

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening **December 9, 2025**, at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor	Jim Tornatore
Trustees	Joe Mooney
	Ken Giblin
	Katie Sack
	Jackie Wandell
Clerk/ Treasurer	Pam Benthin
DPW Supervisor	Matt Seamans

**PUBLIC**

**HEARING:** **To Exceed the Tax Cap-** Opened public hearing at 6:31.  
The Board discussed the formality of needing to pass the resolution to exceed the tax cap in the event that unforeseen circumstances make raising the tax levy rate above 2 % occur. This was deemed highly unlikely, but was taken as a precaution, nonetheless.  
Public hearing closed at 6:32pm.

**PUBLIC**

**HEARING:** **26-27 Budget-** Opened public hearing at 6:32 pm.  
The 26-27 Budget was discussed. There is a 0% increase/decrease to the tax levy from last year.  
Public hearing closed at 6:38pm.

**PRIVILEGE OF**

**THE FLOOR:** Discussion centered around bulk water sales, “Breakfast with Santa” event at the Newark Valley Fire Station, December 20<sup>th</sup> (all proceeds will be donated to Jared Martin), the bike park, shared services and salting roads.

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

**FINANCIAL**

**REPORT:** Accepted as read

**BILLS:** Presented. Approved with amendment in the amount of \$26,497.38 from abstract numbers 30-26, 31-26, 32-26 and 33-26 with a motion by *Trustee Wandell* seconded by *Trustee Sack*.

**WORK IN**

**PROGRESS:**

1. **Well #4 Generator** – We have purchased a generator and are waiting for delivery and installation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION #32-26** Override of Tax Levy Limit – adopted with a motion by *Trustee Giblin*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Tornatore, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.

- RESOLUTION #33-26** Adoption of the 2026-27 Village Budget – adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Giblin*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Tornatore, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #34-26** Change of March 2026 Election Date- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Mooney*, seconded by *Trustee Sack*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Tornatore, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #35-26** Completion of Employee Probation- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Wandell*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Tornatore, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.
- RESOLUTION #36-26** Election Inspectors/ General Village Election- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Wandell*, seconded by *Trustee Mooney*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Mooney, Sack, Tornatore, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 - Excused.

#### **REPORTS:**

- **Public Works-** Repaired a leaky hydrant, Bobby is to train for his CDL with help from the Bus Garage, set up for Holiday Magic, and started on lights for the ice-skating rink.
- **Clerk/Finances-** SRBC meeting, meeting with Elaine Jardine and Sara Zubalsky-Peer from the county, Meghan took her Intro to Government Accounting course.
- **Mayor-** Tioga County announced the acquisition of the Walgreens Pharmacy Plaza in Owego.
- **Parks-** Preparing to put in the ice rink.
- **Library-** Submitted the 990 Tax return.

#### **BOARD**

#### **COMMENTS**

**OR CONCERNS:** - Our thoughts are with Jared Martin and his family.

- Mayor Tornatore submitted a letter to be read by the Clerk Treasurer announcing his retirement.

The following was read:

“Dear Newark Valley Village Residents,

For over twenty-one years I have gratefully served as your Village Mayor. Last October our family and friends celebrated the completion of my eightieth journey around the sun. After the party, our more immediate family suggested to me that someone else deserves an opportunity to lead this fine, wonderful, unique Village that Carrie and I call home. Effective upon the Clerk/Treasurer reading this document; I am retiring as your Newark Valley Village Mayor.

Working closely with all of our previous and current Staff and Trustees; and YOU OUR RESIDENTS has been some of the finer times of my life.

Kind Regards,

Jim Tornatore”

-Board discussion to see if one of the Trustees should fill the vacancy until the end of term in April 2026.

-Deputy Mayor Joseph Mooney was nominated with a motion by Trustee Sack and seconded by Trustee Giblin.

**RESOLUTION #37-26** To Fulfill Remainder of Mayoral Term- adopted with a motion by *Trustee Sack*, seconded by *Trustee Giblin*. Roll call vote. Giblin, Sack, Wandell – Yes. 0 - No. 0 – Excused, Mooney- Abstained

-Joseph Mooney takes oath to become Mayor for the remainder of the term.

-Deputy Mayor position is now vacant appointment- tabled.

-William Foster is appointed to fill the vacant Trustee position for the remainder of the term in April 2026.

-Mayor Mooney welcomed William Foster to the board and paid homage to Former Mayor Jim Tornatore's service to the community.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

Motion: *Trustee Wandell*

Seconded: *Trustee Sack*

*Trisha Thomas*

*Deputy Clerk Treasurer*