



**VILLAGE OF BARTLETT  
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held at:  
BARTLETT VILLAGE HALL  
228 South Main Street, Bartlett, IL  
December 8, 2025 – 6:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the November 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes
4. Public Comment
5. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Overview
6. Civic Funding
7. Merry & Bright Update
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

## **1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Stephanie Gandsey convened the inaugural meeting of the Community and Economic Affairs Commission at 6:00 PM on November 10, 2025. This new body marks a strategic transition, replacing the longstanding Economic Development Commission (EDC) with an integrated commission designed to weave together economic vitality and robust community engagement.

Ms. Gandsey's opening remarks established an atmosphere of optimism and teamwork, underscoring the Commission's role in advancing Bartlett's future through collaborative efforts. She expressed genuine appreciation for the attendees' punctuality despite logistical chaos elsewhere in the building and parking lot with other meetings going on.

## **2. Roll Call**

A quorum with ten of the eleven members was present. The attending commissioners were Chairperson Stephanie Gandsey, Kirsten Erickson, Jerry Kubaszko, Bruce Suffern, Mike Densford, Peggy O'Hare, Amy Tolosky, Dave Wetherton, Kinga Szkotak, and Blake Koch.

Commissioner Robert Gorski was absent.

## **3. Public Comment**

Ms. Gandsey then opened the floor for public comment. After a brief pause with no speakers, she acknowledged the sparse audience and moved on, reinforcing the Commission's dedication to transparency and public input by extending the invitation.

## **4. Introductions**

Before delving into introductions, Ms. Gandsey provided a quick technical orientation for first-time commissioners, reminding them to activate their microphones as the meeting is recorded and saved to the village website for public review, promoting both accountability and accessibility.

Village Administrator Paula Schumacher led the staff introductions followed by Economic Development Coordinator Tony Fradin, Community Engagement Coordinator Ricci Lucas, and Assistant Village Administrator Scott Skrycki, each briefly outlining their roles as foundational support for the Commission's work.

The commissioner introductions revealed a deep well of experience and passion for the village.

Dave Wetherton, a resident since 1971, painted a picture of steadfast community service, detailing his work with the Bartlett Lions Club, serving as Santa Claus, and Oktoberfest.

Jerry Kubaszko, a resident since 1972 and a veteran of the former EDC since its inception, provided a valuable historical perspective, musing on the village's evolution from about 5,000 people to today.

Blake Koch, the "newbie" with four years in town, brings contemporary entrepreneurial acumen from his logistics business and service on the 4th of July Commission.

Mike Densford described his prior EDC tenure and deep embedding in youth sports. His small business ownership, he explained, gives him intimate access to residents' opinions.

Amy Tolosky, a Bartlett native and first-time commissioner, expressed a straightforward motivation: to make Bartlett better.

Kinga Szkotak shared her story of arriving from Poland in 2017, opening a beauty salon in Bartlett in 2024, and expressing optimism for what the community could achieve together.

Kirsten Erickson framed herself as a dedicated participant with encyclopedic village knowledge, currently chairing the Chamber of Commerce board and advocating strongly for the TIF district.

Bruce Suffern traced a half-century arc in Bartlett, having founded Banbury Fair and innovated numerous downtown events. His advocacy centered on using events to draw people back to a viable downtown business district in the internet age.

Peggy O'Hare's described herself as a former business owner and current Chamber membership coordinator focused on driving active participation.

Chairperson Gandsey concluded the circle, sharing her own 16-year journey in Bartlett from EDC inception to Village Board election. Her professional background in marketing, communications, and now leadership training and consulting, she explained, funds her true passion: public service. She affirmed that love for the community was the common thread uniting everyone appointed by the mayor, a sentiment met with applause.

## **5. Administrator Schumacher remarks**

Paula Schumacher then addressed the commission with sincere gratitude and clear guidance. She personalized her welcome, noting that each member was selected for their unique experiences and perspectives, and that consensus from these viewpoints would form recommendations to the Village Board.

Her guidance delineated three core expectations. First, preparation: members must take their duty seriously and read their meeting packets thoroughly, as staff spend significant time compiling that foundational information. Second, engagement: members should

come ready with questions and feel free to contact staff proactively for clarifications. Third, respect: treating each other and the public with respect, a quality she assumed was inherent in their selection.

Ms. Schumacher clarified her oversight role and that of her staff: managing day-to-day village operations and advancing goals set by the Village Board. She highlighted that a new strategic plan in approval process heavily focuses on economic development and community engagement, meaning the commission would be a big part of enacting it. She outlined that Tony Fradin, Ricci Lucas, and Scott Skrycki would staff the commission based on agenda focus—economic development, community events, or communications.

