

05/18/2026

**Board of Trustees
5:30 PM Community House**

Year End Meeting

Present: Mayor Steven Elwood Trustees: Melissa Baker-Battisti, Trustee Brenda Phillips, Trustee Elaine Fitzpatrick, Trustee Thomas Steele, Village Clerk Marissa Nellis

Public: Nino Polidori, Dennis Clark, Lawrence Schoff, Jeremy Polidori, Constance Terricola, Barb Knight, Carol Pedro, Barb Stagliano, MaryBeth Francis, Frances Hulbert Shaut

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mayor Elwood. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was taken to honor military and first responders.

Correspondence:

Letter from Carmen Licari offering \$8,000 for the empty lot the Village owns across from the Post Office on Main St. Mayor Elwood stated the property needs to be appraised, it will be listed with a real estate agent. No action taken by Board.

Public Comment:

Nino Polidori inquired why there is nothing on the agenda today about the garbage rates. From the last meeting the Board was going to get together prior to this monthly meeting. Mayor Elwood responded the Board did not get together, they had email correspondence among them. There has currently been no decisions made yet.

Dennis Clark inquired if there has been a meeting with Delaware Engineering yet about the possibility of not doing the plant upgrade. Mayor Elwood responded they have, there is approximately \$50,000 we are looking to be reimbursed from the plan and study that was done in 2000. Also \$150,000 for reimbursement. We will prioritize what work we want done. Mr. Clark asked if everything discussed was put in writing? The Mayor responded that it wasn't but it could be. Mr. Clark suggested that be done. He also asked if the Village has a title to the Central property yet? Mayor Elwood responded that he has a Quit Claim Deed. Mr. Clark inquired about the Foil's he has submitted.

Francis Hulbert Shaut requested to speak at public comment at the end of the meeting.

Department Heads:

- a. Fire Chief-Chris Weaver-report submitted
- b. DPW/Marina-Billy Vicciarelli-report submitted
- c. WWTP-Frank Erno-report submitted
- d. Police-Chief Chad Manley-would like to have discussion with the Board about hiring a new part-time officer. He reviewed some information involved with that. He also gave all of the information with the Police Department sponsoring the Community Expo currently scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2026. Chief Manley would like Board approval/support.

Motion to accept the PD sponsoring the Community Expo made by Trustee Brenda Phillips, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion carried**.

Chief Manley also addressed recent, inaccurate and misleading statements posted on social media (Facebook) regarding the Police Department's use of License Plate Reader System (LPR). Chief Manley reviewed updates and purpose of the PD's use of the technology and the cameras that are in the Village and PD vehicles. They are only used as an investigative tool only, not to track anyone. They are not used for facial recognition of whomever is driving the vehicle. Someone stating on

social media the tools the PD uses for anything but their intended use could cause fear among residents and damage relationships with residents and Public Safety Agencies.

Trustee Steele responded and thanked Chief Manley for handling this issue respectfully, stating most of the comments referred to were made by him and it got out of hand. He did ask for clarification that the cameras are not AI, Chief Manley responded they are not. Trustee Steele openly apologized.

- e. Codes Officer-Cliff Dorrough-report submitted
- f. Dog Control-report submitted

Motion made by Trustee Phillips to accept all department head reports, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti. All ayes, **motion carried**.

Treasurer: report submitted

Motion to accept the Treasurer report made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion carried**.

Old Business:

Water Chestnuts at the Marina, July 27th DEC will be here to help pull the water chestnuts. Mayor Elwood stating he is waiting to see there is going to be any cost, the previous mayor said there was not. If there is, Mayor Elwood stated he wants to be sure we have it in the budget before they are pulled. A citizen inquired if a harvester was going to be used again. Mayor Elwood was unsure of an answer as he is waiting on a response from the DEC.

Motion to create a consent agenda consisting of the 4/20/26 Regular Meeting Minutes and the 4/29/26 Public Hearing & Special Meeting minutes made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Steele. All ayes, **motion carried**.

Audit of Claims: A **motion** to accept the claims as presented to the Board by the Clerk, in the amount of \$98,557.98 was made by Trustee Baker-Battisti, seconded by Trustee Phillips. All ayes, **motion carried**. The claims are broken down as follows:

a. General Fund	\$	55,320.32
b. Marina Fund	\$	2,955.35
c. Water Fund	\$	18,706.44
d. Sewer Fund	\$	7,414.30
e. Pre-paid items	\$	14,161.57

Discussion:

Mayor Elwood explained we (the Village) is \$22,106.94 shy of paying off the bank the Village took out in the amount of \$236,000 or \$246,000 with the penalty. The Treasurer gave an option of delaying payment on four existing bills to pay off the band. If the band is not paid the Village would have to renew it, need a Board Resolution, arbitrage certificate, a closing certificate, a tax exempt obligation, approval of legal opinion and

cost another \$10,000 (to make the \$246,000). Trustee Phillips inquired if there are due dates on the bills. Mayor Elwood responded they are in the vouchers presented. Village Clerk Marissa Nellis stated the bond note has a due date of May 29, 2026. Mayor Elwood stated as soon as money comes in (to the Clerk) from taxes, the bills will get paid immediately. It should be within 2-3 weeks, with the vouchers signed it enables immediate payment.

Motion to pay the band made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti, all ayes, **motion carried**.

New Business:

Trustee Elaine Fitzpatrick was appointed Friday, May 12, 2026. She was welcomed to the Board. Fiscal Year-End meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th at 5:30 pm.

Motion for the end of year meeting to be on Tuesday, May 26th at 5:30 pm made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti, all ayes, **motion carried**.

Verifone contract-Marina gas pumps there was no contract signed to Verifone last fall (2025). They originally wanted \$20,000+, Mayor Elwood has spoken to them and have gotten them down to \$1,200. He is still waiting for them to send a contract, a contract they wanted signed by last Sunday. Mayor Elwood stated he couldn't sign a contract without Board approval. He stated he wanted to know if there was a way to bypass Verifone. Frances Hulbert Shaut interjected by stating that it couldn't and went into an explanation. Mayor Elwood asked the Board if he should continue trying to contact Verifone. It's not currently in the budget, it can be pushed off till the next Board meeting. In the mean time the Marina is unable to pump fuel.

Meeting scheduled to go over the Comprehensive Plan was scheduled for 4:30 pm on June 15, 2026 prior to the monthly Board meeting.

NY Class or Treasury Bills for interest bearing accounts suggested by the NYS Comptroller, Board approval is needed to have Joanne (Young, Treasurer) do either NY Class or Treasury Bills. Trustee Phillips asked where money was going to be taken from and put where? Mayor Elwood responded it's essentially putting it into NY Class or Treasury Bills to earn more interest, 4%+ opposed to our current bank account getting 0% interest. Whatever bank is used would be the facilitator. Trustee Phillips stated if there is anything done with NBT bank she would need to recuse herself (due to employment).

Motion to do NY Class or Treasury bills, whichever has better interest, made by Trustee Steele, seconded by Trustee Baker. Trustee Phillips recuse, Trustee Fitzpatrick and Mayor Elwood ayes, **motion carried**.

Clean up St. Johnsville Initiative, named by Mayor Elwood. Ongoing problems around the Village such as unmowed lawns. Would like to create a local law regarding unmowed lawns, if DPW steps in to mow the resident/owner would receive a fine, if unpaid it would be relieved to taxes. He would like the new local law to be enforced by Codes Enforcement, Law Enforcement and the DPW. Code is currently 18", that can all be changed. This law could be included with the Nuisance Law the PD Chief is working on. This new law could also include ice and snow. Garbage that is left and not picked up and the DPW has to pick it up could be included as well. Mayor Elwood stated these are all ideas. He also mentioned complaints about free range chickens and roosters in the Village. This may need to be addressed again. Permission given by the Board to have the Mayor start working with Norm (Village Attorney Mastromoro) on creating the law/laws. Permission given.

Public Comment:

An individual from the public inquired what if there is so much (trash/rubbish/furniture) on the lawn that it can't be mowed (by DPW)? Mayor Elwood responded would be addressed especially if on the curbstop and sidewalks. Something would need to be specific in the codes.

Franics Hulbert Shaut inquired about the status of her foil request and that she was going to be charged for a copy. She inquired if it had something to do with the broken printer or is that still being done. The Clerk responded that it is \$.25/page standard copy fee for all Foil requests that require a paper copy. The fee is within NYCOM's Foil guide.

She also inquired about the grievance she filed. Attorney Mastromoro responded there was certain information on her grievance that was not entered/included on the coversheet. He stated the detailed information she provided was only for a certain part of the information that was provided. The Village is not required to hear the grievance without going thru the proper channels, ie: going to her immediate supervisor with dates and details. Ms. Hulbert Shaut stated she spoke to a lawyer, Attorney Mastromoro interjected and stated to Ms. Hulbert Shaut to have her lawyer contact him, this concluded the conversation.

A resident asked Chief Manley if the cameras were up and running at the ballpark. Chief Manley responded.

A resident inquired about the docks at the marina. Mayor Elwood stated there is money in the budget to do work on them to get the docks floating. It will be voted on in June or July.

A resident inquired about the blighted properties and the Village taking ownership. Mayor Elwood responded that they have all been cited. There is a property on Kingsbury that is being worked on.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm made by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Baker-Battisti, all ayes, **motion carried**.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk