

Village of Washingtonville Meeting Minutes

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

Attorney: Chris Pavlaka

Village Deputy Clerk: Michelle Reif

Date: March 23, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

1. Meeting Opening

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
 - Vernon and Steve were congratulated on their reappointments
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2. Public Comment

Route 94 Flooding

- Resident Sean Hagerty raised concerns regarding flooding following recent roadwork
 - Issues identified:
 - Improper installation of drainage infrastructure
 - Roadway bumps contributing to water flow problems
 - Insufficient drainage causes flooding onto private properties
 - Current conditions:
 - NYS installed two dry wells
 - The village is actively using pumps to manage water
 - Actions taken:
 - Village Attorney drafted a letter to NYS DOT
 - Meeting scheduled with DOT: **April 17, 2026, at 10:30 AM**
 - Village considering billing DOT for overtime and fuel costs
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3. Announcements

Wastewater Treatment Plant Issue

- Cloth filters are malfunctioning from the prior renovation
- Warranty expired before the system became operational
- Awaiting response from contractor (Texas-based)
- Potential legal action under consideration
- Temporary solution:
 - Polymer chemicals approved by DEC
 - Requires multiple weekly monitoring checks

Sewer Equipment Concerns

- Installed equipment deemed faulty
- Contractor lacks wastewater experience
- Village is working to have issues corrected

4. Events

Easter Egg Hunt Extravaganza

- **Date:** Saturday
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- **Location:** Vern Allen Park
- Highlights:
 - Helicopter egg drops and Easter Bunny arrival
 - Police and Fire Departments provide security
- Notifications sent to nearby residents

5. Ongoing Projects & Updates

Sewell Park (FEMA)

- Awaiting FEMA approval
- No record of prior approvals found
- Delays due to federal budget issues

Road Survey & Pavement Plan

- Excel database created tracking:
 - Road conditions
 - Sidewalks, curbs, drainage
 - Valve maintenance
- System designed for long-term use by future boards

North Street Investigation

- Planned excavation at Ahern Blvd & North Street
- Issues:
 - Unknown valve sizes
 - Multiple valves potentially non-functional
- Findings:
 - Water flow did not stop during testing
- Potential need for live system valve replacement (high cost)
- Paving schedule pending

Grant Opportunities

- Playground upgrades (Woodfield & Vern Allen Park) – “New York Plays” grant in progress
- Federal funding requests submitted for:
 - Vac truck
 - Water tower maintenance
 - Spindler & High Grove wells

6. Budget & Finance

Senate Budget

- \$898 million approved for CHIPS funding
- Awaiting distribution details

Water & Sewer Financials

- Water revenue: \$119,659.30
- Sewer revenue: \$146,548.22
- Facility use: \$119,389.11

Usage

- 469 meters used 959,953 gallons in 7 days
 - 165 accounts remain delinquent
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7. Water System & Infrastructure

Lead & Galvanized Pipe Program

- 40–50 homes remain to be surveyed
 - Completion goal: 2027
 - Replacement timeline: up to 2037
 - Estimated cost per home: \$7,000–\$9,000
 - Funding assistance (grants) is being explored
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8. Resolutions

- **26-0041:** Public hearing scheduled (April 20) – Wastewater fee (\$25 quarterly)
 - **26-0042:** Approval for Nikon conference attendance (May 13–15, 2026)
 - **26-0043:** Budget transfers and warrant payments approved
 - **26-0044:** Little League Opening Day Parade approved (April 11)
 - **26-0046:** Public hearing scheduled – Ethics Code updates
 - **26-0047:** Chemical & sludge hauling bids approved
 - **26-0048:** Sign application approved (South Street)
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9. Department Reports

Building Department

- No new permits issued
- 12 COs/CCs completed
- 300 total inspections to date
- Ongoing:
 - Sign violations enforcement
 - Review of expired permits

Police Department (February)

- Total reports: 446
 - Arrests: 7
 - Criminal cases: 14
 - Traffic tickets: 114
 - Parking tickets: 44
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10. Additional Topics

Pond Management

- Pond approx. 3 acres
- Issues:
 - Silt buildup
 - Improper debris disposal
 - Excessive reeds (indicating shallow water)
- Estimated dredging cost: \$30,000–\$50,000
- Plan:
 - Clean edges
 - Remove brush
 - Restore usability (fishing, etc.)

Water Tanks & Hydrants

- Grant applications submitted for tank repairs (~\$1M)
- Multiple hydrants have been recently damaged and repaired
- Consideration for protective barriers

Historical Review Board

- Discussion on forming board vs committee
- Needed for state/national historic designation

Parks & Green Space Protection

- Focus on preserving:
 - Woodfield
 - Memorial Park
 - Vern Allen Park
- Consideration of public trust doctrine

Voter Registration Concerns

- Low voter turnout noted
 - Potential solutions:
 - Outreach campaigns
 - Registration tent at events
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11. Adjournment

- Motion made and seconded
- Meeting adjourned

