

Board of Trustees

Village of St. Johnsville

Organizational Meeting Minutes

4/10/26, 5:00pm

Present: Deputy Mayor Steven Elwood, Trustee Melissa Baker-Battisti, Trustee Brenda Phillips, Trustee Thomas Steele, Deputy Clerk Cheri VanBrocklin

Public Present: Janice Zoller, Nino Polidori, Patsy Schoff, Larry Schoff, Margaret DiGiacomo, Kathy Buckley, Martha Mancini, Michael Mancini, Andrew Weblar Jr, Thomas Elwood, Carol Pedro, Eleanor Weaver, Mary Rackmyer, Jim Castrucci, Ina Smith, Janice Macclouchlin, Frances Hulbert Shaut, Bernie Shaut Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Elwood at 5:00 pm and the salute to the flag was given along with a moment of silence for Military and First Responders.

Deputy Mayor Elwood read a letter of resignation from Mayor Dawn White **motion** to accept the resignation was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, motion passed.

Motion made by Trustee Baker-Battisti to appoint Steve Elwood as Mayor to finish the term that ends 2027, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion passed**.

The attached list of appointments was made as follows:

Motion made by Trustee Phillips to appoint Thomas Steele for a 1 year term as Village Trustee, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion made to have Brenda Phillips finish out 2 years of a 4 year Trustee term made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion made to appoint Marissa Nellis as Village Clerk for a 2 year term made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion made to appoint Cheri VanBrocklin as Deputy Village Clerk for a 2 year term made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Joanne Young as Budget Officer for a 1 year term made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, noone seconded, **motion not passed**.

Motion to appoint Joanne Young as Treasurer for a 2 year term made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, noone seconded, **motion not passed**.

Motion to appoint Billy (William) Vicciarelli as Superintendent of Public Works for a 1 year term made Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Matt Rapacz as Historian for a 1 year term made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Cliff Dorrough as Codes Enforcement Officer for a 1 year term made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Cliff Dorrough as Fair Housing Officer for 1 year term made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Postponed appointments for Director of Emergency Preparedness for a 1 year term, Fire Chief for a 1 year term, 1st Assistant Chief for a 1 year term and 2nd Assistant Chief for a 1 year term because their elections are being held on 4/11/26, they will be nominated at the next monthly meeting (April 21, 2026).

Motion to appoint Town of St. Johnsville as Acting Justice for a 1 year term made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti, all ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Norman Mastromoro as Attorney (to the Village) for a 1 year term made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Melissa Baker-Battisti as Deputy Mayor for a 1 year term made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to appoint Kathleen Pescatore as Dog Control Officer for a term of 1 year suggested by Mayor Elwood, motion made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

No appointments made at this time for the Library.

No new appointments made for the Planning Board or the Zoning Board of Appeals until more people can be found to join.

Motion made to have The Recorder be the official newspaper of the Village made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion made to have NBT be selected as the official bank for the Village made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti, Trustee Phillips had to recuse herself as she is employed for NBT. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to move regular monthly meetings held at the Community House to the 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30pm made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Resolution No. 4 of 2026 to Establish Mileage Allowance at the rate of \$0.725 cents per mile to take effect immediately was not voted on due to the uncertainty raised by a citizen believing it is \$.75 cents per mile.

Resolution No. 5 of 2026 for Advance Approval of Claims to authorize payments in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges and any bills where a discount is available. A motion made to approve was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele to take effect immediately. A roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Steven Elwood-Aye

Trustee Melissa Baker-Battisti-Aye

Trustee Brenda Phillips –Aye

Trustee Thomas Steele-Aye

Resolution No. 6 of 2026 for Designation of Depositories for the deposit of all Village monies received by the Village Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk and the receiver of taxes to be the following institutions: NBT Bank, St. Johnsville, NY and Community Bank, Canajoharie, NY. A motion made to approve was made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti to take effect immediately. A roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Steven Elwood-Aye

Trustee Melissa Baker-Battisti-Aye

Trustee Brenda Phillips-Recuse

Trustee Thomas Steele-Aye

A **motion** for Approval of Bonding for the Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, and Acting Justice was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion passed**.

A **motion** was made for the acceptance of procurement policy was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion passed**.

An **appointment** of Trustee Steele was made to Grievance Board 1, Trustee Baker-Battisti will remain as the second Trustee to the Board until the position can be filled.

An **appointment** of Trustee Baker-Battisti and Trustee Phillips was made to Grievance Board 2.

An **appointment** of Trustee Phillips and Trustee Steele was made to the Harassment Committee.

Acceptance of the Open Meetings Law, **motion** was made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion made to continue with the New Village Rules was made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Motion to accept Village Paid Holidays (on the list) and to add Black Friday, Black Friday was suggested by Mayor Elwood. No motion was made, an agreement was made to **table** it until further review with the budget.

A **motion** was made to go into Executive Session to discuss a real estate transaction was made at 5:18pm by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

A **motion** was made to return from Executive Session at 5:40pm was made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion passed**.

It was pointed out by the Deputy Clerk there was not a **motion** to accept the previous holidays that were discussed so a motion was made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion passed**.

Mayor Elwood moved on to the agenda for the **Special Meeting** which was regarding Resolution No. 3 of 2026 which is to establish garbage fees as a special assessment charge on the Village Tax Bill. The subject was tabled until there is further financial discussion with the budget. Motion to table was made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, motion was tabled.

Public attendance was the same as the organizational meeting.

Public comment-

Kim Snell-welcomed the new members of the Board. Thanked Trustee Battisti's husband for picking up trash on their street.

Frances Hulbert-Shaut- Welcomed new members of the Board, also asked about the status of her grievance with the Village. Mayor Elwood advised her received her email, please be patient and he will respond to her soon.

A member from the audience asked if Department Heads were involved with the budget. Mayor Elwood responded that they submit things to Joanne (Treasurer) and they (the Board) reviews everything. The citizen suggested that everything be cut by 10%. Mayor Elwood responded that everything would be reviewed.

Charlie Straney-He wanted verification that it was the refuse charges that were tabled tonight, Mayor Elwood, confirmed. Borrowing was a suggestion but to go against the NYS Constitution makes no sense.

A **motion** was made to adjourn was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Steele.
All ayes, **motion passed**.

Meeting adjourned at 5:46pm.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk