

REGULAR MEETING

August 20, 2026

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on August 20, 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 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 and Trustee Ernest Feasel

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Steven D'Agata, David Burke; Water Department, and Dan Fagnani; Delaware Engineering.

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD – CATHY HERBERT/POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief D'Agata presented an Exceptional Service Award to Dispatcher Cathy Herbert and K-9 Ruger. Cathy serves as handler for the Village's Law Enforcement Therapy K-9 Program, alongside of her pint-sized partner Ruger.

This program was created as part of the commitment to officer wellness, which has been funded by a grant thru New York State Office of Mental Health.

Cathy has been instrumental in helping with cases, including a recent one with the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office, where she helped an eight-year-old child, who had been the victim of very serious instances of child abuse. The relationship she was able to build helped move the criminal case forward.

Cathy has embraced this program with compassion, professional and genuine devotion making it an honor to present her with this award.

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

❖ **REGULAR MEETING – JULY 16, 2026**

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

❖ **EMERGENCY MEETING – JULY 16, 2026**

❖

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

❖ **PUBLIC HEARING MEETING – JULY 16, 2026**

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

INCOMING

- ❖ Press Release – County of Sullivan Re: Legislator Alvarez

OUTGOING

- ❖ Letter of Appreciation Re: D. Schulte 7.20.26

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

There were no comments from the Public.

ATTORNEY

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

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski's written report is summarized below:

- ❖ List of Current Taxes and collections thru 07/31/26 of which there is \$1,133,480.94 outstanding. The current taxes are 80% collected.
- ❖ List of Delinquent Taxes, which as of 07/31/26 is \$612,142.84 not collected.
- ❖ Starting and Ending Central Check Numbers for July 2026
- ❖ Starting July 2026 Central Check #1467
- ❖ Financial comparison of General, Water, Sewer and Sanitation

Mayor Stoddard said it is important that we start to work with someone to start collection proceedings on the delinquent parcels.

TABLED BUSINESS: DELAWARE ENGINEERING UPDATE

Delaware Engineering's Report is annexed under Exhibit A

CONSIDER FUND BALANCE POLICY

Mayor Stoddard said the Fund Balance Policy will be voted on at the next meeting when the full Board is present.

DISCUSSIONS ON ALTERNATE PARKING LOTS, PARKING METERS, SPEED LIMITS

Alternate Parking Lots

The Board is in the process of working on this matter so it is ready for the Winter of 2026-27. Mayor Stoddard said by the next meeting they will identify all the lots.

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.

NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER STIPULATION AND ORDER OF SETTLEMENT – 121.-2-1.2

RESOL. # 38-2026: Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving Resolution #38-2026.

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 MNA Hospitality LLC. – tax map 121.-2-1.2

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

2024/25 FISCAL TAX YEAR	-	\$11,177.06
2025/26 FISCAL TAX YEAR	-	\$16,145.17

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Village is obligated to pay \$27,322.23 on this Order of Settlement, which payment is approved with this resolution.

CONSIDER EVENT PERMIT – 9.12.26

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the **Event Permit** for September 12, 2026 under the stipulation that any additional fees that are needed will be paid before the event.

This event is scheduled for 6:20 p.m. and is a procession of the Virgin Catholic Event from 208 Sprague Avenue to St. Peter's Church.

CONSIDER VALVE FOR WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT CLARIFIER DRAIN

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the purchase of a clarifier drain value from DeZURIK (QUO418734) in the amount of \$3,300.00.

In addition to DeZURIK quotes were received from:

KOESTER	-	\$3,550.00
SCHMIDT'S WHOLESALE	-	\$4,295.00

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

There were no comments from the Public.

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

Trustee Mills said she had been approached about the gun training at Revonah Hill.

Police Chief D'Agata said they usually train early afternoon until evening

Mayor Stoddard said National Night Out was really amazing and the Police Department did an excellent job.

BILLS FOR **Post Audit Vouchers**

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #171 to Voucher #181 in the amount of \$757,013.28

Vouchers for Payment

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the payment of Voucher # 182 to Voucher #251 in the amount of \$225,411.51

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:33 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER

