

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of
Herkimer, New York, held, Tuesday August 26, 2025 at
7:00 P.M. in Municipal Hall

7:00 P.M. the **Meeting** was called to order by Mayor Sherry and roll call was taken

PRESENT: Mayor Dana Sherry
Trustee Mark Ainsworth
Trustee Virendranath Dhaniram
Trustee Dominick Scalise
Trustee Howard Quick (excused)
Clerk Treasurer Amanda Viscomi
Attorney Vincent Rossi

Department Heads Present: Deputy Treasurer Paula Dygert, Police Chief Mike Jory, Fire Chief Mike Spisak, Street Superintendent Justin Cristman, Water Sewer Superintendent Matt Spisak, Codes Officer Steven Gay.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Sherry.

The minutes of **Regular Meeting of July 15, 2025, Special Meetings of August 13, 2025 and August 20, 2025** were approved on a motion by Trustee Scalise seconded by Trustee Ainsworth and carried.

Mayor Sherry presented **Raelynn and Caleb Williams** with a Proclamation thanking them for their heroic response and quick thinking in aiding a badly injured boy who had a bicycle accident.

Sergeant James Burns and Officer Robert Holt representing the Charles W. Soules Police Benevolent Association also presented Raelynn and Caleb with new bicycles for their heroism that day.

3. PUBLIC MEETING

The **Public Meeting** was opened on a motion by Trustee Dhaniram seconded by Trustee Ainsworth and carried.

Donald Foor Harter Street thanked the Street and Water/Sewer Departments for checking the storm sewers in front of his business. He suggested curbing could help with the water runoff. He also commented on DPW equipment stating we need to purchase newer.

Since no one else wished to speak the **Public Meeting** was closed at 7:15 pm on a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Dhaniram and carried

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. RESOLUTION AND LOCAL LAWS

5A. On a motion by Trustee Dhaniram seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-8 Specific Purpose**

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$93,528.96 for money set aside for a specific purpose (**Tech Grant**) and not used in previous year

A-510 Estimated Revenue	\$93,528.96	
A-917 Fund Balance		\$ 93,528.96
A-960 Appropriations	\$93,528.96	
A-3120-220 Tech Grant		\$ 93,528.96

5B. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-10 Downtown Chowdown**

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$550.00 for donations to the **Downtown Chowdown**

A-510 Estimated Revenue	\$550.00	
A-2705 Gifts & Donations		\$550.00
A-960 Appropriations	\$550.00	
A-7141-409 Downtown Chowdown		\$ 550.00

5C. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-11 Community Garden**

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$30.00 for donations to the **Community Garden**

A-510 Estimated Revenue	\$30.00	
A-2705 Gifts & Donations		\$30.00
A-960 Appropriations	\$30.00	
A-7141-411 Community Garden		\$ 30.00

5D. On a motion by Trustee Dhaniram seconded by Trustee Ainsworth and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-12 the Standard Work Day** for Justice Jeffrey Stone at 1.02 days biweekly.

5E. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Dhaniram and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-13 Timber Bid**

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase the 2025-2026 Water Fund Budget in the amount of \$26,800.00 for costs associated with **Timber Bid** in a prior year.

F.-510 Estimated Revenue	\$26,800.00	
F- 2652 Timber Bid		\$26,800.00
F-960 Appropriations	\$26,800.00	
F-8320-495 Contract Specify		\$ 26,800.00

5F. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth second by Trustee Scalise and carried to approve **Resolution # 26-14 DWSRF/BIL Funding Award** accepting financial assistance for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7A. Attorney Rossi had no to report

7B. The **2026 Equipment BAN** was tabled for more information on a motion by Trustee Scalise second by Trustee Dhaniram and carried.

7C. Chief Jory briefed the board on the upgrade to the **Camera System at Village Hall**. The estimate was around \$ 12,000.00 dollars and ARPA Funds would be used. The Mayor and myself met with Central Security to look at the cameras that were part of the LED upgrade and was advised the equipment is out dated and not efficient in any way. Mayor Sherry asked that

Attorney Rossi be apprised and see if there is anything we can do. We tried to get out of the contract when I became Mayor she said. It turned into a very costly inefficient project. Motion by Trustee Scalise second by Trustee Dhaniram and carried to move forward with both the village hall system and Attorney Rossi looking into LED Lighting Grant that added the cameras.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8A. The bid for the **garbage contract** was explained by Josh Olbrys from Herkimer Oneida Solid Waste Authority. We only had two bidders and one bidder did not follow the bid specs so that left just one which is Spohn's, who has the contract now. The rates are going up but they are the only contractor's willing to do green waste, electronics and also big items weekly. The board can cut services to try and reduce the increase he said. He also said they can put stipulations in the contract for when the village has to clean up mess they leave behind when collecting. On a motion by Trustee Dhaniram second by Trustee Scalise and carried to award the garbage contract to Spohn's with stricter contract language so village can bill for cleanup.

8B. On a motion by Trustee Scalise second by Trustee Ainsworth and carried to hire **Alexander Scholl as a Firefighter Recruit** as recommended by Fire Chief Mike Spisak. He will follow the Firefighters Contract.

8C. On a motion by Trustee Dhaniram seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried to approve Water/Sewer Superintendent Matt Spisak to **advertise for a position** in the Water/Sewer Department.

8D. The Clerk Treasurer's request to **advertise for an Office Clerk** was approved on a motion by Trustee Scalise seconded by Trustee Dhaniram and carried.

8E. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried to give a **3% raise** to Street Superintendent Justin Cristman and Deputy Treasurer Paula Dygert, and an **8% raise** to Police Chief Michael Jory.

8F. On a motion by Trustee Ainsworth second by Trustee Dhaniram and carried to accept the **Retirement Letter from Sergeant Torrey Sitterly** effective September 30, 2025. Chief Jory said this a huge loss for the department he is our Commander of the SWAT Team and our tactical guru and he will be greatly missed.

8G. On a motion by Trustee Dhaniram second by Trustee Scalise and carried approve the repairs for **Stromlock Road** providing we get another quote. Jim Werczynski Excavating had a quote of

The **Village Audit** was approved on a motion by Trustee Quick seconded by Trustee Dhaniram and carried.

General Fund	\$ 40,187.88
Water Fund	\$ 2,73894
Sewer Fund	\$ 9,549.20
Capital	\$ 904.73

Since there is no other business, the Regular Meeting was **adjourned** at 8:10 pm on a motion by Trustee Ainsworth seconded by Trustee Scalise and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Viscomi
Acting Clerk Treasurer