

Village Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

August 11, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on the 11th of August 2025 at 7:15 PM, in the Auditorium of the Snow Memorial Building, 4917 North Jefferson Street, Pulaski, NY 13142.

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

Absent: None

Village Staff/Officials in Attendance: Catherine Spinney, Village Clerk/Treasurer; Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk; Dustin Wood, DPW Supervisor; Michael Martin, Police Chief; Jim Sprague and Bill Hamacher, Code Enforcement Officers; and Donald Quehl, Police Officer.

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

Jessica Sears described the condition of the trees in front of their home that are diseased and dying. She explained that the roots may also be damaging the sidewalk, driveway, sewer and water lines and requested that the Village help take the trees down. It was determined by the Village lawyer that the owner is responsible for taking down the trees. The Board agreed that when Jessica Sears takes down the trees the Village will take away the debris as long it is broken down into 4-foot pieces.

Agenda Item #3: Mr. Gilson, Oswego County Legislator

Mr. Gilson was invited to come and address the Board and answer questions. He outlined the following points:

- The Oswego County Legislature will be having their next regular meeting at the Town of Richland Courtroom at 2:00 PM Thursday August 14, 2025.
- A fourth DMV office will be opening within Oswego County. He said the DMV's are funded solely by their own revenues.
- The legislature will be voting on increasing the pay for election workers from \$200.00 to \$250.00 per day.
- There was an Oswego County housing study funded by Operation Oswego County (OOC.) Austin Wheelock the Executive Director of OOC will address the Village Board within the next couple months with the results.

- Mr. Gilson emphasized that Oswego County was not looking into funding any housing. He explained that Austin Wheelock of OOC may be of some assistance if the Village is looking for funding.
- The Board had a question about hours of the Oswego County Solid Waste transfer station's hours of operations. The Board is looking at options to restructure the garbage pickup within the Village as the current structure is not sustainable. One of the choices, among others under consideration, was to stop picking up residents' garbage altogether. One of the difficulties with that choice is that the Pulaski transfer station's hours do not allow those who work during the week an adequate amount of time to bring their garbage there. Mr. Gilson stated that the transfer station is another County enterprise and is funded solely by its own revenues and the County does not have any say about their hours, and the transfer stations are unlikely to change their hours.
- Melissa Wadkinson asked Mr. Gilson if the Village has difficulty securing the extension required to use the FEMA grant for stormwater mitigation in the Haldane area if he would be able to help. He said that if we have difficulty with reaching out and making headway with U.S. Representative Claudia Tenney to let him know.
- Mr. Gilson pointed out some of the obstacles of working with C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) financing program such as high closing costs, and the administrator, Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) requires that it is the first lien holder which puts off other lenders.

Agenda Item #4: Report from Tug Hill Circuit Rider

Heidi Tompkins summarized for those in attendance the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments August 2025 Monthly Bulletin.

Agenda Item #5: Approval of Minutes

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2025. Melissa Wadkinson seconded the motion, and it passed with 4-1 with Mark Dobrzynski abstaining because he was absent.

The motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th, 2025, special meeting was made by Melissa Wadkinson and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Melissa Wadkinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the special June 29th meeting. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed 4-1 with Jeffrey Fowler abstaining because he did not attend that meeting.

Agenda Item #6: Approval of Staff Reports

The motion to approve the Police, Codes, and DPW staff reports from July 2025 was made by Melissa Wadkinson and seconded by Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed with all in favor.

Agenda Item #7: Approval of Vouchers

Jeffrey Fowler made a motion to approve the General Fund vouchers (\$37,108.29) and the TA vouchers (\$1,604.67.) Mark Dobrzynski seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Agenda Item #8: Approval of Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was tabled.

Agenda Item #9: Old Business

A. Grants

1. The core group for the DRI are meeting about every other week. The LCP group meets on the last Wednesday of each month. There will be a pop-up event for public input on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at Rhodes Coffee Co. 9:00AM – 11:00AM.
2. The Sidewalk to High School Project is finished. The paperwork will be closed out soon.
3. There should be developments to replace the roof on the green corner building on Salina Street soon.
4. 172 meters have been installed in residents and businesses. The application for the CDBG grant to supplement Phase II of the Water System Improvement Project has been submitted.
5. The Village has heard from C2AE that an extension on the FEMA grant for stormwater mitigation project is more probable than they thought.

B. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to approve Resolution No. 6 of the Year 2025 as follows:

Section 1. The Village Board hereby preliminarily classifies the adoption of the Law as a Type 1 Action, as such term is defined in the Regulations.

Section 2. The Village Board hereby authorizes and directs the Village's administration, with the assistance of the Village's legal counsel, to circulate notice to all involved agencies of the Village's intention to act as lead agent in connection with a coordinated environmental review of the environmental impacts resulting from the adoption of the Law, together with a copy of the prepared EAF.

Section 3. The Village hereby determines that a segmented environmental review of the adoption of the Law and any possible subdivisions pursuant to the Law will be no less protective of the environment than would be a review of such actions together. Any possible subdivisions will be subject to such environmental review as may be required by SEQRA if or when such proposals ripen to an action which is sufficiently defined to permit meaningful environmental review. This determination is based upon the following findings:

a. Consideration of the adoption of the Law alone will not commit the Village to carry out or approve any possible subdivision, nor commit the Village to any definite course of action beyond the adoption of the Law.

b. Deferral of site specific environmental impact review until a date in the future when concrete, identifiable subdivision plans are established preserves in the Village the opportunity to undertake meaningful qualitative and quantitative environmental impact analysis in light of environmental conditions in existence at the time of such proposal. An attempt to review possible future actions which lack actual definition and details would be less protective of the environment than separate and full review of such actions at the time they are actually planned and proposed.

c. Possible future subdivisions must comply with the requirements of SEQRA. Any proposals for subdivisions shall be subject to applicable laws and other requirements, including SEQRA.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Melissa Wadkinson seconded the motion, and all Trustees voted yes.

The Board reviewed the SEQR and Melissa Wadkinson made the motion to approve Part 1. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

Jeffrey Fowler moved to hold a public hearing at the beginning of the next regular meeting on Monday September 8, 2025. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- C. The motion to procure an additional 6-month stock of trash stickers was made by Jeffrey Fowler and seconded by Melissa Wadkinson. The motion passed 5-0.

Melissa Wadkinson made a motion to approve of Amy Dobrzynski taking the lead on negotiating an agreement with Bulter Disposal Systems. Mark Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

- D. A zone change has been requested by Mike Lasell for the property he owns in front of Selkirk Landing from an R-2 to an R-3 which would allow multifamily housing. Amy Dobrzynski made the motion to refer the request to the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion, and it passed 4-1 with Melissa Wadkinson voting no. She pointed out that the Village has received very little information regarding his plans with the property. The Board agreed that no decisions will be made unless Mr. Lasell presents the ZBA, Planning Board and Village Board of Trustees with his intentions, we involve the Code Enforcement Officer, and how our proposed changes to the subdivision law will affect his plans and the community.

- E. The motion to accept the Department of Public Works/Teamsters Local 317 Union Contract. The motion passed with Jan Tighe, Melissa Wadkinson, Amy Dobrzynski, and Jeffrey Fowler voting yes. Mark Dobrzynski voted no.
- F. Melissa Wadkinson made the motion to approve the Amended Bond Resolution for the Water System Improvement Project Phase II. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with Jan Tighe, Jeffrey Fowler, Amy Dobrzynski, Mark Dobrzynski, and Melissa Wadkinson voting yes.
- G. Summerville Funeral Home mistakenly bought a grave plot in the Village of Pulaski Cemetery for a DSS customer. The family of the deceased requested a different cemetery within the Town of Richland. Jeffery Fowler made a motion to approve a refund of \$725.00 for Summerville Funeral Home. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- H. After the Board agreed to have the DPW pick up the debris of the tree that Jessica Searer would like to take down for no charge as long it was cut up into 4-foot pieces, Ms. Searer pointed out that maybe the code should be clarified.

Agenda Item #10: New Business

- A. The Board discussed a noise ordinance. Amy Dobrzynski said we should take a look at North Syracuse's or the Town of Onondaga's ordinances as a model.
- B. Amy Dobrzynski made the motion to have the DPW paint lines to guide parking on Main St. (N. Jefferson Street) so the Village police department can enforce the 2-hour parking restrictions. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor. The Board also discussed and tabled the decision on a crosswalk at the elementary school..
- C. Salmon River Ice Hockey Inc. received an energy upgrades plan for the Haldane Ice Center. National Grid estimated the cost of the upgrades to be approximately \$25,380.00, with National Grid contributing \$20,304.00 towards it. The balance for the Town of Richland or the renter Salmon River Ice Hockey, Inc. would be \$5,076.00. Melissa Wadkinson made the motion to offer to pay for half of the approximately \$5,076.00 if the Town of Richland paid the other half so the work can move forward. Mark Dobrzynski seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.
- D. The motion to allow the Village to apply for a grant from Assemblyman William Barclay's office to repair and/or replace sidewalks was made by Amy Dobrzynski and seconded by Melissa Wadkinson. Streetscaping is part of the Village's DRI projects. The motion passed with all in favor.

- E. The motion to appoint Michael Hoyt as an alternate Planning Board member was made by Amy Dobrzynski with the condition he sits in at all or most of the Planning Board meetings for training and to gain familiarity with Village projects. Melissa Wadkinson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- F. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to allow the Village to apply for the New York Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids, and Seniors (BRICKS) capital grant program for Phase II of the Dunbar Park Upgrade which will include the bridges. Melissa Wadkinson seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

Agenda Item #11: Thank you notes

The following thank you notes are going out for letter of support for the CFA grant:

- Assemblyman William Barclay
- Town of Richland
- Tim Stahl
- PROP
- County Legislator Ed Gilson.

For the sign for the restored railroad arches on the riverwalk trail, thank you notes were sent to:

- The Pomeroy Foundation
- The Monday Club

To Tasha Molner for cleaning the headstones at the Village of Pulaski Cemetery of the Revolutionary War Veterans buried there.

And to Atlantic States for the tree grant.

Agenda Item #12: Executive Session

An executive session was not required.

Agenda Item #13: Adjournment

The motion for adjournment was made by Mark Dobrzynski at 9:13 PM with a second from Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Presented & Approved

Jennifer Gibbs

Deputy Clerk