

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING
JULY 20, 2026**

Mayor Dennis Lutes presiding

MEMBERS: Kathryn Bronstein, Robert Wilson, Jake Harp, Lynlee Cunningham

OTHERS: Becki Betts-Paternosh, Becky Jackson, Ed LeBarron, Erik Karlstrom, Erin Schuster, Andrew Webster, Collin Mower, Dave Walker, Judy Einach, John Cunningham, Josh Belcher, Amy Belcher, Holly Button, Sarah Button, Deborah Belcher, Jon Belcher, James Ruch, Thomas Herr, David Walker, Don McCord, Robert Neratko, Diana Holt, Pete Holt, Sandy Brown, David Brown, John Bouquin, Alyssa Bouquin, Patty Benton, Dale Robinson, Mark & Deb Puckhaber, Kris Bailey, Elisa Dennis, Sandra Milo, Bob Ducato, Lionel Wescott

MAYOR/BOARD

Police Chief Erik Karlstrom introduced Police Officer Collin Mower as Sergeant of Arms.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW #2-2026/OUTDOOR SMOKING ON VILLAGE PROPERTY
The Mayor opened the Public Hearing for discussion/comments.

AWARD HYDRO EXCAVATION SERVICES FOR LSLI BID

Erin Schuster explained this is for the lead service line which was started about 2½ years ago for identifying the service line material on both the public and private side for the curb box. The bid opening was for the hydro excavation course of that project with the bid award is as follows.

The first portion of the project was notifying the residents and going into houses to gain access to residential meters to see what type of pipe material that is coming through the wall so it can be identified. The homes that have already been entered into are excluded as they have been categorized as galvanized, copper or plastic.

The board made a motion to approve the bid from 716 Site Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$234,800.00 by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Harp and was carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The board made a motion by Trustee Harp, second by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously to approve the of June 6th Work Session and June 15th Village Board Minutes.

SITE PLAN FOR 234 N. PORTAGE ST./SELF STORAGE

The board made a motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously to approve as recommended by the Planning Board, the site plan for 234 N. Portage St. for an addition measuring 40'X60' to the existing building

REQUEST TO SPONSOR BANNER FOR GRAPE & WINE FESTIVAL

Don McCord explained the need for the banner. It was suggested to pick a weekend date in September perhaps so there would not be the expense of having to keep "re-doing" the banner. Don stated they will most likely begin doing that next year.

The board made a motion by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to approve \$2,500 towards a banner for the Grape & Wine Festival.

TEMPORARY CODE OFFICER APPROVAL

The Mayor explained we have not had a Code Officer for a while and there is a need to hire a part time officer to fill this gap.

The board made a motion by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to approve hiring Brad Lawson as temporary Code Officer.

The Mayor inquired if there were any questions relating to the proposed Local Law. A question raised by a resident; what are the parameters of this law? Trustee Bronstein summarized the content of the Law: basically, it states no one to be smoking in the parks; the exception to that is Ottaway Park, an area can be designated for during the Ox Roast as a smoking area.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING/LOCAL LAW #2-2026/OUTDOOR SMOKING ON VILLAGE PROPERTY

The motion was made by Trustee Bronstein, second by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to close the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.

ACTION ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #2-2026/OUTDOOR SMOKING ON VILLAGE PROPERTY

The board made a motion made by Trustee Harp, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to approve Local Law #2-2026/Outdoor Smoking on Village Property.

34 WASHINGTON STREET CONCERNS

The public that was present at the meeting voicing their concerns regarding the many issues which are deplorable and intolerable to the neighbors of the property at 34 Washington St.

Chief Karlstrom spoke of the complaints that have been directed to the Police department to handle are as follows: Running two separate generators constantly, suspect has been warned several times. He is powering his home and an RV and they are extremely loud. Conditions are such that the owner of the property refuses to pay any electric or water charges, therefore uses water from elsewhere for his purposes, and is known to steal electricity and water from other residents.

An adjoining property owner stated there was a fire recently which caused damage on neighboring properties. The generators he runs make high decibels of noise so that the surrounding property owners cannot even watch their TVs or have any kind of peace or quiet. Many people (apparently homeless) are living in the camper that is located on his property. There are concerns about public safety in surrounding areas and there is non-compliance with the building, no property maintenance, fire and health codes. There are frequent "recreational" fires from burning of garbage and other items. A recent fire burned the barn down and which also damaged adjoining property owner's garages and fences. It was noticed that there are two small children around there recently also.

It was inquired if the new Code Officer could condemn the property then we could go in with a dumpster and clean it up. The Mayor replied that the new officer has not begun yet. But he will be made aware of the situation.

Zoning Officer Rob Genthner stated that he had sent a notice of apparent violation on June 15th regarding the RV. A couple of the Officers went down to investigate the camper on June 17th, and no one was living there at that time. He is leaving the case file open.

POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE REPORT**

Chief Karlstrom read his report noting the number of calls which had to be addressed at 34 Washington St. and from January 1, 2026, to the present time there have been 24 calls to the property involving various incidents, including noise complaints. There was a brief discussion on the use of e-bikes and a Local Law which is being introduced to pass as to age and proper usage of these types of bikes, etc. Trustee Wilson stated there had been a nice post by the Sheriff's about this matter and asked if Sergeant Villafrank could share that.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE REPORT

Fire Chief Walker read his report and noted there is a Junior Candidate, Griffin Paternosh and they are waiting for a background check for him to become a member.

