limit Reduction on County Trunk Highway M within Village Limits. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Resolution No. 9.25

Public Works Director Loren Schwier advised the Board that Wastewater Superintendent Robert McDowell has been doing a great job of maintaining the plant and these numbers prove it.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve Resolution No. 9.25 – Compliance Maintenance Annual Report as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

2025-2026 License Applications

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the 2025-2026 License Applications as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz to convene in closed session at 7:40 p.m. pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, investment of public funds, and transfers of public properties, to-wit: negotiating the purchase of public properties. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Anderson to reconvene in open session at 8:27 p.m. Motion approved by voice vote.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer