

Village of West Salem
Public Hearing
August 3, 2026

Public hearing called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Absent: Anderson. Also present: Police Chief Scott Alo, Parks and Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

The public hearing concerns Ordinance No. 550, which if adopted, will amend Chapter 11 License and Permits to impose maximums on the number of dogs, the number of cats, and the number of rabbits allowed at each residence in the Village of West Salem.

There were no citizens present to speak for or against the proposed Ordinance.

Motion by Trustee, seconded by Trustee to close the public hearing at 6:58 p.m. Motion approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer

Village of West Salem
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2026

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, and Twining. Absent: Anderson. Also present: Police Chief Scott Alo, Parks and Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2026, regular meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims were presented for payment totaling \$125,330.64.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the payment of all claims as listed. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Flags of Honor

Motion by Trustee Twining, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve use of the Village Park and Shelter from Wednesday, September 9 through Sunday, September 13, 2026, for Flags of Honor event by American Legion Post 51 Remodeling Committee, as requested. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Ordinance No. 550

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve adoption of Ordinance No. 550 – Amend Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances to Impose Maximums on the Number of Dogs, the Number of Cats, and the Number of Rabbits Allowed at Each Residence in the Village of West Salem. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Ordinance No. 551

Ordinance No. 551 – Amend Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances to Revise the Parking Regulations on West Hamilton Street between Youlon and Leonard Street. The Ordinance will restrict the ability for vehicles to park on Leonard Street between Jefferson Street and Franklin Street, Mill Street between Jefferson Street and Hamilton Street, Hamilton Street from the north-south alley between Youlon Street and Mill Street, and Memorial Drive between 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., except on New Year's Eve.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to schedule a public hearing for Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 6:55 p.m. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Law Enforcement Committee

Chair Kevin Hennessey reported on the Law Enforcement Committee meeting minutes of July 21, 2026. The purpose of the meeting was to review for possible recommendation to the Village Board an Application to Exceed Animal Limit submitted by Ashley Dewester. Ms. Dewester requested a Permit to Exceed Pet Limit in order to keep three dogs. She currently keeps a spayed blue heeler/Labrador mix named Shilo, a spayed Dachshund named Dixie, and an unneutered Dachshund named Milo. Deb Rucinski distributed a copy of Shilo's Rabies Vaccination Certificate dated July 21, 2026, and it was noted that all three dogs are now current on vaccinations and have current licenses. The Committee discussed at length with Ms. Dewester the recent Animal Control welfare check incident report and a West Salem Police Department report. The Committee decided to recommend approval to the Village Board with the following conditions: the West Salem Police Department and La Crosse County Animal Control must conduct follow-up checks to evaluation animal health, welfare, and living environment; and the permittee shall allow the checks to be completed.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the Law Enforcement Committee meeting minutes of July 21, 2026, as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the issuance of a Special Permit to Exceed Pet Limit to Ashley Dewester, with the conditions that the WSPD and La Crosse County Animal Control conduct follow-up checks to evaluate animal health, welfare, and living environment, and that permittee shall allow the checks to be completed. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Law Enforcement Disciplinary Committee

Clerk Bohl reported on the Law Enforcement Disciplinary Committee meeting of July 27, 2026. The purpose of the meeting was the annual meeting as provided in West Salem Code of Ordinances Section 1.29 to elect a Chairperson. The Committee discussed the current Ordinance and would like to see it reviewed with possible amendments, at a later meeting. The Committee decided to review and make necessary adjustments to the existing Ordinance for procedure clarification.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the Law Enforcement Disciplinary Committee meeting minutes of July 27, 2026, as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

The minutes of the Joint Review Board meeting of July 29, 2026, were reviewed.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Twining to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer