

Village Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

February 10, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on the 10th of February at 7:15 PM, in the Auditorium of the Snow Memorial Building, 4917 North Jefferson Street, Pulaski, NY 13142.

Members Present: Jan Tighe, Mayor; Amy Dobrzynski, Trustee; and Mark Dobrzynski, Trustee; Jeffrey Fowler, Deputy Mayor; and Melissa Wadkinson, Trustee.

Absent: None

Village Staff/Officials in Attendance: Michael Martin, Chief of Police; Catherine Spinney, Village Clerk/Treasurer; Dustin Wood, DPW Supervisor; and Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk.

Guest(s): Tim Crouch, David Turner of Oswego County, Corey Reid and associate of BCA Engineers and Architects, and Heidi Tompkins of the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments.

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jan Tighe at 7:15 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Item #2: Presentations

- A. David Turner of Oswego County's Office of Community Development, and Planning presented the County's draft plan to expand broadband throughout Oswego County and possibly utilize space within or outside the Village of Pulaski's municipal building to store equipment.
- B. BCA Engineers and Architects and CLA SITE Landscape Architecture, Engineering and Planning P.C. presented a concept plan, paid for with a grant for an engineering and design study from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, for renovation/upgrades to Dunbar Field. The concept plan included many options including bathrooms, parking, ADA boat launch, outlook trails, etc.

Agenda Items #3: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #4: Report from Tug Hill Circuit Rider

Heidi Tompkins was here to offer a briefing on the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments February 2025 report. The report was passed out to the Board.

Agenda Item #5: Minutes from the Haldane Board and the Comprehensive Planning Board

The Haldane minutes from January 13, 2025, were available for review. The Pulaski/Richland Comprehensive Plan Review Committee meeting was cancelled twice due to weather.

Agenda Item #6: Minutes

Mark Dobrzynski made a motion to accept the January 13, 2025, minutes without correction. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with Jan Tighe, Mark Dobrzynski and Amy Dobrzynski voting yes and Jeffrey Fowler and Melissa Wadkinson abstaining because they were not in attendance.

Agenda Item #7: Approval of Staff Reports

The motion to approve the staff reports was made by Melissa Wadkinson and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8: General Vouchers

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to approve the General Fund (\$37,356.57), and TA (\$1,089.64) vouchers. Mark Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

Agenda Item #9: Treasurer's Report

The motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2025 was made by Jeffrey Fowler and seconded by Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10: Old Business

A. Grants

1. The Village is expecting delivery of the electric vehicles soon to be reimbursed by the Climate Smart Community grants awarded to the Village. The Village may receive a credit from the federal government for the EV's, because we are tax exempt, if the IRS grants it a registration number, which has been applied for.
2. The Village of Pulaski has, for the third year in a row, qualified to be a tree city. The Village has also been notified that the funds from the U.S. Forest Service grant for trees has been frozen by the U.S. Federal Government for an undetermined amount of time. There is another tree grant due March 12, 2025, through NYS. Amy Dobrzynski made the motion to allow the Village Office to apply for \$150,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00 grant it must be Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Jan Tighe had a conversation with Thomas Hoffman from the Federal Fish and Wildlife who alluded to the fact that the Village may be able to apply the money already spent on modifying the dam to satisfy the NYS DEC, as a match for the grant. However, the Federal funding has been indefinitely suspended. The Village will concentrate on pursuing NYS and private funding for the dam, stormwater mitigation, and other areas of the Salmon River with the Village.
4. Melissa Wadkinson made the motion to approve the change order for the sidewalk to the high school for fencing/railing along the embankment for \$15,850.00. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.
5. Other grant awards included \$2,000,000.00 with a 10% match for a sidewalk on Delano to Maple Avenue, \$410,000.00 with 25% match for the Pulaski Dam, and \$192,000.00 for the Dunbar, DPW, and Maple Avenue parking lot improvements. Melissa Wadkinson suggested some sort of newsletter or announcement process to communicate with Village residents and owners about grants, projects and other news.

- B. The 2025 Tug Hill Conference at the Turning Stone is being held at the Turning Stone on March 31st and April 2nd. The non-refundable registration fees are due February 28, 2025.
- C. The motion to drop ALPS Cleaning Service and return to using a worker from the DPW to clean the Snow Memorial Building due to the poor quality of work, was made by Melissa Wadkinson and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. The Board will review the proposed subdivision law at the April 14, 2025, meeting. Other proposed changes to the code will be handled one at a time. NYS is passing down some rental registration laws that will have to be taken into consideration soon. Heidi Tompkins will pass along any information she receives. The Village will add the appointment of Village attorney to the next regular monthly meeting agenda March 10, 2025.
- E. Jeffrey Fowler made a motion to allow the Village of Pulaski to renew their Pro Housing Status with NYS. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.
- F. The Board discussed the issue of Village trash service. As of right now, with the sticker arrangement the Village residents are subsidizing the trash pickup to the tune of around \$25,000.00 per year. Butler has not yet announced any price increases. Other options include leasing or buying trash cans or not providing the service at all.
- G. The DPW supervisor, Dustin Wood, brought up a possible tow policy for vehicles that violate the Village no parking at night rule. Several times over the winter cars provided obstacles to removing snow, specifically on North Jefferson downtown. The Board agreed to discuss it again at the regular April 14, 2025, meeting. Police Chief Martin noted some of the hurdles that the Village may run up against.

Agenda Item #11: New Business

- A. Oswego Soil and Water provided the first drafts of stormwater mitigation plans for the Salmon Meadow area.
- B. The stormwater mitigation project for the Maple Avenue area is on hold due to the Federal Emergency Management Agency review of downsized project.
- C. There is a Workplace Violence and Harassment and Discrimination Training that will be held by webinar on February 26, 2025.
- D. Mark Dobrzynski proposed adding an outdoor lighting ordinance to our code. He will be researching the subject further.
- E. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to all the U.S. Department of Agriculture to access Village properties for surveying and setting traps to study the European Cherry Fruit Fly. The fruit fly is an invasive species that damages cherry trees and orchards.
- F. The 2025-2026 Budget worksheets have been provided to the Village department heads. The Board will review these budgets next month.

Agenda Item #12: Other

There was no other business.

Agenda Item #13: Executive Session or Adjournment

Melissa Wadkinson made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss employee wages at 9:42 PM with a second from Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to go out of Executive Session at 10:07 AM. Melissa Wadkinson seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Melissa Wadkinson at 10:07 AM and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Village Board Meeting will be held on March 10, 2025, at 7:15 PM.

Presented & Approved

Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk