

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on September 8th, 2025, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker, Amanda Fernandez & Kevin Young; Also present: Deputy Clerk Kelley, Attorney Mauhs, Code Officer Fink, Fire Dept: Kevin Dailey & Jerry Wayman, John Wingfield ZBA President, Youth Commission Jean Cain & Michael Wilkens, The Mountain Eagle David Avitabile, Shyla Hanson and James Schilling.

Mayor Knight called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Absent: DPW Superintendent Keyser.

Mayor Knight announced: The Village has received a \$50,000 EFC Engineering Planning Grant to study sewer line expansion for Grove Street, Maple Avenue, and surrounding neighborhoods. Scribner Avenue Sidewalks were installed; 111 Railroad Avenue was demolished; Porchfest - Sunday, September 14th from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve Regular Board Minutes for August 4th, 2025. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0; Trustee Young abstained. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve Special Board Minutes for August 25th, 2025. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0; Trustee Fernandez abstained.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez, to open a Public Hearing on Local Law #1-2025: Overriding Tax Cap at 7:05PM. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Fire Department Monthly Report: Assistant Chief Dailey reported the cost of everything is going up and the Fire Department is looking for an increase in funding.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Several different permits and inspections going on throughout the Village: mainly residential, and nothing major.

Clerk Laraway Monthly Report: Clerk Laraway absent; Deputy Clerk Kelley stated they're working on transitioning Clerk Laraway out of the office with her retiring soon and working fewer hours. They are also working on collecting items for the Time Capsule to be buried in Memorial Park on Friday, October 10th at 3pm.

DPW Superintendent Keyser Monthly Report: Superintendent Keyser absent; Mayor Knight gave report.

#### **General**

- After reviewing documentation and state law, it was determined that the Village retains ownership of Van Dyke Alleyway between Hardware Store and Cullen's. The Vilegi's have offered to scrape the alleyway down six inches and smooth it out and the Village is going to get quotes for paving it next year.
- Paving on Wells Ave and Straub Lane has been tentatively scheduled for later this month, weather dependent.
- Parking spots were restriped on Main Street and Railroad Avenue.
- Drainage project will be completed on Danforth Avenue; new sidewalks were poured on Scribner Avenue and Railroad Avenue.
- Also assisted with the demolition of 111 Railroad Avenue, which was completed and the historic corbels have been saved and stored.
- Historic light poles on River Street were cleaned and repainted.
- New sign was installed at Middleburgh Library.

Mayor Knight reported that he has received complaints about cars illegally parking overnight at the M&S Depot; he suggested potentially installing a chain to block the parking lots when the museum property is not being used by either the Historical Society or the Village. Trustee Tinker suggested installing "Museum Parking Only; Unauthorized Vehicles Will be Towed" Signs. Consensus of the Board was to order and install no parking signs first.

#### **Water**

- Working on GIS project Village received grant for. Repaired water line break on Wells Avenue. Water meter readings will be done next month.

#### **Sewer**

- Nothing to report.

Mayor Knight introduced Youth Commission leaders Mike Wilkens and Jean Cain to speak about the NY Swims Grant; in the past we were not eligible for this grant due to certain qualifying factors. Mike talked about a meeting at the pool with Delaware Engineering in which they determined the pool itself is structurally sound, but everything else needs replacing; bathrooms, changing room, pumphouse, decking, staff area/office etc. The grant is a competitive one, but the Pool Revitalization Committee agrees it is worth applying for, and they unanimously voted yes to have the Village apply. This grant has an 80/20 stipulation, meaning the Village will be responsible for 20% of costs. There is a strong possibility Delaware Engineering will waive the grant fee.

The "chalet" at 111 Railroad Avenue has been demolished. The only remnants of the structure being the historic corbels from the building's façade. It is Consensus of the Board that these corbels will only be used in the Village of Middleburgh. As for how, on what, or when, is yet to be determined. Many ideas have been discussed, including turning them into a parking lot sign for 111 Railroad Avenue or selling them to a building owner to be installed on their property, and a decision will be made at a later date.

Mayor Knight presented the Board with a quote to remove two trees at 111 Railroad Avenue property: Beretz Lumber - \$3,500 to knock down and remove materials; \$2,000 to knock down trees only. A decision was tabled until another quote could be secured from Pridemark Tree Service.

Mayor Knight presented the Board with two other opportunities: Downtown Revitalization Initiative (\$100 Million Pool) and New York Forward (\$100 Million Pool). While both grants could be helpful, the stipulation when awarded these grants is that New York State gets to decide how the money is used as part of a complicated process. Due to that stipulation and the Village working towards planning the next year, the Board is not interested in applying at this time but maybe in the future.

Trustee Adams, a Village member of the Oktoberfest Association announced all the new features for this years Oktoberfest, which will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> 12-5:30pm. New this year; stein holding contest, more games for both adults and kids, four breweries, and two bands.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to Approve Budget Workshop Dates: October 6th, 2025, and October 20th, 2025 at 6:00pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to allow the Committee for Music in the Burg to use the M&S Depot on September 14<sup>th</sup> 1-5PM for live music on the deck. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to move Funds Contingency A1990.0 \$1650 to Shade Trees A8560.4 for tree removal in Memorial Park. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to move Funds Zoning Contractual Expenses A8010.4 \$2000 and Historical Property Contractual Expenses A7520.4 \$981.30 to Streets & Maintenance Equipment A5110.2 for speed sign. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to Close Public Hearing on Local Law #1-2025: Overriding Tax Cap with no public comments at 7:46 PM. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to Adopt Local Law #1-2025: Overriding Tax Cap. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to enter executive session with Attorney Mauhs at 7:48pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to exit executive session at 8:27pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker authorizing Attorney Mauhs to enter negotiations with owners of 113 Railroad Avenue regarding lease of back section of 111 Railroad Avenue for parking. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez authorizing Attorney Mauhs and Mayor Knight to draft a letter of intent to MCS regarding parcel 106.15-10-16.2.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$114,905.55 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$11,821.06 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$10,046.63 were audited and ordered paid. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Correspondence: 8/2/25 letter Charter Comm re: channels; letter Tanja Lonwinski re: Community project; 8/6/25 letter V. Middleburgh re: sidewalks Scribner; 8/8/25 letter V. Middleburgh re: sign Middlefort Rd. and response letter V. Hellen; 8/14/25 letter V. Middleburgh re: 140 Well Ave Parking; letter V. Middleburgh re: 136 Well Ave Parking; letter J. Gruning re: Parking in Village; letter V. Middleburgh re: response J. Gruning parking; 8/18/25 Email V. Middleburgh re: cancel cloud permit program; Email Guardian Mgt. re: sale 131 Grove St; 8/19/25 letter V. Middleburgh re: residence 111 RR Ave demo; 8/21/25 Charter Comm re: channels; 8/29/25 letter V. Middleburgh re: Oktoberfest sale craft beer; Letter Gross tax re: Time Warner, IDT Corp., Google North.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to adjourn at 8:34pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rebecca Kelley – Deputy Clerk.