

Village of Washingtonville

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2026 – 7:00 PM (Tuesday)

Members: Mayor Tom DeVinko, Deputy Steve Presser (Absent), Trustee Vernon Coleman, Trustee Donna Jacaruso & Trustee Susan Walski (Absent)

Attorney: Matt Toal

Village Deputy Clerk: Michelle Reif (Absent)

1. Recording Issues

- Two Village Board meetings and one Planning Board meeting experienced missing video footage.
 - Written minutes will be posted despite the lack of video recordings.
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2. Announcements and Updates

Edmunds Building Department Software

- Go-live timeframe scheduled for **October 2026**.
- Originally projected to be approximately 18 months out.

Sewell Park

- Survey has been completed.
- Corner markings are still needed.
- Sidewalk proposal submitted to New York State for a path from the municipal lot to the park.
- Park plan was submitted to FEMA for approval due to floodplain regulations.

Generator Grant

- Grant for generators for Village Hall and DPW is in the final stages.
- Village Hall will be able to serve as a warming station.

Dasney LED Crosswalk Lights

- Grant approved to purchase five devices.
- One unit is to be installed at the intersection of Route 94 and Stuart Avenue, pending DOT permit approval.

Lions Club Playground Equipment

- The Lions Club purchased new playground equipment.
- Installation scheduled for spring under manufacturer project management supervision.

Orange County Municipal Tourism Grant

- Application being submitted to fund Fourth of July fireworks.

Water Tank Rehabilitation

- Exploring grant opportunities for water tank storage rehabilitation.
- Previous estimates were approximately \$1 million.
- Current grants focus primarily on new tanks/projects rather than maintenance.
- Continued efforts underway to secure funding.

Budget Follow-Up

- Fuel expense codes moved to DPW.
- Additional information to be provided by Leslie.

Meeting Reschedule

- Village Board meeting moved from **March 2nd** to **Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.**

Building Department

- No additional updates from Donna.

3. Building Department Report (February 1 – February 15)

- 10 permits issued
- 29 Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance issued
- No violations: prior violations remedied
- 5 municipal searches completed
- Fire safety inspections ongoing
- Fire safety inspection fees collected: **\$3,170**

Projects

- Three Ninjas Restaurant opened (sushi, ramen, hibachi).
- 100 letters sent regarding expired 2023 permits.
 - Initiative intended to proactively address open permits before property sales.

Casazza Property

- Petition to amend zoning for two parcels totaling 151 acres.
 - Planning Board reviewing and preparing recommendations.
 - Village Board has 60 days to render a decision.
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4. Non-Compliance Letters

- Letters sent to businesses regarding non-compliant signage, lighting, etc.
 - Businesses are given one month to correct issues before violations are issued.
 - Existing compliant signage will be grandfathered.
 - Sign permits are now included with new building permits.
 - Permit fees may be waived for businesses updating signage.
 - Addressing excessive signage (more than one sign per structure).
 - Concern raised regarding internally lit signage at new dental office.
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5. Resolutions

Resolution 26-0026

Authorize budget transfer amendments and payment of warrants.

- Motion made and seconded.
- Approved.

Warrants

- A Fund: \$85,148.52
- Water Fund: \$30,672.00
- Sewer Fund: \$22,007.50
- Motion approved: 3-0, with 2 absent.

Resolution 26-0027

Schedule a public hearing for March 4th regarding a \$25 fee for the deficit bond payment.

- Effective May 2026 billing cycle.
- Informational hearing for public questions.
- Motion approved: 3–0, with 2 absent.

Resolution 26-0028

Approve assembly permit for Knights of Columbus annual carnival (May 21–25).

- Approved 3–0, with 2 absent.

Resolution 26-0029

Approve assembly permit for Event Committee Easter Egg Extravaganza (March 28, 1:00–4:00 p.m.).

- Approved 3–0, with 2 absent.

Resolution 26-0030

Approve facilities permit for Covenant Crew to use Vern Allen parking lot (April 11, 8:00 a.m.–10:30 p.m.).

- Approximately 20 vehicles.
- Approved 3–0, with 2 absent.

Resolution 26-0031

Approve public assembly permit for Hook & Ladder St. Patrick's Day community event (March 1, 1:00–7:00 p.m.).

- Use of a portion of the parking lot closest to Hook & Ladder.
 - Two food trucks on the property.
 - Approved 3–0, with 2 absent.
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6. Public Comment

- Question regarding posting of March meeting date change — confirmed updated on website.
 - Inquiry regarding conflict with election meeting on the 18th — meeting to be rescheduled (likely Wednesday or Thursday).
 - Question about DPW generator — wastewater treatment plant has a generator.
 - Comment regarding poor audio quality of Planning Board meetings.
 - Concern expressed regarding the Planning Board chairperson appearing to have a predetermined position.
 - Concern regarding the presence of the Village Board liaison at Planning Board meetings.
 - Liaison confirmed attendance, discussed with counsel and planner; role is official liaison.
 - Discussion regarding meeting topics and public perception.
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7. Village Board Discussion

- Concern raised regarding public perception of Planning Board independence.
 - Residents may submit written comments even if they are not attending in person.
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8. DPW Staffing

- 11 DPW employees are currently employed.
 - One employee was absent during the snowstorm due to a family matter.
 - One employee is being paid but not reporting to work for several weeks.
 - Matter unresolved; details not disclosed due to legal considerations.
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9. Water Meter Replacements

- Nearly 500 meters were replaced.
 - Two DPW employees are consistently assigned to replacements.
 - Replacements have identified and helped address leaks during freezing weather.
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10. Paving and Stormwater Management

- Tallman paving to extend to the town line.
- Discussion regarding stormwater management manual and state compliance.

- Retention pond questions on cleaning the pond.
 - Village of Monroe assisting with weed removal.
 - Discussion regarding original pond depth and lack of dredging.
 - DEC permit required for pond work.
 - Engineers assess hydraulic impact.
 - Bottleneck under Route 94 identified as primary flooding issue.
 - Vern Allen Park stream is designed to back up water.
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11. East Main Street Flooding

- State responsible for addressing homeowner damages near 189 East Main.
 - Water from Newcastle Drive is impacting properties.
 - Elevation changes from the Route 94 project discussed.
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12. Additional Matters

- Ponds were originally constructed to mitigate acid rain.
 - No additional litigation notices received.
 - Sewer catch basin at Ahern and Decker separated from curb (possible snowplow damage).
 - Tax bills will be mailed in March.
 - Treasurer acknowledged for financial preparation.
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13. Executive Session

- Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.