

REGULAR MEETING

July 16, 2026

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on July 16, 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, Trustee Eveleese Lake and Trustee Jayneen Mills. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village, and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Steven D'Agata, David Burke; Water Department, Dan Fagnani; Delaware Engineering, Dara Williams, Brian Werring and Timothy Hamblin.

RECOGNATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

Chief D'Agata began the ceremony by stating the Village is recognizing the promotion of two veteran officers and commending two officers for exceptional conduct in the line of duty.

The first officer to earn a promotion was Officer Adam Lake to the rank of Police Corporal. Officer Lake has been with the Village Police Department since 2013. He currently has the specialized position of School Resource Officer, a role he has severed in for seven years. Officer Lake is an integral part of the department serving as a field training officer and mentor of new recruits.

Mayor Stoddard administered the oath of office.

The second promotion goes to Police Officer Nunuvero, receiving a promotion to Detective. Officer Nunuvero began his career in law enforcement in 2016 and joined the Village in July 2022. This position is an entirely new role for the Village of Liberty Police Department and is built around an innovative violence reduction strategy.

Mayor Stoddard administered the oath of office

Two Officers were recognized with a Meritorious service award, Officer Anthony Ventura and Officer Matthew Brooks. The Village assisted 911 with a call to Parksville involving a suicidal female. Due to their composure and communication skills, they were able to end the incident with everyone going home safely.

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

❖ **REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 18, 2026**

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

INCOMING

- ❖ Office of Cannabis Management Re: Shoprite Mall to Yiasou Mall

OUTGOING

- ❖ Submission to Congressman Re: Post Office Delinquency

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to public comment.

Tomothy Hamblin (South Main Street) commended the Police Department for the recent help they gave him on two different matters, including a misplaced cellphone that he needs daily for his medication.

ATTORNEY

COMMENTS: Village Attorney Silver did not have any comments beyond agenda items

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski said her office has been busy with Tax Collection, with taxes being about 80% collected.

TABLED BUSINESS: **DELAWARE ENGINEERING UPDATE**

Delaware Engineering's Report is annexed under Exhibit C

EVENT PERMITS – UPDATE FROM POLICE CHIEF

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the **Event Permit** for July 25, 2026 sponsored by Luis Bermeo. The event is a walk from 28 Wawanda Avenue to St. Peters Church.

This permit is contingent on the payment for the event, the amount being due is \$287.34.

CONSIDER FUND BALANCE POLICY

Clerk-Treasurer Zurawski said she would try to put together a **Fund Balance Policy** after tax season for the Board to review.

Treasurer Zurawski said she will have a draft copy before the next meeting

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 will be setting up an on-line demonstration with the company so the Board can receive more information on the meters to make an informed decision.

DISCUSS GARBAGE VIOLATIONS – 31 & 37 ORCHARD STREET

The Board said they would wait for Code Enforcement Officer Marisol Torrens to review the email and report back.

NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WATER CHEMICAL BIDS

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the following bids for yearly supply of chemicals for the Water Department:

Chlorine	Slack Chemical Co.	\$559.32 per 150# cylinder
Polyaluminum Hycroxychloride	Holland Company	\$0.411 per wet #
Lime	Slack Chemical Co.	\$24.44 per 50# bag
Soda Ash	Slack Chemical Co.	\$27.99 per 50# bag
Polymer	Slack Chemical Co.	\$245.00 per 50# bag
Sodium Hypochlorite	Slack Chemical Co.	\$4.493 per gallon/55 gallon drum

The following chemicals did not receive a bid:

**Ortho-Poly Phosphate Blend
Potassium Permanganate**

All bids received were as follows:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WWTP CHEMICAL BIDS

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried unanimously approving the following bids for yearly supply of chemicals for the Waste Water Treatment Plant:

Polyaluminum Chloride	Holland Company	\$0.297 per wet#
Soda Ash	Slack Chemical Co.	\$27.99 per 50# bag
Polymer	Slack Chemical Co.	\$2.79 per#/450# drum

All bids received were as follows:

CONSIDER LOCAL LAW #4-2026 – VILLAGE SPEED LIMITS

Lead Agency Declared

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried to declare the Village as lead agency and authorize Mayor Stoddard to sign the SEQR form in the matter of Local Law #4-2026.

Negative Declaration

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to issue a Negative declaration in this matter.

Vote on Local Law #4-2026

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Local Law #4-2026 which amends Section 80-1 of the Village Code to reduce the speed limits on most Village roads to 25 miles per hour.

The Local Law was put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

MAYOR JOAN STODDARD	-	YES	
TRUSTEE ROBERT MIR	-	YES	
TRUSTEE EVELESSE LAKE	-	YES	ADOPTED
TRUSTEE ERNEST FEASEL	-	YES	
TRUSTEE JAYNEEN MILLS	-	YES	

CONSIDER SURPLUS BID – AV WIRE

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried declaring the several hundred feet of Copper A/V wire (Police Department) as surplus.

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving to bid out the several hundred feet of Copper A/V wire that the Village has declared as surplus.

The bid opening will be Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF INSURANCE CARRIER FOR 2026/27

RESOL.# 36-2026: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving Resolution #36-2026

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty Board of Trustees approves insurance coverage with Agent Owen McKane, of The Reis Group;

WHEREAS, the 2026-2027 Insurance Carrier will be Trident Insurance and will carry the Village's Property, Crime, General Liability, Public Officials and Law Enforcement Liability, Auto, Inland Marine as well as an Umbrella Policy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 2026-2027 Premium will be \$219,986.00.

CONSIDER STIPULATION AND ORDER OF SETTLEMENT

RESOL. # 37-2026: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Resolution #37-2026.

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty is bound by the determination of the Town/School in assessment matters;

WHEREAS, A Stipulation and Order of Settlement has been passed down from the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Sullivan on the premises of HK Properties Liberty LLC – tax maps 114.-1-6, 114.-2-18.3, 114.-2-1.1 and 114.-2-1.2;

WHEREAS, the assessment of the settled parcel will be reduced as follows:

2025/26 FISCAL TAX YEAR:

114.-1-6	-	\$ 1,700
114.-2-18.3	-	\$ 1,800
114.-2-1.1	-	\$19,500
114.-2-1.2	-	\$44,000

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Village is obligated to pay \$1,912.64 on this Order of Settlement.

CONSIDER SEWER CREDIT RECOMMENDATION – 42 UPPER FERNDALE ROAD

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the Sewer Credit for 42 Upper Ferndale LLC, Account #4-10400, in the amount of \$3,533.78 due a leak.

David Burke explained that it was a leak in their crawl space and the plumber pumped it out and the water did not enter the Village's sewer system.

CONSIDER DELWARE ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS – CDBG Project #642PW114-24

Award to Low Bidder

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to award Contract No. VL2-G-26 – General Construction for the North Main Street Area Water System Improvement Project to the low bidder, Rutledge Excavating, Inc for the contract price of \$993,436.00 for the Base Bid Items BB-01 through BB-07 and BB-10 through BB-12 and Bid Alternate Items BA-01.4, BA-03.3, BA-03.4, NA-09, BA-10.

This award pertains to CDBG #642PW114-24.

Bid Alternate Items

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried to accept pricing for all other Bid Alternate Items for future consideration regarding the low bidder on CDBG Project #642PW114-24.

Pricing for future consideration

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried to accept pricing for removed Base Bid Items for future consideration on CDBG Project #642PW1149

Authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute paperwork for CDBG Project #642PW114-24

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried authorizing Mayor Stoddard to execute the necessary paperwork (e.g., Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Agreement, Change Orders, Certificate of Substantial Completion, checks for contractor payment, etc.) for contract initiation through completion of the construction work pertaining to CDBG Project #642PW114-24.

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

Dawn Hurley (Maple Street) discussed the website minutes and the law that states how soon they should be posted.

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

Mayor Stoddard said that she would like two thank you letters to be mailed out.

One to Deana Schulte who has repainted some of the Welcome to Liberty signage and one the Vincent and Joanne McPhillips for all their beautiful work on the traffic circles.

BILLS **Post Audit Vouchers**
FOR

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #86 to Voucher #97 in the amount of \$596,675.08.

Vouchers for Payment

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the payment of Voucher 98 to Voucher # 169 in the amount of \$854,040.64

EXECUTIVE Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried
SESSION: to go into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue in the Code Enforcement Office.

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 8:04 p.m.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:04 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER