

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 7, 2026

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on May 7, 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, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Robert Mir, Trustee Ernest Feasel, and Trustee Jayneen Mills. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village, and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Trustee Eveleese Lake

ALSO PRESENT: Police Officer Anthony Puma, Helmut L. Wilhelm (Post 109 Liberty), Alyssa Thalmann, Jean Dermer, Tami VanLeuven, Etta Barbanti, Daniel Ratner and Dara Williams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: All minutes will be presented at the next meeting.

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

INCOMING:

- ❖ Letter from No Limit Land Holdings Re: 111.-1-60
- ❖ E-Mail from Kathleen Lara Re: 108.-6-39

OUTGOING:

- ❖ Letter to SC EMS 4.21.26
- ❖ Letter to Maureen Cresitelli Re: Thank You 4.1.26

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the public.

Etta Barbanti (Business Owner) discussed the condition of the Village, stating she pays to have the church parking lot cleaned as well as other areas on Main Street.

Etta continued the conversation saying she does not see any Village employees or trustees doing any cleaning and would like to see Tom Lewis hired for approximately three hours a day to clean Main Street.

Tami VanLeuven (Main Street Business Owner) discussed the following issues:

- ❖ Asked if anything could be done to fix the parking lot at 59 North Main Street. It is in very bad shape.

- ❖ Asked how long unlicensed vehicles can sit on a property without being fined or removed.
- ❖ Said E-Bikes on the sidewalks are a safety issue because you cannot hear them coming.
- ❖ Stated the old Sullivan County Wholesalers building appears to be a safety issue.

Dara Williams stated the permit for work on the building expired in January.

Jean Dermer (Main Street Business Owner) asked about the parking meters.

Mayor Stoddard said the Village is continuing to work on them. They are however, incorporating parking lots into the equation and how they will be handled during winter snow storms.

Daniel Ratner Sr (Lake Street) discussed the description of a mobile home versus a modular home and what can be allowed inside the Village limits. He said at the current time there appears to be a mobile home on Yaun Avenue and Balsam Drive.

Village Attorney Gary Silver discussed some of the laws that are now in place.

Mayor Stoddard said that she would make sure the matter is researched further.

Helmuth Wilhelm (Post 109) said he is ready to move forward with hanging Veterans Flags in the Village. He said they would need about \$2,000 for brackets and help hanging them.

Mayor Stoddard said it is very hard for the Village to commit man-power and funding at this point.

Daniel Ratner said he felt they could raise the money for the brackets and he would have Phoenix install the brackets.

TABLED BUSINESS: UPDATE ON APPROVAL OF EVENT PERMIT – “CAMPAIGN SERVICE”

This item will remain **tabled** until the Police Department works out the details with the applicant

CONSIDER LAMAR ADVERTISING AGREEMENT – BILLBOARD

This item will remain **tabled** until the Board can research the billboards located on Village property.

NEW BUSINESS: REAFFIRM RENTAL AGREEMENT OF STREET SWEEPER

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the rental of a Street Sweeper from J & J Equipment LLC for the period of Wednesday, May 20, 2026 to June 17, 2026 at a cost of \$11,500.00.

CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF MARILYN LAUFER AS POET LAUREARTE

RESOL. # 23-2026: Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Resolution #23-2026.

POET LAUREATE - MARILYN LAUFER - 2 YEARS
(Appointed until April 2028)

CONSIDER CORRECTION OF ERRORS – 108.-8-3

RESOL. # 24-2026: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Resolution #24-2026.

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty has reviewed the Correction of Error as set forth by the County of Sullivan, Real Property Tax Services for tax map number 108.-8-3;

WHEREAS, the assessed value for 2025-26 was set at \$133,500, Class Code 411;

WHEREAS, a fire has partially destroyed the property and the recommended assessment of the settled parcel would be reduced to the following assessment:

2025/26 - \$76,800

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Village agrees with the reduced assessment of 76,800.

CONSIDER FINANCIAL ADVSORY SERVICES AGREEMENT – CAPITAL MARKETS ADVISORS, LLC

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the **Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Capital Market Advisors LLC** having his principal place of business at 11 Grace Avenue, Suite 308, Great Neck, New York 11021.

This agreement is dated May 8, 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the Public.

There were no additional comments from the Public.

TRUSTEE Mayor Stoddard opened up the meeting to comments from the Board.
REPORTS:

Mayor Stoddard said the Cinco De mayo festival held on Main Street last week was very nice.

Mayor Stoddard said she noticed Village Water Trucks without logos.

Treasurer Zurawski said she would make sure they make arrangements to have them put on the trucks.

Trustee Mir - No Comment

Trustee Mills - No Comment

Trustee Feasel - No Comment

BILLS FOR **Post Audit Vouchers for Payment**

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #921 to Voucher #929 in the amount of \$1,223,598.44.

EXECUTIVE Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously
SESSION: carried to go into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss possible contract negotiations

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

ADJOURN: Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously ed to adjourn the meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:11 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER

