

Bi-Monthly Meeting October 27, 2025

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 27th day of October 2025.

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

Village Officials/Staff in Attendance: Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck, Deputy Clerk Krista Ruzekowicz and Police Chief Ed Carroll. Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato was absent.

Public Attendance: Village Residents Tom Rinefierd, Ken Kristensen and Scout Ryan Kristensen. Andrew Velley, DPW Worker

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

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House workers are moving forward replacing the radiator in the generator at the sewer plant. The radiator was removed today, and the Village is renting a generator until the radiator is completed.

The stone wall in the cemetery is being replaced after a new contractor was hired. The digging is about half done and there will be road cleanup needed after the remainder of the digging is completed.

Mayor House stated that leaf cleanup is underway and a reminder to some residents that animal feces in the leaf piles is prohibited.

Earlier this afternoon, a vehicle hit the new physical therapy building on East Avenue. Patrolmen were still on the scene.

Deputy Mayor Murphy spoke with Atlas Fence and the chain link fence in the cemetery should be finished this week. Also, the rules and regulations signs are being posted in the cemetery. Murphy noted that there is need for new 10 MPH signs and notices that the park is closed from dawn to dusk signs are quite faded.

Last week there was a patriot grave marking dedication ceremony at Hillside Cemetery honoring Revolutionary War Veteran, Nicholas Yorden. His grave was officially marked, and a Patriot Burial plaque was erected. Afterwards a brunch was held at the Central Square American Legion.

Mudd spoke with Heather Stevens, and the Central Square Legion is putting together a list of all Civil War Veterans buried in Hillside Cemetery. Heather also wanted to remind everyone that on November 11th at 11AM there will be a reception held at the Central Square American Legion in honor of Veterans Day.

The Mayor's Conference was held in Altmar last week and was well attended, including local historians. Mudd said that our area is the breadbasket of early American history which included the Erie Canal. Oswego County is participating in the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and will be highlighting local history.

Deputy Mayor Murphy picked up some of the new aluminum school zone signs that will be going up on Co. Rt. 12. The Christmas decorations are being checked, some LED replacement lights are needed. Mudd wants to get through this year, some fixtures may need to change next year.

Trustee Sherman mentioned that the high school band had another competition after winning in Annapolis.

Ken said that the leaf pickup seems to be moving along.

Trustee Hart had nothing to report.

Trustee Stevens reminded everyone that Halloween is at the end of the week and to be safe out there.

Police Chief Ed Carroll hopes to have plenty of coverage for Halloween.

The police were present at the band competition and the last home game.

Chief said that the Dunkin Donuts isn't open in Walmart yet.

A resignation letter from Police Chief Ed Carroll was read by Mayor Randy House. Chief Carroll will resign his position on December 31, 2025. Chief Carroll hopes the force will grow under new leadership. The Board thanked Police Chief Carroll for his service.

Motion made by Trustee Hart to accept the resignation of Police Chief Ed Carroll effective December 31, 2025, seconded by Deputy Mayor Murphy and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato was absent: Mayor House spoke with Mr. Cusato regarding some activity on Fulton Avenue involving tenants that Cusato had received complaints concerning the tenant's burning garbage, living in a camper and other code violations. These tenants have additionally received summons with regards to their dogs going after neighbors and a patrolman.

Code Enforcement Officer Hamacher isn't receiving responses by sending out certified code violation letters, he is having residents served with civil judgements.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck had nothing to add.

Citizens' Concerns – Scout Ryan Kristensen showed the Board his transformation of Ada Powell Park with before and after pictures. The park is partially cleaned up, a pathway added and Kristensen added green space with picnic tables. Kristensen stated that this is still on schedule for completion. Ryan pointed out that he had cleaned approximately 40 lbs. of glass, plates, etc. out of the area. Mayor House congratulated Ryan on the job well done so far. Ryan is currently a Life Scout. He will need a signature from his Scout Master once the project is completed then must wait about 6 months to become an Eagle Scout.

Tom Rinefierd asked if there is regular leaf and brush collection established on certain days. Mayor House stated that DPW is focusing on leaves being collected right now. Tom asked if there were additional DPW staff and Mayor House said that the Village does have one additional person on staff and hoping to have one more soon.

Mr. Rinefierd said that the pile of tires at the auto place next to the laundromat seems to be getting bigger. Mayor House said that he will remind Ed Cusato to follow up with them to continue to remove the tires. Trustee Sherman thanked Tom for keeping an eye on the situation and for bringing it to the Boards' attention.

Old Business

New Business

Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck said that the Toshiba copier lease will expire in December of 2025. The current copier is 7 years old. Cusyck is looking at a new Toshiba model to lease with the current administration copy needs in mind. The new lease will ultimately save money by cutting out overage costs. This is a shared copier with the village court; they will pay half of the lease.

Motion made to lease the new Toshiba copier by Trustee Hart, 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.

The unpaid tax warrant was given to the Board by Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck who reminded the Board that residents have until October 31st before any unpaid taxes must be sent to Oswego County. There were a few that Michele is still looking into but that the total is close to what was sent to the county last year. All unpaid property taxes must be sent to Oswego County by 11/7/25.

Motion to accept the list as presented in the amount of \$27,834.48, which includes interest, by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Hart and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Regular Business

Previous Minutes -The Minutes of the regular meeting on October 14, 2025, were approved upon motion duly made by Deputy Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Sherman and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Vouchers – October Abstract #10 - \$29,690.90 - General Fund Vouchers totaling \$14,290.00 and Sewer Fund Vouchers totaling \$15,400.90 were approved for payment upon motion made by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Stevens and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Stevens-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 7:39 p.m., upon duly motion by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Hart. All aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista Ruzekowicz, Deputy Clerk