

Village of Washingtonville Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: June 15, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Village Hall, Washingtonville, NY

Present- Mayor Tom DeVinko, Deputy Mayor Vernon Coleman, Trustee Susan Walski, Trustee Donna Jacaruso, and Trustee Steve Presser

Call to Order

Mayor Tom DeVinko called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of remembrance for former Village Police Officer James Peter, who recently passed away.

Public Hearing – Ahern Boulevard Speed Limit Reduction

The Board opened a public hearing regarding the proposed reduction of the speed limit on Ahern Boulevard from 30 MPH to 25 MPH.

Discussion

- The mayor explained that nearly all Village roads were reduced to 25 MPH years ago, except Ahern Boulevard.
- Additional speed limit signs have been ordered and will be installed following adoption of the local law.
- No public comments were received.

Action

The public hearing was closed, and the Board later adopted the local law reducing the speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH.

Zoning Amendment Petition (PUD/SL-10)

Prior to opening the scheduled public hearing, Trustee Jacaruso requested cancellation of the public hearing, noting that the Board did not intend to advance the petition.

Board Action

The Board voted to cancel the public hearing.

Vote: 4-0-1

- Trustee Coleman abstained due to proximity to the property.

Public Comment

Attorney John Capello, representing the property owners, addressed the Board and requested consideration of the petition, citing:

- Housing shortages in Orange County.
- Need for starter homes, apartments, townhomes, and mixed-use development.
- Consistence with portions of the Village Comprehensive Plan.
- Concerns that current zoning severely limits development opportunities on approximately 15 acres.

Following discussion, no Board member made a motion to consider the proposed amendment, and the petition was not advanced.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Fund Balance Policy

Resident Bill Graber asked questions regarding the proposed Fund Balance Policy.

Discussion included:

- Goal of retaining approximately 10% of annual surplus funds.
- Use of fund balance for emergency needs, capital improvements, and equipment purchases.
- Long-term objective of reducing borrowing and potentially lowering tax burdens.

Investment Policy

Questions were raised regarding investment of Village funds.

The mayor explained:

- Certain Village funds would be invested through approved municipal investment vehicles.
- Current investments are generating additional revenue for the Village.

Water and Sewer Rates

Questions were raised regarding upcoming water and sewer rate amendments and senior/disabled resident discount proposals. The Board noted additional information would be available before the July 6 public hearing.

Historic Landmark Designations

Questions were raised regarding proposed local historic landmark designations. Board members explained that designations are based on:

- Historical significance,
- Age of structures,
- Research completed by the Village Historian and Historic Preservation Committee.

Greenlight Fiber Installation

Residents raised concerns regarding lawn restoration.

The mayor advised:

- Village staff are documenting all affected locations.
- Green light will be required to restore lawns, topsoil, seed, and repair damage where necessary.
- Residents should contact Village Hall with concerns.

Feral Cats

Residents inquired about addressing feral cat populations.

Discussion included:

- Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs.
- Potential assistance through the Warwick Valley Humane Society.
- Importance of discouraging feeding of feral cat colonies.

Announcements

Greenlight Fiber Project

- Five streets remain to be completed.
- O&R continues investigating electrical outages associated with recent utility work in the Woodfield area.
- Additional training is being coordinated regarding underground utility safety.

Orange County Sales Tax

The mayor reported that state legislation has advanced regarding continuation of Orange County's sales tax rate and is awaiting the Governor's signature.

Village of Monroe Intermunicipal Agreement

The Village continues discussions with Monroe regarding use of Monroe's aquatic weed harvesting equipment for Village ponds.

ADA Website Compliance

- New ADA requirements for municipal websites will require compliance by April 2028.
- The Village has begun planning for implementation.

Constitution Drive Project

The project has been advertised for bid, and the Village is awaiting results.

Twin Ponds Nursery Donation

The Board thanked Twin Ponds Nursery for donating flowers for Village planters.

Property Maintenance Enforcement

The Village will arrange mowing at:

- Pembroke Drive property
- 31 Tolman Place

Costs will be billed to the property owners and added to tax bills if unpaid.

Carnival Review

The Board plans to meet with the Knights of Columbus to review:

- Crowd management,
- Line control,
- Security enhancements,
- Event operations for future carnivals.

July 3rd Celebration

Residents were encouraged to attend the Village's July 3rd celebration and fireworks at Vern Allen Park.

Summer Concert Series

The Summer Concert Series begins June 20 and runs through September 12. The opening performance will feature a Led Zeppelin tribute band.

Trustee Reports

Building Department Report

June 1–15, 2026:

- 15 Building Permits Issued
- 6 Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance Issued
- 5 Violations Issued
- 2 Municipal Searches Completed
- Permit Revenue: \$2,100
- Municipal Search Revenue: \$350
- Total Revenue: \$2,450

Additional updates:

- New smoothie business opened at Fulton Square.
- Historic landmark nominations progressing for:
 - 59 East Main Street
 - 61 East Main Street
 - 36 North Street

Police Department Report

- 596 Police Reports
- 20 Criminal Cases
- 14 Arrests
- 6 Domestic Incidents
- 15 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 149 Traffic Stops
- 101 Traffic Tickets Issued
- \$31,174.70 received from Washingtonville Central School District for School Resource Officers (SROs).

Grants Update

- Income survey expected to be completed by mid-July.
- Meeting scheduled with EFC regarding grant opportunities for:
 - Water tower improvements
 - Highgrove & Spindler Well Project.

Water & Sewer Report

- North Street Valve Replacement scheduled for the week of June 30.
- Drainage improvements completed for North Street paving.
- Progress continues at the sewer plant.
- No water or sewer emergencies reported.
- Wells currently at 24 feet.
- 518 water meters installed.
- Water usage for previous week: 1.26 million gallons.
- Water/Sewer/Facility revenue YTD: \$634,516.41.
- Revenues exceed prior year by approximately \$67,000.

Resolutions Adopted

Resolution	Description	Result
26-0092	Budget Transfers & Amendments	Approved
26-0093	Fund Balance Policy	Approved
26-0094	Investment Policy	Approved
26-0095	ITC Phone Agreement (Police Dept.)	Approved
26-0096	Local Law – Ahern Blvd Speed Limit 25 MPH	Approved
26-0098	Brew Bus Parking Request (June 19)	Approved
26-0099	MDA Car Wash Request (June 27/July 11 Rain Date)	Approved

Resolution	Description	Result
26-0100	Generator Maintenance Agreement	Approved
26-0101	NYCOM Fall Training Attendance	Approved
26-0102	DOT Study – RRFB Beacon at North Street & Route 94	Approved
26-0103	Quick Claim Deed – 34 Capital Drive	Approved
26-0104	Alcohol Sales for July 3 Celebration	Approved
26-0105	Consider Historic Designation – 61 East Main Street	Approved
26-0106	Consider Historic Designation – 59 East Main Street	Approved
26-0107	Consider Historic Designation – 36 North Street	Approved
26-0108	Purchase of 2026 Dodge Durango Police Vehicle	Approved (3-0-2)
26-0109	Public Hearing – Water Rates (July 6, 2026)	Approved
26-0110	Public Hearing – Sewer Rates (July 6, 2026)	Approved

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:09 PM.