

Bi-Monthly Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 9th day of March 2026.

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

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

Public Attendance: Village Residents Mark and Karen Mezzo, Rod Campbell of NorCOG/Tughill Commission and Andrew Veley, DPW Worker

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

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mudd Murphy received the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis from the community Comprehensive Plan meeting held on March 3rd. This analysis was compiled by Patrick from the NYS Tughill Commission. Will be meeting with Deputy Mayor Jan Tighe/Pulaski and Mayor Terry Grimshaw/Mexico to discuss next Oswego County Conference of Mayor's dinner meeting location, looking at Oswego.

The Village Street Sweeper is being looked at by J&J Equipment for an estimate to repair to either use or sell. J&J is also renting sweepers and Deputy Mayor Murphy will talk to the Village of Mexico about sharing the

rental on a monthly basis. The estimate on the repairs will be received before a decision is made on the rental.

Trustee Sherman had nothing to report.

Trustee Hart is glad to be back and thanked everyone for the well wishes.

Trustee Stevens has had residents reporting about young kids on dune buggies and four wheelers driving through the village. Matthew also mentioned that some side streets have speed limits of 30 mph but would like to see them all lowered to 25 mph for cohesiveness.

Trustee Stevens keeps hearing about a roundabout in the village and would like to be kept up to date.

Mayor House stated that a peanut shaped roundabout design concept in the middle of the village has been submitted by the NYS DOT. He and Deputy Mayor Murphy have voiced concerns. The reason behind the roundabout is that the intersection of US 11 and 49 is above the national average for crashes and is eligible for a NYS grant. Engineers have been here 3 times. If the roundabout doesn't pan out, there will be a lot of left-hand turning lanes at that intersection.

Interim Police Chief Robert Kite had nothing to add.

Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato had no report to submit, but did give a brief update on the dispensary soon to reopen on East Ave. The store has a different name with the "same players", has a confirmed state license to sell hemp, not marijuana, some do smoke it and make clothes. It has been explained to Cusato that smoking hemp is like drinking nonalcoholic beer, if you drink enough, you will get buzz. The hemp is way below criminal level. Right now, it's a retail business and we don't have the ability to stop it from going in. The Department of Cannabis is aware and on top of it. The store still must abide by Village law; this keeps them from selling paraphernalia like bongs and pipes.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck reminded the Board of a budget workshop on 3/16 at 3:30 p.m.

Tug Hill Circuit Rider Rod Campbell briefed the Board from Tug Hill's Monthly Bulletin about different grant opportunities available.

Citizens' Concerns – Carly Court resident Mark Mezzo raised concerns regarding the proposed housing development going up across the street from his property. Every house has water problems, and his sump pump runs every 3-5 minutes on a dry day, 1-2 minutes when wet. Mark goes through 4-5 pumps a year. They moved here in 2008 and have found that there are springs all around the area and are worried that with the development across the street that the springs will get disrupted and cause more water issues on his side of the street. Mark stated he never got a letter about the development.

Codes Officer Cusato stated that a design was accepted for the 5 homes by the Village Planning Board and Engineer. When the builders put in the foundations, they will know if there is water and will need to address it at that time

Mark stated he will monitor the progress of development.

Trustee Hart stated that it sounds like there is no stone under the footers, and on virgin ground which is why the water is coming into his basement.

Old Business

- **Generator Proposal** – Deputy Mayor Murphy presented the Milton CAT generator options and stated the one that seemed best would be the generator that would go in the present housing with a lease buy out. This includes a maintenance program for 5 years and warranty. The Village is currently paying \$1800 weekly for a rental and upon

acceptance of the proposal, the rental price would drop to \$3500 a month. This includes scrap price for the old generator. Mudd spoke with Kristy Lamanche and there is a new grant to replace multiple equipment in a municipality but no emergency grants. There is no buy out penalty with this lease. The generator will take 7-9 months to be delivered and installed. The electrical upgrade is included in the price and will be completed by Bruce Electric.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Murphy to accept the Milton CAT 10-year lease buyout proposal, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- **Website Proposal** from OwlShift was offered by Deputy Mayor Murphy. He checked other village websites and liked the Phoenix design and spoke to their Village Administrator Jim Lynch who said that they were redesigning the website and gave Mudd the contact information for the developer Tino Amodei. The meeting with him went well and Murphy believes there will be more freedom for the Village Office to work within the website, which is restricted with the current site.

