

# VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** October 20, 2025

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Village Hall

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

**Attorney:** Chris Pavlaka

**Village Deputy Clerk:** Michelle Reif

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

### Major Infrastructure Investments and Financial Planning

- The village faces nearly \$1 million in water tank repairs, with detailed inspections revealing critical safety and compliance issues.
- Staggered repair scheduling will ensure continuous water service, but financing and competitive bidding are essential to manage costs.
- The board is proactively seeking grants and alternative funding sources to offset the substantial financial burden.

### Roadwork Delays and Strategic Coordination

- Paving on North Street is postponed until spring due to unresolved utility mapping, highlighting the importance of thorough pre-construction surveys.
- Temporary repairs will be implemented to maintain road usability, and close coordination with schools will minimize disruption.
- Additional paving and drainage projects are scheduled, with clear communication plans for residents and stakeholders.

### Community Engagement and Event Success

- Recent community events attracted thousands, strengthening local business partnerships and enhancing village reputation.
- Recognition from regional publications and positive feedback underscore the value of these events for civic pride and economic vitality.
- The board and committees are committed to sustaining and growing these initiatives, fostering a vibrant community atmosphere.

## **Economic Development and Village Growth**

- Multiple new businesses are opening or relocating, including dental practices and specialty shops, signaling economic growth.
- The board supports business development through streamlined approvals and infrastructure improvements.
- Ongoing renovations and property investments contribute to a revitalized downtown and increased municipal revenues.

## **Transparent Governance and Responsive Policy Updates**

- The board passed several resolutions addressing infrastructure, public safety, and zoning, with efforts to clarify policy changes for residents.
- Public questions prompted detailed explanations of sewer code amendments and contract processes, reflecting a commitment to transparency.
- Legal counsel was appointed for ongoing zoning litigation, ensuring the village's interests are represented in complex land use matters.

## **Water Tank Inspections and Repair Needs**

- Inspections revealed critical deficiencies in both main water tanks, including seam welding, epoxy lining, sediment removal, and vent replacement.
- Estimated repair costs are \$530,900 for the Clinton Drive tank and \$465,560 for the Prides Crossing Court tank.
- Additional work includes OSHA-required safety upgrades and sandblasting with FDA-compliant coatings.
- The board plans to seek bids from other companies to potentially lower costs and expects firmer numbers by spring.
- Each tank holds 835,000 gallons; repairs will be staggered to maintain water service.

## **Roadwork and Infrastructure Projects**

- Curb and roadwork on North Street between 94 and A Boulevard is complete, but paving is delayed due to issues locating water main valves.
- A specialized company will conduct underground pipe surveys to resolve valve identification problems.
- Paving is postponed until spring, with temporary repairs planned for rough sections.
- Drainage work will begin between Aver Boulevard and Decker Drive, estimated to take two weeks.
- Coordination with school transportation ensures minimal disruption during construction.

## **Community Events and Recognition**

- The Witchingtonville Before and After Dark events were highly successful, drawing thousands of participants and strong business sponsorship.
- Committee members and village staff were recognized for their dedication and organizational efforts.
- The village received accolades in local magazines, including best apple cider donuts and top event destination.
- No public concerns were raised about the events during the meeting.

## **Well Testing, Pond Maintenance, and Environmental Updates**

- High Grove well pump tests showed strong output, matching the fireman's well; a second well may be retested for improved yield.
- Pond maintenance plans include weed removal, new pumps, and shoreline trimming in collaboration with Monroe Village.
- Discussion of restocking ponds with suitable fish species for community enjoyment.
- Catch basin and drainage maintenance continues, with Tower Hill prioritized for future work.
- Hydrant flushing is on hold due to low rainfall, but contingency plans are in place if water levels drop.

## **Village Hall, New Businesses, and Historical Marker**

- Structural engineers surveyed the village hall's second floor; a report on usable space is forthcoming.
- Several new businesses are opening or relocating, including a dentistry office, pediatric dentistry, and the Three Ninjas restaurant.
- A historical marker was dedicated to Dwayne Mays, with grant funding and community involvement.
- Discussion about the historical transfer of Mays field property from the village to the town, with plans to investigate further.

## **Departmental Reports and Leaf Pickup**

- DPW continues leaf and stick pickup, reminding residents not to dump debris in storm drains.
- Building department reported record revenues of over \$8,000 in two weeks, primarily from permit fees.
- Updates on ongoing construction and renovations in the downtown area, including church and business properties.

### **Resolutions and Board Actions**

- Multiple resolutions were passed, including paving contracts, facility use approvals, event permits, curfew changes, and zoning matters.
- The board clarified that recent sewer code changes do not include rate increases, only language updates.
- **FEERICK, NUGENT, and MacCartney PLLC** was appointed as counsel for Article 78 zoning litigation.
- The board discussed the process for identifying and exempting properties not connected to sewer facilities.

### **Public Questions and Contract Discussions**

- Residents inquired about water tank inspection history, bid processes, and sewer code changes.
- The board plans to negotiate upcoming water and sewer contracts and seek competitive bids.
- Clarification was provided on the handling of paving funds and fiscal impacts.

### **Executive Session and Adjournment**

- The board moved to executive session to discuss personnel matters.
- The public portion of the meeting was adjourned following the motion.