

Bi-Monthly Meeting January 12, 2026

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 12th day of January 2026.

Board Members Present: Deputy Mayor Millard Murphy, Trustees Ken Sherman, Mike Hart and Matthew Stevens. Mayor Randy House was absent.

Village Officials/Staff in Attendance: Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck, Deputy Clerk Krista Ruzekowicz, Interim Police Chief Robert Kite and Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato

Public Attendance: Village Residents Michael Dixon and Tom Rinefierd. Andy Veley from DPW, Rod Campbell of NorCOG/Tug Hill Commission and Ryan Kostusiak from Senator Christopher Ryan's office.

Meeting Called to Order: Deputy Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Trustee Stevens led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House was absent. Deputy Mayor Murphy stated that the generator at the wastewater treatment plant was down and unable to be fixed. A rental is in place and is waiting for additional quotes on a new generator.

Deputy Mayor Murphy- With the resignation of Police Chief Ed Carroll, Robert Kite has been appointed as Interim Chief.

Trustee Sherman had nothing to report.

Trustee Hart had nothing to report.

Trustee Stevens wanted all in attendance to know that the Village Planning Board will be holding a Comprehensive Plan meeting open to the public on January 20th at Paul V. Moore High School in the cafeteria.

Trustee Stevens mentioned that one streetlight in his area was not updated to the new LED fixture by National Grid and he will have that information for the clerk.

Interim Police Chief Robert Kite reported that 5 candidates for Police Chief have had background checks completed. At least 3 are qualified. Due to the increase of protesting throughout the area, Kite is encouraging residents not to approach a police vehicle while they are conducting a traffic stop.

Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato presented the Board with a report of new violations and building permits. William Hamacher is working on the property maintenance complaints and Cusato will visit the court clerk for new court dates for the ongoing violators tomorrow.

Mike Dixon of Aqua Way asked about tires; specifically asking how many tires are acceptable on private property. CEO Cusato said that tires should not be visible in the yard.

DPW Andy Veley informed the Board that the landline to Green Acres pump station isn't working. Andy contacted the vendor and they are to come out on Thursday to inspect.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck is collecting sewer bills.

Citizens' Concerns – Mike Dixon asked about the Route 49 and 11 road repairs and the rumors of a roundabout. Deputy Mayor Murphy said that Mayor House met with DOT last week and a "peanut" roundabout was brought up. Murphy and Mayor House are hoping to meet with the DOT through Senator Barclay's office regarding grants for "Safe Sidewalks to Schools".

Tom Rinefierd asked if a solar project south of the Village will house battery storage. Trustee Hart said that the solar panel project was brought to the Town of Hastings and it consisted of panels to grid, not battery storage. Tom Rinefierd said that the lights in the Village look nice and asked how much National Grid charge per light. Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck stated that the Village is charged approximately \$21 per month per pole.

Ryan Kostusiak works for Senator Ryan's office and let the Board know that the phones are always open and they are willing to help out. Ryan is in charge of the capital grants program and will be available to the Board for questions on large purchases being made in the next few years.

Rod Campbell from NorCOG/Tug Hill Commission informed the Board of upcoming meetings and projects along with grants available to the community.

New Business

- **Resolution 1 of 2026 – Mileage Reimbursement to 72.5 cents per mile** – upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman seconded by Trustee Hart and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Reappointment of Denise Baxter as Court Clerk PT** retroactive December 10, 2025 – upon motion duly made by Trustee Stevens seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Approval to Transfer \$10,000 to Health Reimbursement Account** – upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman seconded by Trustee Stevens and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee

Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Business

Previous Minutes - The Minutes of the regular meeting on December 8, 2025, were approved upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman seconded by Trustee Stevens and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Vouchers – December Abstract #14 - \$73,307.31 - General Fund vouchers totaling \$46,943.49 and Sewer Fund Vouchers totaling \$26,363.82 were preapproved for payment during the December 8, 2025 Village Board meeting and were approved for payment upon motion duly made by Trustee Stevens seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Vouchers – January Abstract #15 - \$91,132.90 - General Fund vouchers totaling \$51,656.70 and Sewer Fund Vouchers totaling \$39,476.20 were approved for payment upon motion duly made by Trustee Stevens seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 7:43 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Stevens and seconded by Trustee Sherman. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista Ruzekowicz
Deputy Clerk

Approved by the Village Board February 2, 2026