RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

July 13, 2026

The Council of the Village of Coldwater held its regular meeting in the Village Council Chambers on July 13, 2026, with Mayor Doug Bertke presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was responded to by: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Buschur was absent. Also present were Village Manager Jason Eyink, Law Director Judy Koesters and Finance Director Dylan Schwieterman.

Invocation by Davis.

Guests included Kevin Wynk, Georgia Rindler, and Steve Hennessey.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Seitz to approve the minutes from June 8, 2026. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Bettinger, second by Davis to approve the bills. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Rutschilling, second by Niekamp to approve the agenda. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Motion Carried.

Comments from the Public: Steve Hennessey was a spokesman for a group of residents who were concerned about kids riding motorized devices. He questioned why moped drivers must be 14 years old or older and must go through the proper road test and wear a helmet while driving, but electric bike users have no restrictions, and any age can ride them. Bertke and Eyink both explained that it's currently state law that e-bikes are categorized as bicycles and that they have got to be careful with the restrictions they can enforce in Coldwater. Bertke agreed that this topic needs to be addressed and that council will schedule a safety committee meeting to discuss the issue.

Reports:

Police: Wynk wanted to thank the Coldwater American Legion for their $3,500 donation that will be used towards the VR Save a Life Tour which will present to the Coldwater High School students next school year. This program will raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving through interactive simulators.

Finance: Schwieterman discussed the cash position and tax report. Income taxes year to date through June were $467,214 higher than prior year at the same time. Schwieterman estimates that the Village is well on their way to reaching the budgeted revenue target at $3,500,000 for 2026.

Manager: Eyink said that the crews have been working on several concrete repairs to sidewalks and streets. ODOT has begun milling on the south end of Second Street this week and he hopes that they will start pouring asphalt Wednesday, July 15. Eyink mentioned the storm during the July 4th weekend knocked down three utility poles and several trees and branches fell at the park and around town. Lastly, he said that the new leaf machine is in and should be available for the crew to use this fall.

Mayor: None

Committee: None

Old Business:

New Business:

Ordinance 1778: An ordinance establishing amended appropriations of the Village of Coldwater for the fiscal year January 1 through December 31, 2026, and declaring an emergency. Ordinance 1778 received its first reading. A motion was made by Rutschilling, second by Bettinger to suspend the rules for Ordinance 1778. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Seitz, second by Niekamp to approve Ordinance 1778 on its first and final reading. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Rutschilling to approve the 2027 Tax Budget. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Seitz, Rutschilling, Niekamp, Bettinger, and Davis. Motion Carried.

Council Call-Final Comments:

Safety committee meeting will be held on July 27th at 6:15 PM

Bertke and many council members thanked the village crews and police department for their assistance in cleaning up the damage caused by the storm.

Eyink thanked Coverall Tree Service for coming out on the morning of July 4th to assist on the tree cleanup at the park for the Red, White, and Blue event later that afternoon.

Coldwater Community Clean-up is from July 16-July 18.

A motion to adjourn was made by Davis, second by Niekamp. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Douglas Bertke, Mayor

Attest: _____

Dylan Schwieterman, Clerk of Council