

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening **January 13, 2026**, at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Joe Mooney  
Trustees Katie Sack  
Bill Foster  
Ken Giblin  
Jackie Wandell  
Clerk/ Treasurer Pam Benthin  
DPW Supervisor Matt Seamans

**CODE:** Three citations were taken care of and fire safety inspections were done. More inspections are to come as is the annual code report. Possible litigation in the future due to resident noncompliance. The Code Officer will be completing more training. Snowy sidewalks were discussed. There has been an update in the Energy Code litigation (All-Electric Buildings Act) happening at the state level: at the current moment all new appliances/heating apparatus do not have to be electric as the proposed bill states. Due to pushback this bill has not been passed and so its regulations are not in effect at this time.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** Discussion centered around cleaning of drywells, Village water use and payment of such, a property maintenance complaint was made as well.

**MINUTES:** Approved as presented for the month of December 2025, with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Accepted as read

**BILLS:** Presented. Approved in the amount of \$65,535.55 from abstract numbers 34-26, 35-26 and 36-26 with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- 1. DPW Fire-** The DPW Barn had a major fire on December 12, 2025. An emergency meeting was held December 16, 2025 to hire the Niland Group as our public adjuster. Engineers, inspectors, and inventory specialists have been in the building to assess damage. We have been given a verbal commitment from the insurance company and our adjusters that the building is most likely a complete loss. We are in the early planning stages of the demolition process, which will be covered by our insurance. A storage container has been added to the site to house remaining assets gathered from the safer parts of the building. The office has been creating an inventory for replacement items.
- 2. Well #4 Generator** – Installation planned for January 14, 2026.
- 3. Street Light Repair-** We have been notified that there are three streetlights out and a request will be made for a vendor to come in and repair those. Considering some scheduling difficulties with our main vendor we are looking into hiring an additional vendor for assistance.
- 4. Main Street Speed Limit-** The office received an email from a concerned resident about the speed limit on Main Street. They wish to reduce it to 35 MPH for the entire Village portion of the road. In previous years the Village has tried to get this changed and our efforts have been rebuffed in the past

by DOT. It has been determined that a petition with signatures needs to come from the people, because it has more weight than if it comes from the Village government.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- RESOLUTION #39-26** Budget Adjustment for CHIPS – adopted with a motion by *Trustee Foster*, seconded by *Trustee Giblin*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #40-26** Funds Transfer – adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Giblin*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #41-26** Disposal of Assets- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #42-26** General Village Election- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Wandell*, seconded by *Trustee Foster*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #43-26** Transfer Funds/Budget Adjustment- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #44-26** To Hire Abatement/Demo Vendor- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Giblin*, seconded by *Trustee Foster*. Roll call vote. Foster, Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused

#### REPORTS:

- **Public Works-** Handling all things regarding the Barn Fire, moved Aqualogics panel from DPW Office to Well #3 (up and operational), removed hand tools and other needed items, settling into borrowed EMS space, repaired roller chain on sander, installed heater in Well #3, maintained all services to the Village without interruption, Scot Coombs to retire in March after 41 years of service, SOP for fire hydrants is a work in progress.
- **Clerk/Finances-** Scheduled our second February Board Meeting for Thursday February 26, 2026, Created a new H fund for all fire expenses, coordinating many meetings and inventories, DPW data was recovered off of Barn computer, Christmas Tree Pick-up will be Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, we received approval for DEC program on Slosson Creek (only a study at this point), working on the reporting and gathering of documentation for Restore NY.
- **Mayor-** Lots of emails have been received and sent. Local agencies have been reaching out to the new Mayor.
- **Parks-**There will be no ice-skating rink this season due the materials being buried under the collapsed DPW Barn roof.
- **Library-** Kathy Grant welcomed as newest member of the Library Board.
- **Personnel-** Scot Coombs retiring in March, there will be a posting for the position.

**BOARD**

**COMMENTS:**

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm

Motion: *Trustee Giblin* Seconded: *Trustee Sack*

*Trisha Thomas*

*Deputy Clerk Treasurer*