

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on January 5th, 2026, at Village Hall.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker, Amanda Fernandez & Kevin Young; Also present: Clerk Kelley, DPW Superintendent Keyser, Chief Wayman, From MABA; Courtney Mickels, Angela Lawyer, Lucianna Silvestri, & Melissa Meyer. David Avitabile (*The Mountain Eagle*), Pete Lindemann (*Times Journal*); James Schilling. Absent: Code Officer Fink. Via Zoom; Attorney Fred Mauhs, Amanda Whalen from MVEDD.

Mayor Knight called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to approve Special Board Minutes for December 1, 2025. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve Regular Board Minutes for December 8, 2025. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to Open Public Hearing on Water & Sewer Debt Redemption Rates at 7:01 PM. Mayor Knight explained the Water Debt Redemption rate would be increasing by \$3.20, and that the Sewer Debt Redemption Rate would be decreasing by \$3.50. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Chief Wayman Monthly Report: Aaron's Electric provided a quote for replacing lights in the bays at the Fire House. The Board discussed the quote and Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to approve Aaron's Electric quote. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Absent; had Mayor Knight read report: only one building permit this month.

Clerk Kelley Monthly Report: Tax bills were mailed out, getting things ready for February Water & Sewer bills. Everything going good.

DPW Superintendent Keyser Monthly Report:

**General**

- Snow removal continues. Trying to work around public by going out late at night and earlier in morning for the smaller accumulations.
- Working on cold patching where applicable.

Trees on Main Street need pruning, probably will be done in March; one tree definitely needs to come down, possibly more. Discussion on future tree removal, stump grinding, and tree replacement ensued among Board and Superintendent. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to approve removal of trees on Main Street as needed. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

**Water**

- Smith control panel update; parts for panel are still 10 weeks out, may need to look into different vendor.
- Water meters will be read in the next couple weeks.

**Sewer**

- Nothing to report.

Members of MABA (Middleburgh Area Business Association) presented to the Board their new Policy and Guidelines packet. Lucianna Silvestri of MABA discussed the options for volunteers could differ for various events. For example, MABA would like to have officers and committee members that attend all meetings and are always involved, allowing others to sign up to volunteer for events, without any other future commitment. They believe this will lead to more structure within the group. The Board agreed and will look over the rest of the packet and give any feedback they can.

EV Charger Grant Discussion: Amanda Whalen of MVEDD (called in via Zoom), discussed her experience with EV chargers and helping municipalities apply for EV charger grants. Amanda went over the different stipulations of the EV Charger Grant and stated there's a scoring system to the grant. She also let us know the ways to improve our score. Grant application is due February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and Amanda said she could have the application done by our February meeting, so the Board will reach out again around then before making a final decision on the project.

The Board discussed the future ideas for Badgley Park. Superintendent Keyser suggested our crew dig down a few feet next to the skating rink to explore how far the wall goes down and go from there. Hopefully we will be able to keep as much of the existing rink as possible. The Board agreed that it was a good idea.

Mayor Knight presented a Revised Employee Handbook to the Board. He stated the main change is with the Longevity Pay. Currently employees get a \$100 bonus after they've completed 5 years, and an additional \$10 added for each year after. That will be updated to; after 6 months employees will receive \$100 retention bonus; after completing 1 year \$200 retention bonus and \$10 added each year annually through the 5<sup>th</sup> year. Then it transitions to Longevity pay. Longevity pay starts after 5 years with a \$300 bonus adding \$10 each year until the 10<sup>th</sup> year. Also updated was the list of Holidays to include Juneteenth. The Board will review the Revised Employee Handbook prior to February meeting.

Mayor Knight would like to have the “Welcome to Middleburgh” sign on Route 145 (by the Middleburgh Diner) updated. The sign has been faded by the sun and the artwork that once decorated the top of the sign is now just a white oval. The Board is hoping a local artist could redesign the sign, and they are open to ideas. The Board will reconsider this at the March meeting.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve Resolution #1-2026: Appointing Joint Village and Town Zoning Board of Appeals. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve Resolution #2-2026: Establishing January 7, 2026 as “Pasta & Grill Day”. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve Resolution #3-2026: Supporting a Joint Project on Clauverwie. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to Close Public Hearing on Water & Sewer Debt Redemption Rates at 8:08 PM with no public comment. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to increase Water Dept Redemption from \$21.36 to \$24.56. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to decrease Sewer Debt Redemption from \$115.30 to \$111.80. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Public Comment: none

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to enter executive session at 8:14pm to discuss ongoing litigation with Village Attorney. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to exit executive session at 8:41pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to remove the RV Parking sign from Baker Avenue lot. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$50,673.14 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$7,650.95 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$5,881.41 were audited and ordered paid. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Correspondence: 12/20/25 Utility Tax payment Niagara Mohawk, 12/20/25 Gross Receipts Tax: TWC & IDT, 12/22/25 Scho. Co Mortgage Tax Report, 12/30/25 Letters to Delaware, MJ Team, & Labella- sewer extension, 12/31/25 U.S. Senate: Battlefields, 1/5/26 Letter to Anne Lamont

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to adjourn at 8:42pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Rebecca Kelley – Clerk.