

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

The Village Board meeting was opened at 7:29 pm by Mayor Hunt.

Trustee Celeste led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:29pm.

Present: Christine L. Hunt, Mayor
James Celeste, Trustee
Jeffrey Hahn, Trustee
Amy Jackson, Trustee

Also present: Suzanne Canell, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer
Charles Grieco, Village Attorney
Ben Vilonen, DPW Crew Chief

Absent: Eileen Torre, Deputy Mayor

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Hahn, it was moved at 7:30 pm to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 12, 2024.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved to open the public participation portion of the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Unanimously carried

Member(s) of the audience who addressed the Board and their comment(s) [*Board of Trustees' comments are in italics*]:

1.) **Dan Rider, Village Resident**

Excessive growth and vegetation on the west side of S. Long. Came in a month ago to complain and nothing has been done since then. Asked about the income that the Meeting House events bring in based on article in Amherst Bee about needed improvements. [*Mayor Hunt: We take a percentage of revenue from Rocking Horse Productions. That is the income that the Chair was referring to. There was additional income from other events as well.*] Talked about Main Street development project and the plethora of businesses that have come to Main Street. Restaurants are busy seven days a week. The Village Board should consider that when talking about restricting live music.

2.) **Doug Richardson, Village Resident**

Front of Village Hall needs to be painted. Asked if there was money in the budget to paint it this year? [*Mayor Hunt: We are getting quotes. We need some carpentry work as well.*] Mr. Richardson stated that Main Street between the sidewalk and the curb is owned by the Village and he's been noticing signs all over the place. Some are commercial. Seems like they just leave them there. [*Mayor Hunt: Right of way is not owned by the Village. It is owned by the State.*] Mr. Richardson asked who can take care of the signs? [*Mayor Hunt: Let Code Enforcement know. Use the portal on the website to file complaints.*]

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3.) **Thomas Frank, Village Resident**

Commented on Ellicott Creek and the Central Greenway Project which is part of the Village plan. The interconnection between parks and waterways is not there. Project will go from 2025-2029 and should be part of that plan. Glen Park Joint Board is lead agency between Village and Town. Part of a statewide program as far as allocating the connection between Ellicott Creek and the Niagara River Greenway.

4.) **Alex Sperrazza, Village Resident**

Live at corner of Eagle & Academy. Stated they get so much traffic on corner due to people cutting through to avoid Main Street as well as the school traffic. The majority of drivers really fly through the neighborhood and would like to see something done to help with this. Appreciates the efforts the Village took to repaint the crosswalk lines but feels it's not enough with the amount of kids around. Would like to see a physical deterrent like a speed bump. The school zone should be extended onto Academy Street so fines are tripled for drivers who are pulled over in that area. *[Mayor Hunt: Thank you for your email. We discussed at work session and we will absolutely be looking into traffic measures and speed limit.]*

5.) **Tricia Brown, Owner of Eagle House**

Family has operated businesses in the Village for over 60 years. Have lived, worked, and given back to this Village. Also members of the Williamsville Business Association. Several years ago the concept of Music on Main was created. Gave the opportunity for Villagers and visitors to enjoy the Village on a walking basis. Economic impact has been incredible, not just for restaurants, staff, and musicians, but also surrounding businesses. Watched Village Board meeting where you discussed issues with Music on Main. We were not previously made aware of these concerns as they would have been addressed. On the topic of permitting, has come up with a solution as a group for a resolution to this issue. Having meeting with the Mayor to discuss the proposal.

6.) **Jessica Stearns, Village Resident**

Lives on Academy Street. Grew up in Village and wants her children to grow up feeling safe. With the traffic cutting through Academy it is unsafe for kids to be crossing Academy or Evans. Would it be possible to get a crosswalk that flashes like we have at Garrison Park? Can we also maybe do the triangles painted on the streets as visual cue for drivers. *[Mayor Hunt: We are looking into traffic calming measures at both locations.]*

7.) **Philip Meyers, Village Resident**

Lives on Eagle Street and has same concerns about the safety of that intersection. It draws an exceptional amount of traffic, between the school and the businesses. People try and beat the red light by cutting down Academy and over Eagle by going over his front lawn. Walkable Williamsville isn't just Main Street. Agrees two speed bumps would help, one on Academy and one on Eagle. Doesn't think the Village is responsible for every driver's behavior, but does think there are some measure we can take, like speed bumps or any other physical impediments.

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8.) **Joe Staltieri, Village Resident**

Night of Moonlight Run the police closed off west bound lane on Main Street to a single lane going down Main. East bound was normal traffic. The cars in the single lane were orderly, quieter, pace was slower. Other side was business as usual – cars speeding, honking, etc. Used to be you couldn't drive through Kenmore because of police activity and you knew you would get caught. There's not a sense of that in the Village. Thinks we should go down to one lane on Main Street. Also stated Mayor Rogers passed a law to allow bicycles on sidewalks and that's just silly. Makes it worse, especially electric bikes.

9.) **Jim Nau, Village Resident & Business Owner**

Owns a business and two houses and has a ton invested in this Village. The business took an ugly plot on Main Street and turned into a nice spot for the Village. Businesses need a long season of Music on Main. Please take that into consideration. As a resident, cannot hear the bands in his backyard so as far as he can tell there's not that much issue as far as noise. Moved out here from downtown because he saw the local businesses and how well they did and the crowds they attracted. Feels it is really important for the Board to understand.

[Trustee Hahn: The Board does not have a position of being against Music on Main. We are in agreement on the season and any adjustment will be discussed later, but there is no effort on the part of the Board to reduce the number of dates or reduce the activity. We want the business to be successful. We understand that night in particular is very important for and helps make up for the other six days of the week. We do get complaints each week at Village Hall. Key points are don't go late, don't get too loud, and clean up afterwards the next day. Additionally, weeds on Main Street look bad and it is the responsibility of business and property owners to take care of them.]

Mr. Rider asked if the meeting with the business owners would be open to the public. *[Mayor Hunt reiterated that she would be meeting with the businesses to discuss their proposal, not the Board. It will not be a public meeting.]*

10.) **Dennis Hoban, Village Resident**

Walked up to Music on Main about four times this summer. Music is a fundamental art form in human nature. Doesn't hear it at his house. Obviously there's a lot more traffic but doesn't see a problem with it. Thinks Village should continue with Music on Main. Suggested having APD foot patrol officers walk down Main Street. Would help straighten things out.

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved at 8:04 p.m. to close the public participation portion of the meeting.

Unanimously carried

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Proclamation

*Proclamation read by Mayor Hunt for the
National Association of Women Business Owners Buffalo Niagara*

WHEREAS, for thirty years, NAWBO Buffalo Niagara has been a beacon of empowerment and support for women entrepreneurs across our region, embodying the spirit that Women Mean Business®;

WHEREAS, NAWBO Buffalo Niagara is part of the illustrious National Association of Women Business Owners, the only dues-based organization advocating tirelessly for the interests of women entrepreneurs across all industries, with chapters spanning the nation;

WHEREAS, NAWBO Buffalo Niagara has been instrumental in propelling women business owners into greater economic, social, and political spheres of power, locally and globally;

WHEREAS, the community of NAWBO Buffalo Niagara offers unparalleled understanding, encouragement, ideas, and celebration to women at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey;

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1975, NAWBO has been a powerful voice for women business owners, ensuring representation at the highest levels of decision-making and advocating on bipartisan issues crucial to our community;

WHEREAS, NAWBO Buffalo Niagara continues to uphold the values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, welcoming all women entrepreneurs regardless of race, religion, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability;

WHEREAS, NAWBO Buffalo Niagara's mission to strengthen the wealth-creating capacity of its members, promote economic development, foster innovative change, and build strategic alliances has profoundly impacted our business culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, we proclaim September 11, 2024, as a day of celebration and recognition of the 30th Anniversary of NAWBO Buffalo Niagara. We commend NAWBO Buffalo Niagara for its unwavering dedication to supporting women entrepreneurs and its pivotal role in shaping a vibrant business landscape in our region.

We call upon all members of our community to join in honoring NAWBO Buffalo Niagara for thirty years of advocacy, leadership, and camaraderie, and to continue supporting its mission to empower women entrepreneurs for generations to come.

Signed this day in recognition of NAWBO Buffalo Niagara's 30th Anniversary, with appreciation and admiration for its profound impact on women business owners and our community.

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Reports – Mayor Hunt

Amherst Police Club held annual fund raiser at Island Park on Friday, September 6th. Was very nice event.

Lots of positive news about the Village on the website...made Buffalo Business First magazine as Overall Winner Medium Hub for a great Village to live in. Also a good article in September 4th Amherst Bee on Beautification Committee and all of the Village gardens.

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following ***budget transfers*** are hereby made in the ***General Fund*** for the **2024-2025** fiscal year:

To:	001-1410-4450 Village Clerk/Miscellaneous	\$3,276.32
From:	001-1410-4040 Village Clerk/Education Exp/Travel	\$2,000.00
	001-1410-4010 Village Clerk/Office Supplies	\$1,276.32
To:	001-1410-4600 Village Clerk/Computer Support	\$8,210.65
From:	001-1410-4110 Village Clerk/Service Contracts	\$8,210.65
To:	001-6989-4010 Other Econ Oppty & Dev/Office Supplies.....	\$49.64
	001-6989-4040 Other Econ Oppty & Dev/Education Exp/Travel	\$20.00
From:	001-1410-4010 Village Clerk/Office Supplies	\$69.64
To:	001-7110-4165 Parks/Repairs-Shelter Maintenance	\$23.78
From:	001-7110-4169 Parks/Repairs-Other	\$23.78
To:	001-7110-4450 Parks/Miscellaneous	\$233.00
From:	001-7110-4360 Parks/Park Supplies.....	\$233.00
To:	001-7550-4410 Celebrations/Old Home Days.....	\$250.00
From:	001-7550-4960 Celebrations/Committee Appreciation	\$250.00
To:	001-8510-4340 Community Beautification/Plants	\$723.11
From:	001-8510-4450 Community Beautification/Miscellaneous	\$723.11

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLVED, that payroll and vouchers in the amount of **\$627,822.79** covering the period from **07/29/24 – 09/04/24** are hereby approved as follows:

PAYROLL COVERING 07/29/2024 – 08/25/2024	\$ 93,923.64
VOUCHERS COVERING 08/08/2024 – 09/04/2024	
GENERAL FUND	\$ 308,973.45
WATER FUND	\$ 190,922.04
SEWER FUND	\$ 12,047.26
GLEN PARK FUND	\$ 1,564.99
TRUST & AGENCY FUND	\$ 8,507.66
S. CAYUGA/MILTON CROSSWALK	\$ 4,630.00
SEWER CONSOLIDATION PROJECT	\$ 623.75
COMMUNITY PLAN	\$ 1,530.00
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ 5,100.00
	\$ 533,899.15
 GRAND TOTAL	 \$ 627,822.79

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Local Law 5 of 2024 to amend Chapter 15 (Buildings & Structures), Section 4 (Building Permits), and Chapter 89 (Streets & Sidewalks), Section 4 (Construction; permits) to require a permit for the installation or expansion of driveways and other paved surfaces, is hereby adopted as amended (clarifying effective date).

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Local Law 6 of 2024 to amend Chapter 103 (Vehicles & Traffic), Section 3 (Speed Limits), Subsection B to establish school zone speed limits on West Spring Street and Grove Street is hereby adopted as amended (clarifying effective date).

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Local Law 7 of 2024 to amend Chapter 103 (Vehicles & Traffic), Section 15 (Stop Intersections), to add a stop sign on West Spring Street at the intersection with Grove Street is hereby adopted as amended (clarifying effective date).

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Local Law 8 of 2024 to establish a Short-Term Rental Moratorium in the Village of Williamsville is hereby adopted as amended (clarifying effective date).

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Local Law 9 of 2024 to amend Chapter 21 (Development Plan Review Fees) to provide for the recovery of fees incurred by the Village in connection with post-development engineering inspections is hereby adopted as amended (clarifying effective date).

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved to go off agenda at 8:11 p.m.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Ellicott Creek Williamsville Flood Mitigation Service contract was awarded by the Village to Gomez and Sullivan Engineers, for their bid amount of \$78,900, which represents an \$8,700 increase over the original \$70,200 estimate.

WHEREAS, the Village was awarded a planning grant in 2023 from FEMA for the Ellicott Creek Flood Mitigation Project in the amount of \$70,200, with the Federal share at \$63,180;

RESOLVED, that the Village of Williamsville will appropriate \$15,720 from unrestricted general funds for the non-federal matching share.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved to back on agenda at 8:12 p.m.

Unanimously carried

Report – Trustee Celeste

Reports covered in Work Session, and Public Participation covered pertinent topics from Traffic & Safety.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

ON MOTION by Trustee Celeste, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized to purchase four radar feedback signs from Tapco Traffic & Parking Control to assist with vehicle speed mitigation in the Village at the cost of \$4,763.15 each to be paid for out of the American Rescue Plan Act fund (ARPA).

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Celeste, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Larry Zasowski*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed as an Alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Celeste, seconded by Trustee Jackson, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Meghann Hanna*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Youth & Recreation Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Celeste, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Noah Keller*, of the *Town of Amherst, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Environmental Advisory Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

Report – Trustee Hahn

No further reports from Work Session.

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Daniel DeLano, Jr.*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed as Chair of the Tree Board Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLVED, that *Richard Sweeney*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed as Vice-Chair of the Tree Board Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Monica Celeste*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Beautification Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Brian Lash*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Beautification Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Julie Flanagan*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed as an Alternate for the Planning & Architectural Review Board effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved to go off agenda at 8:15 p.m.

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Liz Marabella* of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Beautification Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Hahn, seconded by Mayor Hunt, it was moved to back on agenda at 8:16 p.m.

Unanimously carried

Report – Trustee Jackson

Arts, Culture & Diversity Committee meeting September 12th at 7:00 p.m. We added a couple new members.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

The Parks Committee was also able to add new members. They will be meeting September 16th at 7:15p.m.

AAA recently published a travel blog highlighting some of central and western New York's best waterfalls, with Glen Park topping the list! The called out its scenic natural beauty, rocky cliffs, and cozy setting. Kudos to the members of the GPJB who do a lot of hands-on work as well as DPW crew. Meeting this Wednesday 9/11 at 7:00p.m. at Village Hall.

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the *revised* proposal from Digital Surveillance Solutions (DSS) for the replacement of 4 cameras at Glen Park, to include supplying, installing, and configuring EP video additions is hereby approved in the amount of \$10,096.42, which is a \$316.74 increase over previously adopted proposal of \$9,779.68, to be paid from available American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Hahn, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Daniel DeLano, Jr.*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Meghann Hanna*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Julie Flanagan*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLVED, that *Noel Bartlow*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Danessia Scott-Warren*, of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Arts, Culture and Diversity Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Mayor Hunt, it was moved to go off agenda at 8:21 p.m.

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Liz Marabella* of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Celeste, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that *Bobbi Stearns* of the *Village of Williamsville, NY*, is hereby appointed to the Parks Committee effective immediately.

Unanimously carried

ON MOTION by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Mayor Hunt, it was moved to back on agenda at 8:22 p.m.

Unanimously carried

Staff Reports:

Attorney Grieco: No report

Administrator Canell: No report

DPW Crew Chief: No report

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

ON MOTION by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Celeste, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Unanimously carried

The next Village Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 23, 2024, at Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY.

Suzanne Canell
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

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