Responding to a query from Ms. Gandsey, Ms. Schumacher confirmed Open Meetings Act (OMA) training would be provided via a link from the Attorney General's office. She unpacked key essentials: restrictions on communications (no discussing village business in groups larger than three outside a meeting), logistical requirements for posting agendas and minutes, and a crucial warning against using "reply all" on email strings about commission business, as it constitutes a violation. This foresight was aimed at empowering members for compliant and effective service.

## **6. Chairperson Gandsey Presentation**

Chairperson Gandsey delivered a comprehensive overview, distributing a handout as a visual anchor. She began by directly linking the commission's creation to the strategic plan referenced by Schumacher. The goal was to formally combine the focuses of economic development and community engagement, ensuring they work in concert.

The handout diagrammed the interconnection. Ms. Gandsey used the "We Belong in Bartlett" branding campaign as a prime example. This initiative was spawned from EDC-facilitated focus groups, demonstrating how community input (community affairs) leads to a unified message. That message, in turn, supports economic development as staff use it to attract businesses at trade shows and conferences, and to promote local events.

This holistic framework defined the Commission's scope. She explained it's not just bringing business in, it's not just working with business owners, and it's not just making sure our residents have the lifestyle that they expect and enjoy here. It's putting all of those things together and building that brand of Bartlett to make sure that we are moving forward. She introduced the guiding mantra, "Progress with Pride," as a response to those resistant to change. It represents a desire to move forward while preserving the cherished feeling of Bartlett, acknowledging that without positive change, stagnation or regression is a risk.

She highlighted the village's robust event calendar, communication tools like the newsletter and app, and then turned to a flagship initiative: the Lake Street Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District.

Ms. Gandsey noted the village has purchased 19 acres along Lake Street and is beginning the process of developing concepts for that property. The plan involves hiring planning consultants to draft mixed-use schemes based on Board input, followed by significant community outreach to gather public opinion. The selected concept will then inform marketing and development efforts. Gandsey told the commission they will play a role in this, indicating this would be a recurring focus.

To ensure strong governance ties, Ms. Gandsey stressed the importance of streamlined channels of information to the Village Board. She then flipped the handout to outline commissioner responsibilities: serving in an advisory capacity to the Board, acting as community advocates and ambassadors, being accessible to listen to residents, reviewing reports and RFPs, and staying updated on trends in other communities. She concluded by inviting questions, opening the floor to a dynamic discussion.

At Ms. Gandsey's prompting, the staff provided expanded backgrounds to balance the detailed commissioner introductions.

Paula Schumacher traced her 32-year village career, starting as an intern staffing the EDC and working in nearly every department before becoming Village Administrator eight years ago. Tony Fradin highlighted his 20+ years with the village and prior economic development experience, describing himself as a "stats nerd" who tracks indicators and works hands-on with businesses from large industrial firms to one-person operations. Ricci Lucas shared her six-year village tenure, starting in IT and GIS, and her passion for using her technical skills to bring community engagement to a "new age." Scott Skrycki, a longtime resident who grew up in Bartlett, noted his 17 years with the village starting as an intern and his involvement across countless projects and civic groups.

Ms. Gandsey pointed out the staff's advanced degrees in Public Administration and their deep institutional knowledge. She added that when the CEAC is bringing ideas, staff can describe what's worked. "Here's the research. Here's what's been done before and how we can make this happen," she said, describing the staff as essential co-architects of the commission's future ideas.

#### Q&A and General Discussion

Commissioner Szkotak launched with a real-world anecdote: a client interested in opening a coffee and cocktail bar had asked if the village was "nice to work with." Ms. Gandsey routed the question to Tony, who explained his role as the "small business concierge." He detailed the process of assisting with licenses, permits, zoning, and

location scouting, emphasizing that information is available on the website or simply by walking into Village Hall. This example shows the seamless business onboarding the commission aims to promote.

Ms. Szkotak circled back to a perennial question from residents: attracting specific retailers like Trader Joe's.

Commissioner Erickson provided a nuanced explanation of business recruitment. Chairperson Gandsey further explained that franchises have strict demographic and site criteria—average income, traffic counts, location specifics—that a community must meet. The village does not choose which businesses come in; it can market available sites, but the business's model dictates the fit.

Ms. Erickson steered the conversation toward commissioner preparation, strongly advocating that new members educate themselves using the village website, particularly on the TIF district. She stressed the importance of reading packets early and reaching out to staff with questions beforehand to make meetings more productive.

Administrator Schumacher further detailed the long process undertaken to attract Aldi to the village and we have also reached out to others including Trader Joe's over the years.

She noted that Culver's once requested a map of churches as part of their site criteria, and despite years of outreach, Aldi and Trader Joe's only come when the location and market conditions aligned perfectly with their models. She added that "Development as you will learn, is not as easy as, hey, come on in and open, flip your shingle out," he noted, highlighting complications from Bartlett's location across three counties and overlapping jurisdictions.

The discussion returned to the Open Meetings Act. Ms. Gandsey elaborated on communication protocols, a point of practical importance. She instructed members to send ideas or questions directly to her, not via "reply all" on group emails, to avoid violations. She outlined the process: items can be emailed to her for inclusion on a future agenda under "New Business," mirroring how the Village Board operates. She reiterated the rule against serial one-on-one conversations that effectively constitute a meeting of a majority, clarifying that while bilateral calls are permissible, coordinated discussions among small groups are not.

A question about connecting residents with social services for those in need was directed to external organizations. Ms. Schumacher and Ms. Erickson pointed to Hanover Township and Wayne Township as the primary providers of food banks, senior services, and holiday toy drives, highlighting the commission's role in being aware of and directing residents to these critical external partnerships.

Chairperson Gandsey championed ideation, urging members: “if you think of something that we could be doing, I want you to bring it up.” She framed the commission as fundamentally collaborative, where ideas would be tested for fit and the collective goal was to keep moving forward.

## **7. New Business**

Tony detailed Small Business Saturday (November 29). He framed it within Bartlett’s economic fabric, noting the village’s roughly 500 licensed businesses are overwhelmingly small, local operations. Citing the widely shared statistic that 68 cents of every dollar spent at a local business recirculates locally (compared to 43 cents for chain stores), he outlined the village’s promotional plan: social media promotion and an interactive GIS map of participating retailers. He asked commissioners to act as ambassadors, promoting the day through their own networks and businesses. Ms. Erickson requested that the map highlight Chamber of Commerce members, which Tony confirmed was part of the plan.

Ricci Lucas then transitioned to previewing the Merry and Bright holiday event. She detailed the schedule for the Saturday tree lighting, including a new “mini stroll” walking parade stepping off at 4:45 PM. She confirmed a list of food truck vendors and promoted the Cocoa Crawl event the following Saturday, with a clickable map on the chamber’s website. The marketing strategy, she explained, includes social media teasers (like a clip of Santa preparing), traditional guide placements, and work with the “We Belong” branding consultants, a5, to leverage local influencers.

This preview elicited immediate feedback from commissioners, exemplifying the interactive culture Chairperson Gandsey seeks. Bruce Sufferin applauded the event but suggested a greater emphasis on daytime components to benefit businesses that operate primarily during daylight hours, similar to the successful Halloween parade. Ms. Lucas appreciated the feedback, noting that the laser show was itself an addition born from survey requests for more adult-focused activities.

Ms. Szkotak proposed an idea for future years: a concurrent downtown sidewalk sale during the Merry and Bright festivities, allowing local shops to set up tables and engage directly with the community. Mr. Suffern amplified the idea, envisioning a vibrant street scene. Ms. Gandsey stated these suggestions as the great kind of ideas that come out from your experiences that we’re going to want to hear over time.

Ms. Szkotak also asked about using archival footage from previous years for pre-event social media promotion. Ms. Lucas confirmed such footage exists and is used in evaluations by the Merry and Bright committee, inviting commissioners to be part of that review process.

Paula Schumacher introduced a key upcoming duty: the commission will be tasked with reviewing Civic Funding Requests.

Civic organizations apply for village funds for specific programs, and while the current year's timing didn't align perfectly, the commission would provide input on funding recommendations at the December meeting, one of their first substantive actions.

### **8. Adjournment**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. The meeting concluded at 7:00 PM.

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 2, 2025  
**TO:** Chairperson and Members of the CEAC  
**FROM:** Tony Fradin, Economic Development Coordinator *TF*  
**RE:** Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts

---

**Summary of TIFs:** Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a powerful tool that cities and villages use to encourage redevelopment and economic growth.

Instead of raising taxes, TIF reallocates the *increase* in property tax revenue that comes from new development or rising property values within a designated district. The base level of taxes continues to go to schools, counties, and other taxing bodies, but the “increment” is directed to the city to pay for improvements in the district.

In Illinois, a TIF district typically lasts up to 23 years, with the possibility of a 12-year extension.

**Why TIF exists:** Cities are uniquely responsible for driving redevelopment. By using future tax growth to fund projects, municipalities can make investments that ultimately benefit all taxing bodies through stronger property values, job creation, and a healthier tax base.

**Eligibility:** To create a TIF district, an area must meet certain conditions. Improved areas may qualify as “conservation” or “blighted” if they show signs such as dilapidation, obsolescence, or excessive vacancies.

Vacant land can qualify if it faces issues like obsolete platting, environmental problems, or chronic flooding. Industrial park districts have their own criteria tied to unemployment and infrastructure needs.

**Required findings:** Beyond eligibility, cities must show that private investment alone has not spurred growth, that development would not occur “but for” TIF, that the district is contiguous, and that the plan aligns with the city’s comprehensive plan.

If housing displacement is possible, a housing impact study is required.

**Project review:** Public projects funded by TIF are evaluated for alignment with district goals and available funds. Private projects undergo deeper scrutiny, including feasibility studies, public benefit analysis, gap financing reviews, and revenue projections.

Cities must ensure that only legally eligible costs are reimbursed and often negotiate safeguards such as “go dark” provisions if a project ceases operations.

**Compliance and reporting:** TIF funds are reimbursed only after costs are documented. Illinois law requires annual reports and 10-year status reports to maintain transparency and accountability.

**Conclusion:** When managed carefully, TIF can be a powerful way for municipalities to stimulate redevelopment, revitalize struggling areas, and strengthen the local economy while ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used responsibly and with clear public benefit.

Per the Illinois State Comptroller’s office, there are nearly 1,500 TIF Districts from more than 500 municipalities in the State of Illinois. Bartlett currently has three active TIF Districts.

A PowerPoint presentation will be given at the CEAC meeting to describe TIFs in greater detail.

Always feel free to contact me with any TIF-related questions at (630) 540-5937 or [tfradin@bartlett.il.gov](mailto:tfradin@bartlett.il.gov).

# Memorandum

**To:** Community and Economic Affairs Commission  
**From:** Scott Skrycki, Assistant Village Administrator  
**Date:** 11/26/2025  
**Re:** Civic Group Support Request Review

---

In 2015, the Village Board adopted an ordinance to standardize and strengthen the reporting process, clarify who is receiving financial support, and clearly communicate the purpose of that support. Last year, at the request of the Village Board, staff created a matrix to help determine appropriate funding levels for each civic organization based on their submitted applications.

Historically, when reviewing civic group financial support levels, the Village Board has prioritized organizations that provide a service or program the Village does not currently offer, or that meaningfully supplement an existing Village service, program, or special event. Additional considerations have included the size of the request, as well as the history and reputation of the civic organization.

Staff also recommend continuing to consider the amount of Public Works and Police Department time and the associated costs required to maintain a safe and successful event. In some cases, these indirect support costs can significantly exceed the direct financial assistance requested by the organization.

A review of past civic organization applications shows a wide range in direct financial support, from \$500 for the Lions Day Dash at James Pate Phillips State Park to \$14,000 for the multi-day Fourth of July Festival. Because of the significant variety among organizations and events, staff reviewed the financial data to help establish appropriate maximum funding levels. These figures represent suggested caps on direct financial support and are not intended as recommended funding amounts tied to the actual cost of each event.

Below is a chart outlining the suggested maximum levels of direct financial support based on the overall cost of the program, service, or special event.

<b>Cost of Event/Program/Service</b>	<b>Suggested direct financial support <i>Limit</i></b>
\$2,000-\$15,000	\$5,000 or no more than 75% of budgeted expenses if less than \$6,670
\$15,001-\$50,000	\$7,500
\$50,001-\$100,000	\$10,000
\$100,001+	\$15,000

This year, the Village has received six civic group funding requests. The information below was gathered from the civic group funding applications submitted by each organization. Because Arts in Bartlett and the Lions Club have made substantial adjustments to their events, their requests are based on projected budgets for next year's events rather than prior year expenses.

## **1. Arts in Bartlett**

In 2026, Arts in Bartlett (AIB) plans to host 10 events in Bartlett with 6 events paying for themselves.

AIB is proposing a NEW event series for 2026 - Rhythm & Roots Market. This four-event series combines a farmer's market and concert series to drive residents and visitors to downtown Bartlett. As the event series is new and the costs associated with stage and sound rental, plus band fees, are greater than previous events, AIB asks for civic funding to cover half the total event series cost. This request makes the AIB 2026 civic funding request higher than the recommended funding guidelines but keeps funding at the same level as 2025.

Village of Bartlett Civic Funding in the amount of \$11,900, half the anticipated event(s) cost, will allow AIB to bring the new Rhythm & Roots Market to Bartlett. AIB will source sponsorships and request vendor fees to cover the remaining costs, marketing and insurance.

### **Spring Artisan Marketplace & Craft Show**

Date: Saturday, May 2, 2026 (*Rain date – Sunday, May 3*)

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Location: Arts in Bartlett, 215 S Main St, Bartlett, IL 60103

***No funding requested***

### ***(NEW)* Rhythm & Roots Market**

A farmer's market and music with a global vibe in Bartlett Town Center over four (4) Thursday summer afternoons from 4pm – 8pm. Event will feature vendors with specialty items for sale and a sound stage featuring local performers and bands. (*Rain date if needed: Oct 15*)

### **June 18**

Event focus: Celebrate Asian Heritage Month and Bartlett's Sister City Connection with Miaoli City, Taiwan, performing group TBD

\$900 – TBD performing group

\$4,500 – 24x16' stage and sound system - pricing provided by Ayre Productions

**\$5,400 – Total**

### **July 16**

Event focus: Latin

\$1,900 – Guitarra Azul

\$4,500 – 24x16' stage and sound system

**\$6,400 – Total**

**Aug 20**

Event focus: European

\$1,200 – Polkaholics

\$4,500 – 24x16’ stage and sound system

**\$5,700 – Total**

**Sept 17**

Event focus: American

\$1,800 – Classical Blast

\$4,500 – 24x16’ stage and sound system

**\$6,300 – Total**

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pet Adoption Event**

September 12, Bartlett Park, Bartlett Park District

***No funding requested***

**16<sup>th</sup> Halloween Fun Fest & Parade**

October 26, downtown Bartlett & Streets of Bartlett

***No funding requested***

**Holiday Pop-up Boutiques**

Small Biz Saturday, Nov 28, 2026; Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Deck the Halls, Saturday, Dec 5, 2026; Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Cocoa Crawl (Village event), Saturday, Dec 12, 2026; Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Location: Arts in Bartlett, 215 S Main St, Bartlett, IL 60103

***No funding requested***

**Total: \$23,800**

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$11,900	\$11,900	\$7,500

**2. Bartlett Lions Club**

The residents in Bartlett benefit from the Lions many community service projects and community enrichment events, including but not limited to, Pancake Breakfasts, Vision and Hearing Screening, Eyeglass Collection, Merry and Bright, Oktoberfest, Lions Day Dash, Candy Days, and donations to various charitable causes in and around the community. The Lions Club has requested \$5,625 this year. This money is being requested for the Fourth of July parade. It will be spent to secure appealing floats and performers for the parade that will entertain the crowd of parade-goers. A quality parade adds to the sense of community for the residents and helps attract people to our historic downtown business area. In past years, the Lions have requested \$500 for the Lions

Day Dash, but this year marks the first year the parade will not be under the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festival umbrella.

**2026 Parade Expenses:**

Shriners (various): \$4,000  
 Dance and Performing Troupe: \$800  
 Fife and Drum Corp: \$800  
 Classic Cars: \$400  
 Various Musicians: \$1,600  
**Total: \$7,600**

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$500	\$5,625	\$5,700

**3. Ignite the Courage**

Each year, Ignite the Courage hosts multiple events to raise funds for the community. Last year, they held a comedy show in February and the Smoke and Irons Music Fest in August. This year, they are also planning a Christmas concert evening at the Fire Barn in December 2025. The organization intends to continue hosting these events while exploring additional opportunities to raise money and give back to the community.

Ignite the Courage is requesting \$10,000 in civic group funding this year. The funds will be allocated to their annual fundraiser, the Smoke and Irons Music Fest. This event features original live music, food trucks, craft beer, a craft show, a bags tournament, and beer tasting. It is open to all members of the community and surrounding areas. The funding will help cover expenses such as bands, stage, lighting, sound system, and tent and chair rentals.

**2025 Event Expenses:**

Marketing: \$1,180.62  
 Finance: \$376.25  
 Operations: \$8,897.61  
 Entertainment: \$36,232.37  
 Concessions: \$10,427.31  
 Kick-off party: \$4,515.00  
**Total: 70,655.11**

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

#### 4. Bartlett Chamber of Commerce

The Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce supports and advocates for local businesses, promotes economic growth, and connects residents with community resources. The Chamber provides educational programs, networking events, business promotion, and “Shop Local” initiatives that strengthen the overall quality of life in Bartlett. They also partner with schools, local organizations, and the Village to support workforce development, mentoring, and student engagement.

The Chamber is requesting \$7,000 to help implement its 2026 strategic marketing and community engagement plan, continue promoting the Village’s “We Belong in Bartlett” branding at events, and support the reinstated Chamber Scholarship Program. Funds will also help expand membership development efforts, enhance outreach tools such as the Business/Community Resource Guide, and support community-centered events like Casino Night, the Golf Outing, and Oktoberfest. These investments will allow the Chamber to better promote local businesses, strengthen community partnerships, and deliver valuable programs benefiting Bartlett residents.

<b>Other Events</b>	
Casino Expenses	\$ 4,050.00
<b>Golf Outing</b>	
Banquet Dinner	\$ 3,641.58
Greens Fees	\$ 8,235.00
Marketing/Postage	\$ 140.00
Supplies/Prizes	\$ 1,183.18
<b>Total Golf Outing</b>	<b>\$ 13,199.76</b>
<b>Oktoberfest</b>	<b>\$ 12,848.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,.76</b>

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$6,000	\$7,000	\$7,500

#### 5. Oktoberfest

The Bartlett Lions, Bartlett Rotary, and the Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce collaborate to organize and host the annual Bartlett Oktoberfest. Their purpose is to bring the community together, strengthen civic pride, and create a welcoming environment that enhances the Village’s reputation for residents and businesses alike. The event offers a local, family-friendly celebration that fosters goodwill and supports community connections. When revenues exceed expenses, the partnering organizations reinvest those funds back into Bartlett through their various community service efforts.

They are requesting \$12,000 to help fund the 2026 Bartlett Oktoberfest. The money will be used to pay for live bands and essential event infrastructure, including the stage, tents, tables, and chairs—costs that have risen significantly in recent years. This support will ensure the event remains high-quality, safe, and accessible to the entire community.

As of early October, total expenses were \$53,971.24. Below are the projected expenses for this year's September, 2025 event.

<b>Oktoberfest</b>	
Entertainment	6,000
Food/refridg. Truck	10,500
Beverage	9,500
Operations	20,000
Signs/Marketing	5,000
Office (tickets/wristbands)	500
Permits	200
Park Rental	700
Insurance	4,000
CC/Machine rental	420
Tax Prep.	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,620</b>

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$12,000	\$12,000	\$10,000

## 6. Bartlett 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee

The Bartlett Fourth of July Committee exists to plan and run the Village's four-day Fourth of July Festival. The event brings thousands of residents and visitors together each year, showcasing the community and providing entertainment. This year will mark the 35th annual celebration and coincide with the nation's 250th anniversary of Independence Day.

The Committee is requesting **\$15,000** to help cover the cost of the fireworks display, which typically totals around \$50,000. These funds will be used specifically for the July 4, 2026 fireworks show. July 2025 event expenses are below. *\*Village staff and resource time equates to \$40,000-\$50,000*

<b>4th of July Committee</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
Bands	\$46,829.85
Beer / Beverages	\$30,300.95

Fireworks	\$50,000.00
Grease	\$400.00
Insurance	\$4,679.00
Parade	\$7,775.00
Professional Fees	\$1,058.90
Shirts/signs	\$1,097.98
Site	\$63,739.70
Site Dev / Technical	\$728.38
Skydivers	\$3,282.50
Special Needs	\$806.25
Sponsorship	\$1,579.58
Tables & Chairs	\$2,400.00
Vendors-Food *	\$144.48
Volunteers (ticket booth)	\$1,200.00
Website	\$239.88
Miscellaneous / Other	\$650.66
bank fees	\$35.00
Cube Smart-Storage	\$1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$218,448.11</b>

FY 26 Funding Received	FY 27 Funding Requested	Matrix Suggested Max
\$14,000	\$15,000	\$15,000

**CEAC Committee Action:**

Staff has provided the Committee with a summary of each funding request and the applicable funding guidelines to assist in your review. Each organization offers unique benefits to the Bartlett community, and several requests exceed the suggested matrix limits due to program changes or event expansion. The Committee is asked to consider the value of each proposal, the Village's historical support levels, and the overall impact on residents when determining appropriate funding amounts. Following your discussion, staff will ask the committee to please provide a recommendation to the Village Board on the FY 2027 civic group allocations.