They have leftover monies from last year's operating budget he would like to transfer that into the General Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

The Treasurer suggested that they transfer just a portion of that \$39,000, not the entire balance; for the stability of the General Fund. The remainder would go into the Fund balance.

Also, Chief Walker noted there is a need for the 2000 Freightliner engine to be updated. Further discussion on this was tabled for more information until next meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to table discussion until the next meeting .

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

RECREATION REPORT

Director Andrew Webster explained some of the issues with the Pool that were delaying the opening of it. Most recently the engineer examined the work and the problem at this point is relating to backwash & water pressure which is presently being worked on.

DIGITAL INFORMATONAL SIGN AT WELCH FIELD

Andrew noted that years ago the Rotary had been the ones in the 60's that were beneficial in the beginning of Welch Field and now they would like to donate an informational digital signage for the Welch Field to show which activities would be taking place and times, etc. Rotary President, Patty Benton, noted that this was Mike Harrington's suggestion due to the history; for the digital sign placement at Welch Field.

This will need to go through the Planning Board then final approval from the Village Board.

ZONING

Zoning Officer, Rob Genthner gave his report.

HISTORIAN

HISTORIAN REPORT

The Mayor read the Historian Report submitted by Marybelle Beigh.

PUBLIC WORKS

Ed noted he's been putting a large amount of his time working up at the Welch Field Pool Project.

They will be putting in several sidewalks in the Village in the next week or two.

An update was requested on the progress of the bid for a skid steer and trash bid and leases for a sidewalk plow.

Sidewalk plow - looking at Admar Supply; it's better to try it when there is snow, he's looking at leasing 3 different machines throughout the winter and trying them before making a commitment.

For Trash Bid – He is waiting for a PRC# from the Department of Labor to be sent to us so the actual bid can be done up and sent out hopefully by next Wednesday.

WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT

LANDFILL CONTRACT

Erin reported Chautauqua County Landfill sent us a Contract. They generally pump all of their leachate to the Jamestown BPU Sewer Plant. They are asking for breakdowns and they are not going to be able to take Leachate for about a month so the contract is to cover for that timeframe.

The board made a motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Harp and was carried unanimously to approve the signing of the Contract with Chautauqua County Landfill.

RESOLUTION #15-2026 NEGATIVE DECLARATION WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The following Resolution was approved on a motion made by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION RESOLUTION #15-2026

VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield is proposing the Village of Westfield Water System Improvements Project (Project), located in the Village of Westfield, Chautauqua County, New York; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been classified as an "Unlisted Action" as defined by the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield completed a coordinated environmental review informing requested interested and involved agencies of the Village's desire to act as the Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield Village Board has considered the significance of any potential environmental impacts per the SEQRA Regulations and completed the appropriate SEQR documentation for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Westfield Village Board hereby established itself as Lead Agency for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on review of the SEQR documents, SEQR regulations, interested and involved agency comments, and other available supporting information, the Village Board hereby determines that the Project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and will not require the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a result of such findings, the Village Board hereby directs the Mayor to sign the FEAF Part 3 of SEQR indicating that a Negative Declaration has been issued for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.
The motion was made by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously to approve the adoption of the foregoing resolution.

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted on July 20, 2026 and is recorded in the Meeting Minutes of the Village of Westfield.

DECLARE SURPLUS

The board made a motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham and was carried unanimously to approve to declare CL-17 Chlorine Analyzer as surplus.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION/PERSONNEL

A reminder to residents for Sunday, July 26th there will be a power outage at 2:00 a.m. and should take 3 or 4 hours for repair on the Bourne Street Substation.

TREASURER

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

The board made a motion by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously pending further discussion of the Fire Department balance.

WARRANTS

The following warrants were approved on a motion made by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously.

Electric	#10	\$242,242.12
Capt'l Proj WWTP & II	# 4	11,921.25
Sewer	#10	46,247.36
Capt'l Proj Pool	# 3	30,897.17
General	# 9	64,103.50
Water	#10	18,061.66
Electric	# 8	2,775,484.00
Electric	# 8	89,880.70
Sewer	# 8	10,185.35
General	# 7	29,706.00
Capt'l Proj. Pool	# 2	273,332.61
Water	# 8	16,188.80

BUDGET TRANSFERS

The board made a motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously to approve the budget transfers.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Several concerns were noted about e-bikes, and golf cart hazards and the dangerous nuisance they pose. This issue is being addressed and policies are ongoing. On the Chautauqua County website there is an informative write-up regarding this issue.

The board made a motion by Trustee Harp, second by Trustee Bronstein and was carried unanimously to close the public comment period.

The board made a motion by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel issue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following the Executive Session the board made a motion by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Cunningham and was carried unanimously to re-enter regular session.

ACTION TAKEN FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board tabled a decision until the next board meeting regarding Electric Dept. upgrades on a motion made by Trustee Bronstein, seconded by Trustee Cunningham and was carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Trustee Bronstein seconded by Trustee Wilson and was carried unanimously.

Submitted by:
Rebecca Jackson
Deputy Village Clerk