

WORKSESSION MEETING

MAY 21, 2026

The Board of Trustees held the Worksession Meeting on May 21, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. in the Village of Liberty, 167 North Main Street, Liberty, NY. Mayor Joan Stoddard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Joan Stoddard, Trustee Ernest Feasel, Trustee Eveleese Lake and Trustee Jayneen Mills. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village, and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor/Trustee Robert Mir

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Steven D'Agata, David Burke; Water Department, Lee Cogswell, Alyson Cogswell, Dan Fagnani; Delaware Engineering, Thalmann, Larry Kurtz and Irina Kurtz

TRIBUTE TO FORMER POLICE CHIEF EDWARD EISLEY

Police Chief Steven D'Agata gave a tribute to former Police Chief Edward Eisley who recently passed away.

Police Chief Eisley arrived at the Village's Police Department in 1983 and served honorably until 1992. Upon his arrival swift changes were made almost immediately that added a streamlined record system, proper security, a K9 Service Dog and a mounted Police Patrol.

Police Chief Eisley was a veteran and spent his final years in Virginia.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ PUBLIC HEARING – APRIL 16, 2026 - CDBG

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ WORKSESSION - APRIL 16, 2026

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ PUBLIC HEARING - APRIL 23, 2026 & APRIL 30, 2026 – BUDGET

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ PUBLIC HEARING - APRIL 30, 2026 – TAX CAP

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ SPECIAL MEETING - APRIL 30, 2026

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ REGULAR MEETING - MAY 7, 2026

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Stoddard said the Village received the following correspondence during this time frame.

❖ Letter from Sullivan County Re: Polling 5.6.26

TABLED BUSINESS: DELAWARE ENGINEERING UPDATE

Delaware Engineering's Report is annexed under Exhibit a

EVENT PERMITS – UPDATE FROM POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief D'Agata said that the May event has been cancelled and that the July event is still being considered.

LAMAR ADVERTISING – BILLBOARD

The Board gave their opinion on the billboard signage and Attorney Silver will draft an agreement for Lamar to consider.

DISCUSSIONS ON ALTERNATE PARKING LOTS, PARKING METERS, SPEED LIMITS

Alternate Parking Lots

The Board will work on this issue over the summer so that it is ready for the Winter of 2026-27.

Parking Meters

Mayor Stoddard said she would like to get meters that will have portals throughout Main Street/Parking Lots that allow for payment in cash and/or credit card. These meters give you a slip for the car front dashboard so it can be monitored.

The Board will look into this type of meters.

Speed Limits

Police Chief D'Agata said he is expected to receive the engineering report on Wednesday and then the Board can determine a reasonable speed limit with the incorporated Village.

CONSIDER FUND BALANCE POLICY

Attorney Silver said he will check with NYCOM to see if they have any examples of a **Fund Balance Policy**.

NEW CONSIDER RESOLUTION – WATER RENTS 26-27 BUDGET **BUSINESS:**

RESOL.# Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried
25-2026: approving Resolution #25-2026

WHEREAS, the Village Board has authority pursuant to Section 84-6 of the Village Code to set, modify and change by Resolution water rents, service charges and penalties for non-timely payment,

WHEREAS, the Village Board has previously set water rates effective June 1, 2025 by Resolution, and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid confusion since the Village, has, at times in the past, adopted and/or amended sewer, services charges and penalties for non-timely payments by Local Law, and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2002 the Village of Liberty has repealed such Local Law and has amended Section 84-6 of the Village Code to clarify its intent in order to avoid any further confusion, it is

RESOLVED, that effective as June 1, 2026, inside water rates in the Village of Liberty shall be \$11.80 per thousand gallons inside rate and \$20.75 per thousand gallons outside rate, and it is further

RESOLVED, that effective as of the date of adoption of this Resolution by the Village Board, all of the water rents (including service charges not paid within thirty (30) days shall be charged a 10% penalty fee.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO VOTE, WHICH RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

MAYOR STODDARD	-	YES
TRUSTEE MIR	-	ABSENT
TRUSTEE MILLS	-	YES
TRUSTEE FEASEL	-	YES
TRUSTEE LAKE	-	YES

CONSIDER SEWER RENTS – 2026/27 BUDGET

RESOL.# Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously
26-2026: carried approving Resolution #26-2026.