Deputy Mayor Murphy made motion to switch to OwlShift as our new website host, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Niche Prices** – Deputy Mayor Murphy reviewed the current pricing and noted the proposed increase of the Hillside Cemetery niche pricing. There was discussion on the engraving of the niche doors. Deputy Mayor Murphy made motion to increase the Hillside Cemetery niche pricing as proposed with cost of engravings being

the responsibility of the purchaser, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Hillside Memorial Cemetery

We encourage you to visit to Hillside Memorial Cemetery to see for yourself the natural beauty and peace of this lovely resting place.

We have many accommodations to provide a comfortable and dignified service.

With pre-planning and pre-payments, you will find comfort in knowing that important financial decisions are taken care of in the matter that most reflects your desires and not during moments of grief and stress.

Consider pre-purchasing your niche or gravesite.

Niche Pricing
Columbarium Niches:
All engravings are additional and will be charged at current rate. Pricing starts at \$160.00.

Lower level/ Tier 4 _____	\$1,000.00	~~\$1,200.00~~
Lower level/ Tier 3 _____	\$1,500.00	~~\$1,700.00~~
Upper level/ Tier 2 _____	\$1,800.00	~~\$2,000.00~~
Top level/ Tier 1 _____	\$1,800.00	~~\$2,000.00~~

Inurnment Fees

Niche opening and closing _____	\$200.00	~~\$250.00~~
Saturday and Sunday _____	\$350.00	~~\$400.00~~

Disinurnment _____ \$800.00
(Does not include removing, replacing, engraving and other additional fees that might occur)

All niche inurnments are based on availability at time of purchase. No niche shall be reserved without purchase in full.

Please note niche size of 11" x 11" x 11" when ordering your urn.

Our staff is dedicated to providing dignified and compassionate burial services for you and your loved ones. If you are interested in purchasing a Niche or grave at Hillside Memorial Cemetery please contact...

Gordon Longley
Cemetery Manager
315-952-3968 (cell)
315-668-2558 (office)

Hillside Memorial Cemetery and Parks Columbarium Policy:

- Nothing shall be placed on top of columbarium or affixed anywhere thereon, including niche doors.
- No individual can memorialize or place an emblem on cemetery owned columbarium or niche.
- Engraving will consist only of name (first, middle initial and last), date of birth (year only) and date of death (year only) and will be done in a uniform, pre-determined font.
- Niche fees shall be paid in full prior to niche assignment.
- Maximum of two sets of remains per niche as space allows.
- No co-mingling of remains is allowed within an urn. Each inurnment is considered a separate burial.
- No partial niche purchases.
- Inurnment receptacles, boxes, urns or containers may be of a rustproof metal, such as brass or bronze or of ceramic, or of a non biodegradable hard plastic. Glass or other broken containers are not permitted.

- **Kruising Knights Car Club** – Waiver of Fee for Use of Goettel Park. As in the past, Trustee Sherman made motion to waive the fees for the Kruising' Knights Car Club to use Goettel Park on June 6th, seconded by Trustee Hart and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.
- **General Fund Budget Modification** – Deputy Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the transfer of \$17,394.70 from the Perpetual

Care Fund to the General Fund, seconded by Trustees Stevens and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee

Revenue Account Increase

A5031 Revenues, Interfund Transfers	\$17,394.70
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Expense Account Increase

A 8810.400 Cemeteries, Contractual Services	\$17,394.70
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Explanation: To bring in Perpetual Care Funds and cover the cost of rebuilding the cemetery wall for 2025-2026. Total cost was \$26,940.49 with \$9,545.79 spent in 2024-2025. **Note: The** project came under budget as the original estimate to rebuild the wall back in 2024 was \$30,000.

- **Resolution 8 of 2026** to schedule a public hearing for March 23, 2026, at 6:45 p.m. for Tax Cap Local Law No. 2 of 2026 was made by motion of Deputy Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Resolution 9 of 2026** was adopted upon motion duly made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Stevens and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The Resolution Establishes a Standard Work Day (SWD) of eight (8) hours for the Associate Village Justice for NYS Retirement Reporting purposes.

Regular Business

Previous Minutes -The Minutes of the regular meeting on February 9, 2026, were approved upon motion duly made by Trustee Stevens,

seconded by Deputy Mayor Murphy and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Vouchers – February Abstract #18 - \$19,552.19 - General Fund Vouchers totaling \$11,295.98 and Sewer Fund Vouchers totaling \$8,256.21 were approved for payment upon motion made by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

March Abstract #19 - \$19,552.19 - General Fund Vouchers totaling \$11,295.98 and Sewer Fund Vouchers totaling \$8,256.21 were approved for payment upon motion made by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes and Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 8:28 p.m. upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman and seconded by Trustee Hart.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Cusyck
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by the Village Board March 23. 2026