

Bi-Monthly Meeting

June 23, 2025

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 23rd day of June 2025.

Board Members Present: Mayor Randy House, Deputy Mayor Millard Murphy, Trustees Ken Sherman, Mike Hart & Jim Turo.

Village Staff in Attendance: Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck, Deputy Clerk Krista Ruzekowicz and Police Chief Ed Carroll.

Public Attendance: Andrew Veley, Ken Kristensen, Ryan Kristensen, Matthew Stevens, Tom Rinefierd, Robin Hansen and Rob Drabot.

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

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House met with OCWA last week. Last year, all “outside users” received a considerable increase and was mandated by the Onondaga County Executive. This included the Village of Central Square.

Mayor House spoke to the head of grounds at the school and their Engineer along with the Village Engineer regarding the school plans to increase the discharge under Co. Rt. 12. The mayor would like to petition the County to cut into the road and increase the pipes running underneath Co. Rt. 12.

Mayor House would like to proceed with the National Grid LED Light upgrades in the Village. Lights on the main streets will be 150 watts (US Rt. 11 and Rt. 49). The remainder of the roads will be 100 watts.

Motion made by Trustee Sherman to go forward with the National Grid LED Light Structure, seconded by Deputy Mayor Murphy and voted upon:

Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Murphy spoke about the Cemetery deeds and proposed local law in the past Board meeting and sent everything to the attorney. It was pointed out that the Columbarium Niche should not have a deed. The Village looked at similar agreements and the attorney has reviewed. The attorney added the "hold harmless" clause for the Village in the niche agreement. The total niche packet included an Engraving Approval sheet and a sheet for additional family members as point of contact.

Trustee Murphy made a Motion to accept the Agreement for the Inurnment in a Columbarium Niche packet, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

This past Friday, Mudd attended a follow up meeting at Oswego College on Mircron. Last year, the college had 9800 students attending health programs. Oswego Hospital is now able to administer PET scans, where the patients used to go to Syracuse for these scans.

Mudd stated that at the previous Board meeting, there was no second to Trustee Sherman's motion to form a Building Committee. Deputy Mayor Murphy would like to add his second to this Motion and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor House contacted the insurance company regarding the current roof claim and was waiting for a response.

Trustee Sherman wanted to let everyone know that the school budget did pass. Graduation is this Friday.

Trustee Hart has an air conditioning unit on order for the upstairs offices.

Trustee Turo How are we with reimbursing a resident for the items at the cemetery? Michele – she submitted claim to the insurance and we're waiting for the Village insurance carrier to reply.

Trustee Turo said "Thank you" and "it's been a good run" to the Board.

Both Deputy Mayor Murphy and Mayor House thanked Trustee Turo for his years of service on the Board.

DPW Supt – Mayor House stated that the new DPW Superintendent will be arriving soon.

Police Chief Ed Carroll the School made the decision to hire a new SPO officer. Shanna Stassi comes from the Onondaga County School District and seems like a good fit. Chief Carroll reminded the mayor that SPO waivers are due to be signed soon.

Chief Carroll spoke with Walmart's loss prevention officer who said that the Village Police should have access to the camera system soon. The new Village Judge and Oswego County DA are looking for film evidence for court proceedings. The chief is hoping this will come into play shortly.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck nothing to add.

Citizens' Concerns

Tom Rinefierd noted paper hanging out of a neighbor's vent pipe and wanted to ensure that the Northland station was operating properly.

Tom noticed that the catch basin at the church was bad. Mayor House said that the DOT has been notified.

Mr. Rinefierd was wondering if the code for no animal feces could be amended to include the Amish horses. Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck said that in other Oswego Villages there was nothing that could be done since they are Amish farmers' horses.

Mr. Drabot stated that the older website had an area on it to send an email directly to the Village. Michele mentioned that there are email addresses on our website, but she will check with the website creator.

Ryan Kristensen is working on his Eagle Project for Boy Scouts. Previously, the Boy Scouts did maintenance in Ada Powell Smith Park. Ryan had an idea to level the steep entrance to the park so that everyone could walk there safely. He'd also like to clear out an area, plant grass and put benches and flowers for a communal area. Ryan will return to the Board after coming up with a plan that the Board can review (like benches that are appropriate and safe). Trustee Sherman suggested that he see Mudd about the Ada Powell Smith Park history. Trustee Turo asked Ryan to include how the Park will be taken care of after the revisions are made.

Old Business

Budget Modification for ARPA Funds Motion by Deputy Mayor Murphy to approve the Budget Modification to spend ARPA funds to pay KL Consulting, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Public Hearing for Hillside Cemetery Local Law, Chapter 81 – Deputy Mayor Murphy made a Motion to have a Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. on July 7th, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Resignation from Chad Maher - Motion by Trustee Murphy to accept Chad Maher's resignation, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Summer Recreation Employee Roster – The Summer Rec Director sent a list of all staff for the Summer Program to include Lilliah Woolson-Smith (Assistant Director), Lauren Perry, William Card, Julianna Godici, Andrew Card, Regina Patterson, Audra Kennedy and Rebekah McGraw (Director).

Trustee Murphy made a Motion to hire the Summer Rec staff as presented, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously. Rebekah will schedule CPR classes with Central Square fire department.

New and Revised Phone Service Agreement by Spectrum

Clerk/Treasurer Cusyk has had trouble with the phone system since starting here. There are no admin passwords, she's unable to transfer calls and the answering comes on at 4 o'clock even if we are still in the office. There is a little bit of savings with the new plan each month.

Trustee Murphy made a motion to approve the new phone system and service agreement by Spectrum, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Mudd stated that at the previous meeting, he received quotes on the Webb Ave. barrier/guardrail replacement. Installing the guardrail would be \$1,935 from Atlas Fence. Trustee Sherman said the Webb Ave. barrier needs to be completed since it is a safety issue. Trustee Hart said that the local vendor is waiting for the supplies to come in, but if it's not in by tomorrow, the Village will need to go with another vendor.

Motion made by Trustee Sherman to accept the bid for \$1,935 to replace the Webb Ave. guardrail, seconded by Trustee Murphy and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Trustee Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-no, Trustee Turo-no. The motion carried.

Executive Session

At 8 p.m., Trustee Sherman made a motion to go into an executive session for a personnel matter, seconded by Trustee Turo.

The meeting was called back to order by Mayor Murphy at 8:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Hart to hire Mike Gilfus as the new DPW Superintendent, seconded by Trustee Murphy and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Regular Business

Previous Minutes -The Minutes of the regular meeting on June 9, 2025, were approved upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Deputy Mayor Murphy and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Vouchers – May - Abstract #25 - \$28,920.56 (Capital Projects \$8,047.96, General Fund \$20,089.66, Sewer Fund \$782.94).

June – Abstract #2 - \$36,841.25 (General Fund \$23,082.68, Sewer Fund \$13,706.77, Trust & Agency \$51.80).

A motion was made by Trustee Hart to pay the vouchers as presented, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Turo-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 8:22 p.m. Trustee Turo moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Sherman.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Ruzekowicz
Deputy Clerk

Village Board Approved July 14, 2025