WHEREAS, the Village Board has authority pursuant to Section 67-7 of the Village Code to set, modify and change by Resolution sewer rates, service charges and penalties for non-timely payment,

WHEREAS, the Village Board has previously set sewer rates effective June 1, 2025 by Resolution, and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid confusion since the Village, has, at times in the past, adopted and/or amended sewer, services charges and penalties for non-timely payments by Local Law, and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2014 the Village of Liberty has repealed such Local Law and has amended Section 67-7 of the Village Code to clarify its intent in order to avoid any further confusion, it is

RESOLVED, that effective as June 1, 2026, inside sewer rates in the Village of Liberty shall be \$14.45 per thousand gallons inside rate and \$24.85 per thousand gallons outside rate, and it is further

RESOLVED, that effective as of the date of adoption of this Resolution by Village Board, there shall be a \$1.50 per month service charge for sewer line maintenance (i.e. \$4.50 per quarter), and it is further

RESOLVED, that effective as of the date of adoption of this Resolution by the Village Board, all of the sewer rents (including service charges not paid within thirty (30) days shall be charged a 10% penalty fee.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO VOTE, WHICH RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

MAYOR STODDARD	-	YES
TRUSTEE MIR	-	ABSENT
TRUSTEE MILLS	-	YES
TRUSTEE FEASEL	-	YES
TRUSTEE LAKE	-	YES

CONSIDER RESOLUTION – SANITATION FEES

RESOL.# Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously
27-2026: carried approving Resolution #27-2026.

WHEREAS, the Village Board has authority pursuant to Section 35-17 of the Village Code to set, modify and change by Resolution sanitation user fees;

WHEREAS, the Village Board has previously set sanitation user fees effective June 1, 2025 by Resolution, and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid confusion since the Village, has, at times in the past, adopted and/or amended sanitation user fees by Local Law, and

RESOLVED, that effective as June 1, 2026, the sanitation user fees will be as follows:

COMMERCIAL

1 Dumpster/1 Pickup per week	-	\$ 2168
1 Dumpster/2 Pickups per week	-	\$ 3792
No Dumpster/1 Pickup per week	-	\$ 914
No Dumpster/2 Pickups per week	-	\$ 1597

RESIDENTIAL

Single	-	\$ 435
Two Family	-	\$ 870
Three Family	-	\$ 1302
Apartment/Dumpster	-	\$ 2168

OPT OUT FEES

Single	-	\$ 218
Two Families	-	\$ 435
Three Families	-	\$ 651
Commercial users/Apartment Units	-	\$1084

RESOLVED, that all the above sanitation user fees will be effective as of June 1, 2026.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO VOTE, WHICH, RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

MAYOR STODDARD	-	YES
TRUSTEE MIR	-	ABSENT
TRUSTEE MILLS	-	YES
TRUSTEE FEASEL	-	YES
TRUSTEE LAKE	-	YES

RESOLUTION TO RELEVY UNPAID WATER/SEWER BILLS AND ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BILLINGS TO 2026/2027 VILLAGE TAXES

RESOL.# 28-2026: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving Resolution #28-2026

RESOLVED that pursuant to Chapter 67.5 and Chapter 83 of the Code of the Village of Liberty pertaining to unpaid water and sewer rents, the following listing of unpaid rents billed from April 1, 2025 and unpaid by May 1, 2026 shall be added to the real property tax of the owner of the property whose property benefited by the use of the water/sewer systems, and the Village services to wit:

The total amounts are:	Water	-	\$53,853.49
	Sewer	-	\$71,495.14
	AR	-	\$ 7,980.00

TOTAL TO RELEVY: \$133,328.63

CONSIDER BUDGET MODIFICATIONS TO 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR

RESOL.# 29-2026 Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Resolution #29-2026, Budget Modifications as follows:

CONSIDER CARRY OVER OF VACATION TIME TO 2026-27 FISCAL YEAR

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the following carry over of vacation:

Holly Huebsch	-	105 hours
Josh Casiano	-	77 hours

Lynn Barry	-	283 hours (240 allowed in contract)
Mark Kellam	-	288 hours (240 allowed in contract)

BILLS **Vouchers for Payment**
FOR

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #930 to Voucher #1010 in the amount of \$216,024.75.

ADJOURN: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:22 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER