

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on February 2nd, 2026, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker, Amanda Fernandez & Kevin Young; Also present; Attorney Fred Mauhs, Clerk Kelley, DPW Superintendent Keyser, Chief Wayman. David Avitabile (*The Mountain Eagle*), Pete Lindemann (*Times Journal*); Grant Committee: Patty Paser, Rotary: Katelynn Schuttig, & Brenda Ferraro-Hanson. James Schilling, & Linda Gumbel. Absent: Code Officer Fink.

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

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve the Year End Board Minutes for December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025; Regular Board Minutes for January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026; and, Special Board Minutes for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Chief Wayman Monthly Report: Some members have applied to join the County Teams. Trustee Tinker made a motion seconded by Trustee Adams to approve the members applications to County Teams. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0. The Fire Department's side-by-side ATV is from 2006 and may need to be replaced soon, possibly by a bigger one with 4 doors instead of 2. The ISO rating for the Fire Department was 15 years old, so testing and review of records was done. A good ISO score can lower home insurance rates. Hydrants are next for testing.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Absent; Mayor Knight reported that it is slow currently. New Email: [codes@villageofmiddleburgh.gov](mailto:codes@villageofmiddleburgh.gov).

Trustee Young researched some phone plan options, finding an adequate phone for \$70. Monthly cost would be \$8 per month with talk and text only, no data. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to authorize the cell phone purchase and monthly payments. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0. Trustee Young will also look into a similar phone/plan for DPW Superintendent Keyser.

Clerk Kelley Monthly Report: Lots of people coming in to pay tax bills. Water bills were sent out. Everything going well.

DPW Superintendent Keyser Monthly Report: new email; [dpw@villageofmiddleburgh.gov](mailto:dpw@villageofmiddleburgh.gov)

#### **General**

- Snow removal continues throughout the season, no major issues yet.
- Owner of 314 Main Street, George Ciarelli requested that the Village restrict box truck access to the alley between them and the Hardware Store after the restaurant's ventilation fan has been struck twice in recent months. Superintendent Keyser said there is no way for the Village to police that; Mayor Knight contacted the establishment receiving the box truck deliveries and requested they use an alternative route.

#### **Water**

- Smith Control panel update: still waiting on parts for panel; Village may need to contract another vendor to get it done.
- Water meters were read. No major leaks detected this billing cycle.

#### **Sewer**

- Nothing to report.

Members from Rotary Katelynn Schuttig & Brenda Ferraro-Hanson were present to announce some upcoming Rotary events. Firstly, the Chicken BBQ March 14<sup>th</sup> from 2pm-4pm \$15 per dinner, dinners can be picked up or delivered, and also the option to donate a dinner and have it delivered to someone. Next the Slaughter 5K will be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> this year which is also the May 4<sup>th</sup> Friday date. They also wanted to share that this year the annual Arts & Crafts Festival will be moved to the beginning of July to coincide with 250<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations. Trustee Tinker inquired about the likelihood of the Canoe Race happening again, and the Rotarians stated that they would love to bring that event back, but the volunteer power needed for that event exceeds the current number of members in Rotary and safety is a major concern for said event.

Grant Committee member Dr. Patty Paser discussed a Strategic Plan to use going forward when applying for grants. A Strategic Plan being utilized is going to increase our likelihood of being chosen for certain grants. Current comprehensive plan we have with Town is from 2015. Community engagement like surveys help, may have more sent out in the future. Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to authorize Dr. Paser in collaboration with the Board on creating a new Strategic Plan. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

EV Charger Grant Discussion: Mayor Knight reported that he and Trustee Tinker met with representatives of Eastern Energy Solutions at the M&S Depot to review that site for potential EV Charger Station installation. The visit went well and Eastern Energy Solutions said the total project cost would be under \$13,000.00. Attorney Fred Mauhs, being the only one with experience using EV Chargers gave his opinion, stating that Eastern Energy Solutions preferred charger is reliable and has good reviews. With help from MVEDD we could get grants to have Village reimbursed after the initial purchase so potentially would be no cost to us. Mayor Knight polled the Board and members were in favor of applying for the grant. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to Approve MVEDD to Submit ZEV Application. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to Approve Intermunicipal Agreement with Town of Middleburgh and waive annual taxes of .93 for parcel 106.20-2-24. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez presented the idea of a Rose Garden installation in the Village. No location has been determined yet as this is in the idea phase currently, but with help from local horticulturist Laura Milak it should be a beautiful success. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve moving forward with the planning of a new Rose Garden. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to Approve RFP (Request for Proposal) for Railroad Avenue Sidewalk Replacement. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0. Trustee Adams is going to inspect sidewalks on Main Street for potential spot replacement.

Mayor Knight disseminated copies of the Revised Employee Handbook at the January Regular Meeting for review and Board Members had no proposed amendments. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to Approve Revised Employee Handbook. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Public Comment: Railroad Avenue resident James Schilling presented to the Board a proposed “Sweethearts of Middleburgh” contest where community members can vote for their favorite couple at local businesses. He is hoping to hold a banquet to crown the winners. The Board thought the idea was “cute.”

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to enter executive session at 7:52pm 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 Adams to exit executive session at 8:16pm. 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 \$114,036.65 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$8,495.12 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$19,446.86 were audited and ordered paid. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Correspondence: 1/8/26 PERMA Site Inspection Report, 1/12/26 NYCOM Comp Alliance program, 1/12/26 National Grid- Notification for switch to Polaris Power Services, 1/21 Tanja Konwinski - Constitution Pipeline Intervener deadline, 2/2/26 DEC Tree Pruning Workshop on 3/4/26 & 3/9/26.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to adjourn at 8:20pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Rebecca Kelley – Clerk.