

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting held on Thursday, 13 March 2025 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

Members Present: Mayor Richardson, Trustee Kempf, Trustee Del Plato, Trustee Garcia.

Others Present: DPW Supervisor Ahouse, Fire Chief Borden, Police Chief Dwello, Clerk/Treasurer Swartwood, Deputy Clerk Quan.

Public Present: Rickey Berry, Christopher Thomas.
via GoTo Meeting: Phil Stannard.

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing:

Opening of Trash Bids:

D & L Disposal: \$32,850 (quote proposal does not include toters and notes damaged toters will incur a \$95 replacement cost charged to the homeowner); Red Line Disposal: \$35,000.04, Cardinal Disposal: \$36,000. Cardinal Disposal is the 2024–2025 trash service contractor with a contract of \$34k.

Kempf and Richardson noted when D & L Disposal was the contractor, they had issues of leaky trucks and not picking up trash. Thomas noted bag limits were enforced even if the weight of a bag was low.

A letter from the Village of Trumansburg endorsed Red Line Disposal.

Local Laws 1-3 2025, amendments to existing local laws:

Local Law #1 of 2025 to amend the village codes to clarify solid waste rules: trash contractors are required to issue toters and use closed containers.

Local Law #2 of 2025 to amend the village codes to sewer use: gutters or sump pumps are to not be directed to the wastewater treatment plant.

Local Law #3 of 2025 to amend the village codes to add and adopt new chapter 130: to implement a utility tax onto electric and telephone.

Approval of Minutes:

Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to accept the minutes from the 13 February 2025 Regular Board Meeting; Richardson: aye, Kempf: aye, Del Plato: abstain, Garcia: aye.

Public comments:

Berry thanked Ahouse and VanNederynen for clearing the sewer line of the tree roots that have been contributing to issues. Richardson advised some of the clay tile sewer lines, which are prone to root intrusion, will be replaced as part of the sewer project; pipe replacement focuses on where there are stream crossings. The village received \$9.7M in grant funds to replace the wastewater treatment plant; the project is expected to go out to bid shortly.

Thomas asked about the old trailer park (tax map #02-1-69). Ahouse reported the new owner is not sure about the site but said there would be no more trailers.

Thomas expressed concern about how the revaluation project in the Town of Covert would affect people who are low or fixed income. Richardson advised there are some programs in place, such as the reduction in the amount of property taxes paid by qualifying senior citizens.

Thomas spoke about how water and sewer billing is charged. Garcia said the Village is in the process of updating the old laws; water and sewer would be charged on a per unit (equivalent dwelling) charge, similar to the codes of neighboring villages.

Library:

DPW cleaned up the stone.

Fire:

There were 12 calls in February, making 28 since the beginning of the year. Previous years have an average of 10 calls monthly.

Borden reported there have been a lot of grass and brush fires and the members have been doing a good job. He noted the statewide burn ban is between 16 March and 14 May.

Borden reported new members are doing a good job in basic firefighter training. Along with Ovid and Romulus, a car accident training scenario will be held at Champions Scrap Metal.

Discussion about budget impact of OSHA's Proposed Emergency Response Standard; there is no update, so cost projections are unknown.

Borden said the department is in good shape in keeping up with equipment.

Engine 503 is in for repairs; Engine 504 has fuel issues that need to be addressed. A serial number for the new Engine 501 cab and chassis was issued; it is expected to be completed by the second or third quarter.

Borden suggested the current Engine 501 should be advertised.

Borden asked if the Village would split the \$53,663.23 cost of a new pickup truck with the fire company in the 2025-2026 budget. He currently uses his personal vehicle for department related matters. The crew cab pickup truck would allow the department to transport more members on calls. Richardson motioned, Kempf seconded, to approve up to \$30k for the purchase of a crew cab truck for the fire department; Richardson: aye, Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Discussion about a new building. Richardson advised certain infrastructure could qualify as an expense that could be covered under the NY Forward grant. The quote for writing the grant is \$9500. There would also need to be a commitment from the landowner.

Upcoming event: banquet is 29 March.

Water:

Willard replaced two 10-inch couplers they borrowed.

Assisted Ovid with a main and valve repair.

Replaced SIM cards for the pump house telemetry system to lower costs. Aqualogic will program the system and set up static IPs.

Bondor Pump Repair looked at the pumps; they will return to service the bearings. The submersible pump, used during water main breaks, stopped working; the pump is out of warranty and needs to be replaced.

The replacement solenoid for the Ross Valve ordered two months ago arrived.

Exchanged the CO₂ tank.

Worked with the Village office on easement documents for the transmission line.

Richardson reported HUNT EAS updated the applications for Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan to potentially get a generator for the water plant and another for the wastewater treatment plant.

Richardson said NYS Department of Health have not approved the water project, preventing the project from going out to bid.

Sewer:

Lines on Orchard Street are flowing well after clearing a customer plug.

Replaced the dehumidifier at the plant.

Replaced lines and repaired injection pump.

Cleaned driveway and parking area from plowing.

Cleaned out roots and sediment from manholes and lines on Main Street from Cayuga Street to the Interlaken Reformed Church.

Appraisal of the land for the drying beds needs to be appraised before purchasing in order to get reimbursed. The \$500–\$600 appraisal cost would be covered by the sewer project grant.

Garcia asked about the blockage under West Avenue. Ahouse reported NYS Department of Transportation did not have the equipment to remove the log or boulders the last time they were nearby.

Streets and Equipment:

Sidewalks were treated. During some of the icing, calcium chloride was unavailable in the area.

The rain event and snow melting resulted in flooding on Prospect and Cayuga Streets.

Cleaned culverts and catch basins. The ditch on Orchard Street will need to be cleaned this year.

Cleaned up wind strewn recycling, especially on Main Street.

Marked numerous spots on West Avenue and elsewhere in the Village.

VanNederynan picked up hydraulic oil for the tractor.

Ahouse and VanNederynan attended a flagger safety class in Cortland; there was no cost for the class as a result of grant funding.

Attended safety and training classes related to UDig NY.

Picked up supplies from Milton Cat to service the backhoe.

Dumpster Day is the Saturday of Mother's Day.

Police:

There were 387 calls for service, 22 traffic citations issued.

Village ordinance (animal control, parking) updated; Attorney Krogh is reviewing.

Macedon Police Chief Husk will assist in TASER training as well as spring range qualifications for pistol and rifle. Other nearby agencies will not assist with the training.

Radar and Alco-Sensors received their annual calibration and certification.

Received TASER 7s from Waterloo Police Department.

Dwello would like to purchase two Alco-Sensors, costing \$678.50 each, with the Law Enforcement Technology grant.

Returned Golden Eagle radar unit to the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.

T&D Fleet Solutions checked the front wiring and replaced fuses for emergency lighting on Car 401.

Axon Signal equipment dropped off at T&D Fleet Solutions.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Kempf motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve the budget modification: used revenue from STOP-DWI for CPA, legal records, and grant fees; water fund overspent on taxes, legal fees, and disability insurance; sewer overspent on disability insurance; Police Department equipment reserve transferred into general fund equipment; Richardson: aye, Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Approval of Bills: Del Plato motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve vouchers in: General Fund (#274-305: \$21,441.39), Water Fund (#77-85: \$4,757.31), Sewer Fund (#58-64: \$3,990.53); Richardson: aye, Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Old Business:

- ❖ Corrected filing error on easements are with the attorney.
- ❖ Richardson will get appraisal for Sewer Plant land purchase.
- ❖ Garcia motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve switching from American Power & Gas to Constellation for the three-year quoted rate of 8¢/kW.

- ❖ Paperwork for Tunison Road is complete; awaiting the closing date.
- ❖ Purchase of propane tanks to be tabled until spring.

New Business:

- ❖ Garcia and Richardson are getting paperwork together to be on the system to get flood insurance.
- ❖ Schickel Construction is interested in getting started on their project. Richardson noted the first step is to get the land annexed into the Village. A meeting with Schickel at the Village office is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on 16 March to address questions and concerns. Approving an engineering firm is tabled.
- ❖ Budget workshop: 5:30 p.m. on 27 March.
- ❖ Organizational meeting: 6:00 p.m. on 7 April

Additional Comments:

Del Plato and Garcia spoke about a creek crossing bridge at the park. Ahouse advised he needs to know where the bridge would be placed and what are its requirements.

Richardson issued a reminder the Village election is 18 March.

Adjournment: Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to adjourn at 8:32 PM; Richardson: aye, Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk