

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
REGULAR MEETING
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
August 3, 2026
6 P.M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER-MAYOR

I call this meeting to order on Monday August 3, 2026, at 6:01 PM

Roll Call of the Trustees: Present Trustees: Brauchler, Wandel, Cruz-Keefe, and Mulholland; Trustee Lazaroni absent

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS members of this Board have read the Official Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of July 20, 2026, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the minutes as entered into the Official Minutes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with.

Mayor Ferguson-Before we get into correspondence, I realize that not everybody gets a chance to read the paper or listen to the radio or catch up on things that are going on. I want to bring you up to date on a couple of different things. Number one, parking downtown. Obviously, there's going to be a change to the law. The law has to be changed in order for that to be enforced. I took it upon myself to look at communities like East Aurora and a number of others that do not have parking. I know that when it was removed temporarily in Jamestown that parking became a bit of an issue. First, let's straighten up the back parking lots. Back parking lots are not being charged \$25 per person to park in the back parking lot. People who are being charged are people that are long-term parking parkers. In other words, people that are here and don't park in their own or don't have the ability to park in their own driveway. We do have some people that put their car back there when they head down south for a few weeks. So, that would be a \$25 per month fee. You're not going to get arrested for going in and getting a sweet roll while you don't have a sticker. So, that's what we're looking at. I proposed to the board that we go to two-hour parking downtown, removal of all meters. This means that we won't be honoring the contract with HONK. There will be no need for QR codes, no need for any of that to our parking. We sat down with Police Chief, Greg Myers, and he is confident that we're able to manage those programs and manage them well. It's been done in the past and hopefully, you know, since I came on board, we talked about supporting downtown business. We talked about the importance of supporting downtown business. Since Route 60 has seen a tremendous amount

of growth, it's been a little difficult for people to make that turn from 60 to 20 to come downtown. We have people that have invested time and money into their businesses, continue to invest time and money into their businesses. We want to make sure they have their best chance to succeed. So, this is a program that has been utilized successfully in other parts of Western New York and not so successfully in other parts of Western New York, but we're going to give it a try so that we can give our downtown business people the best opportunity to prosper. There's a double-edged sword to anything that you do. If you know, we were talking in the hallway and somebody said "Well, what if somebody's getting their hair done or what if they're eating" And well you either have to run out and put more quarters in the meter, if we had quarters or if we went to the QR code, you'd have to put more time on your phone, or you can utilize the public parking in the back; which is absolutely free. We have a very unique situation with Main Street and our Main Street businesses. Most of those businesses have front and back park entrances. Front entrances on Main Street and entrances from the rear, from the back parking lot. Not many communities have that and we're one of them in Chautauqua County. Westfield is another one that has that type of thing. So, if you heard that, if you heard that we are charging, if you heard we are going to move forward, I have talked to the board and the board is pretty much in agreement. And we will have a resolution for it, but we feel that it's always good to have fewer signs in the community too, right? You won't have as many two-hour parking signs. So, we will be working on the parking lot, redoing the parking lot, going from there. Speaking of the parking, there was a proposal put in place about removing or not allowing any parking on either side of Forest Place. I know there's a resident here tonight and I spoke to a lot of residents this weekend. It's not a good idea in certain areas. A proposal that we are also bringing up for discussion; which will be fleshed out at next week's workshop and then move forward either with inclusion in to the parking program or elimination of the idea altogether. Those of you that know Forest Place, it starts on Main Street, goes downhill, and ends up near Risley Street. It runs right along beautiful Canadaway Creek and for a number of years, parking on that side of the creek; there's been no parking signs and that would remain. But it's difficult for people that might have lawn care, especially seniors that have lawn care companies that come along and have to park somewhere. Where are they going to park? If you're entertaining, which we always encourage to entertain, preventing parking or saying there's no parking is very difficult. The upper part of Forest from Main to Barker, that's a much tighter part of the community. As far as the street, if you have ever traveled it, if there's an Amazon truck on one side of the street and someone parks out in the street, you're waiting for traffic. You're waiting for the man to move his truck, or the woman to move her truck and it's quite tight. The problem is getting down the street with a truck. Last year we had to use a pickup truck with a plow on it in order to plow that. So a resolution is going to be talked about, that's going to be a solution, let's put it that way; that's going to be talked about is making the upper park from Main Street to Barker one way. Coming in and leaving the downhill and Risley section of Forest Place alone, as is. We think that just from the reaction of our residents; which is why we are here, right? We are here to serve the residents, not here to make enemies, but we're here to serve the residents whenever we can, whenever it works. So pass them on to your friends, if you're watching, please. Because there are still a lot of people out there that think we're charging \$25 for the back parking lot; which again eight, possibly 10 spots in the far corner of the parking lot, so it's close to those homes and the same thing in the back parking lot here so it will not be taking up prime commercial space for our visitors. The same thing with Forest Place, one way from Main Street to Barker and then remains the same for the rest of Forest. We do realize that there's a construction project there, that has

been there for a few weeks and we're working on DPW to get that remediated as soon as possible as well. So, I see you had a question,

Jillian Domenico-I do, yes. So, if you're talking one way from Main Street to Barker, would you allow parking? Yeah. A. Which way? And also, B, would you allow parking, allow parking to be still allowed on the one side?

Mayor- Parking is allowed on one side, it would be allowed one side from top to bottom, but it would go from Main Street to Barker one way. So, you'd be coming in this way.

Domenico-So, is this all about plowing?

Mayor-Part of it is plowing, part of it is just the difficulty of getting through traffic and again, I went down today and there were three cars parked in front of their homes and there was nobody in anybody's driveway. Doesn't happen often, right? But it would happen when one of us is driving down the street when somebody's driving down the street. So, there's not an ideal solution. Give us all a week here if you'd like to come up with some ideas and send things to the board or call me and send things to us. You got a week before the next workshop and then another week before they vote on the resolution. So, if there are better ideas, you know we're always open to listen to those.

Domenico-How typically would we know that this is happening? Like several of us found out from like a random sentence in a newspaper article this weekend when half the street was on vacation and the landlords are unavailable. So, it's really concerning that's what we got. When we went to put a porch on a couple of years ago, it required an act of Congress and that didn't hurt anybody. You know what I mean? Whereas this would be a complete infringement on our quality of life.

Mayor-Yeah-the people that I spoke with on the street, I told them I promised to come by with letters or keep in touch with what is going on. There's also updates of all the meetings and things on our facebook, I mean website page. So, you know as far as what's happening, the best thing I can tell you is the newspaper and radio, but if you do have comments; right now, we don't have a public portion, but I've never seen you in the meetings before. So, I figured you were here from Forest Place. So, keep in contact with us if you got other ideas, you know, I am open for discussion.

Domenico-Okay

Jason Domenico-One question, would that eliminate all the on-street parking on that end of Forest?

Mayor-On one side, okay. So, you would still be able to park on one side of Forest.

Jason Domenico-Okay

Jason Domenico-I spoke to a lot of people down on that end of the street. A lot of elderly people who were very concerned about their friends not being able to visit them anymore if there was no parking. So, it is a concern of ours.

Jillian Domenico-And the last thing too, is any additional steps that people have to take, especially the elderly or the injured or whomever. The lighting is poor; the sidewalks are a disaster. It's hilly, it's dangerous. I came in years ago talking about possibly making it a one-way and Mayor Pagano talked about it and it becoming a drag strip; which was, you know, true. And we talked about speed bumps, we talked about improving the lighting, It really is, it's a heavy foot traffic area, especially when there's football games and things like that. So to add another element, this would compromise the safety of the residents and the college students who oftentimes are coming down in whatever shape they are in, it's really frightening.

Mayor-All good, all good. And like I said, you know, feel free. I am here five, six days a week. I would be happy to sit down and talk about it without a doubt. And so is the board. The board is open to discussion at all times for that kind of thing. I also want to clear something else up; the Jamestown Mattress building was in bad shape. It was in very bad shape. It was about to go up to bidding. We were happy to see that. I am not going to mention names, because that's up to them to announce who they are, but local investors and developers have bought the building and the building's going to remain. The building's going to be repaired. There's a possibility of new businesses going in there. So, we want to thank local investors for keeping that building up and running. We look forward to the plans that they have for that. So, I apologize to the board for the interruption, but those are key things that it's very difficult to get this information out and about. And I know that Mr. Napoli has a letter tonight as well with regarding the parking being a major issue and I know that many of you were talking to people in that area as well. So, thank you.

D. CORRESPONDENCE-

Included as attachments from:

Rik Napoli

Mark Twichell, DDS

Andrew Ludwig

Charlie Siragusa

Donna Bjurlin

Multiple Forest Place Residents

Mayor-So pretty much everybody on Forest. There you go.

Erlyssa LeBeau-So, we do have to do a public hearing before we change the parking.

Mayor-Without a doubt. Okay, thank you.

E. MAYOR'S REPORT-

Mayor-I pretty much went through my mayor's report for the most part about what we are doing. I do want to clarify too, I was asked to take part in a round table, governor's round table; thankfully they moved it from Albany to Buffalo. It's a long trip; we were discussing hyper speed data centers in the area. Not necessarily totally against them, but I think that in some cases we tend to move a little too fast. And what I mean by that, for those of you who remember when windmills first came to town, Chautauqua County was a guinea pig for four windmills that went up at every one of our toll booths. About four months after they were installed, they broke down. It was a new company, new technology, and like with everything else in life, over time things break down. Well, four months was pretty quick and to this day, those four windmills sit not going anywhere. Well, the community is responsible for cleaning it up. So, my discussion is this new technology. I understand that hyper speed data centers are what AI needs; there are countries that are light years ahead of us, but to what end? My discussion, this is me speaking, not the board, but this new technology, there's new players and just like everything else in life, the players are the good companies rise to the top and everybody else falls off. I didn't want our community or neighboring communities being one of those that had a dollar waived in front of it and made a quick move to grab it and then get stuck. There should be things added to those contracts, like if your company goes out of business in a very short period of time; within 12

months, that site should be cleaned up and dismantled at your cost, not the community's cost. What happens downwind? You know again depending on where these go, they are going to be powered on their own power? Are they going to be powered with the battery storage; which is also unproven. So, I applaud the governor's one-year moratorium on taking a step back and taking a deep breath. Frankly, I don't know if one year is totally enough, but I believe, I haven't had a chance to talk to the board on it, but I think you're going to find individual communities with different moratoriums and different standards to move those things forward quickly. So, my participation was asked for by the governor's office. I was happy to be able to represent the community, but I think we have to take a deep breath before we make commitments to projects like that. In fact, there is discussion of some projects where these data centers are put into containers and dropped into either the ocean or lakes then you'll hear even more griping about it. So, from me, you know that's drinking water for many, many people plus wildlife. So, I just want to explain why I was part of that and my position on that. As you can tell, not everything gets out in a timely manner that we need it to. There's only so much space on the newspaper and so much time in a radio station and we try to keep up with people by social media as much as possible. So, that's what I had for my report.

F. TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Brauchler-

Ben Brauchler-Nothing at this time.

Cruz-Keefe-

Christine Cruz-Keefe-So, we received an email this morning from Angela Mackowiak; who is the director of our recreation department, giving us kind of a wrap up on the summer rec program.

Good morning Everyone!,

I hope all is well and you all had a great weekend! I just want to provide one final update following the completion of our 2026 Summer Recreation Year. I can't believe it is already over. Being my first year as Director, there were many new areas of this position and areas of review that I had experienced throughout the past 5 weeks. The first one was managing a staff of high school/college students as a whole. As the Summer Coordinator in years past, I really was just in charge of the employees needing a day off (i.e. doctor's appointments, college visits, family trips etc.). That was only the tip of the iceberg; this year I was introduced to the "other side" of the Director's position. This included managing different employee drive, training/education in preparation of the program, mentoring and overall creating an opportunity where there is a balance of "boss" and Angela. I think after the five weeks there were many positive situations, however there were areas where I can find ways to better myself in the future/years to come. We had an overall positive staff where individuals either found a liking for this program (like I did many years ago) or individuals who "tried it out" and discovered they want to choose a different path (and that is completely ok too!).

Our 5th and final week was an extremely busy week with all of our events planned. Throughout our 4th week, many of our playgrounds had their playground specific fundraisers. With all of the money raised, the playgrounds were able to sprinkle the earnings throughout the week to create a fun last week for all that attended their park. This included ice cream parties, pizza parties and slip n' slide/water day parties. In addition to the playground specific parties, the whole Rec

Department celebrated together on Wednesday with our field day event. Here, around 150 students attended the event where there were structured activities every 30 minutes. With only a couple of bumps in the day, I believe this was one of the better field days I have attended because it was the first with exact times of activities. In the future, this is something I would love to continue. Following Field Day, we had our Drama production of Peter Pan. This adaptation of the play was a hit; the drama counselors filled the FHS auditorium with over 135 patrons/families. We all had many laughs and people left with huge smiles. I can't wait to see what next year has in store. Then finally, Friday came around with the final goodbyes. Each playground winterized their sheds by bringing in two of their picnic tables, returning all crafts to the kids and wrapping anything up that needed to be done. I went around over the weekend to check the sheds out and all did a fairly good job at packing everything up. As the college students return to school within the next couple of weeks, I'll start planning slowly for the 2027 season.

With the summer season coming to a close for the organized playground activities, there are a couple of things on the horizon. Over the next couple of days, my summer coordinator and I will be working with DPW to finalize the mulch fill at Elm Streets Playground (weather dependent). In the future we hope to cover all of the other playgrounds as well. Russell Joy will hopefully be the next on the list because it is one of the most utilized parks. Then I am already starting to plan for Trunk or Treat. We are in the early, early stages of this event; however, it will be taking place on Saturday, October 24th. More details are to come; however, if you are interested in signing yourself up for a trunk, please let me know! We had over 35 participants last year and an attendance of ~1,200. With my first year of this event out of the way, there are many factors that I can tighten up for this year. For starters is the "flow" of the event. Many community members, employees and previous board members have shared their thoughts following last year's Trunk or Treat and a big factor that heavily influenced the day was the weather. We got hit with a massive rainstorm hours before the event occurred. I am praying that the weather will be on our side this year. In years past, people have inquired about the continuation of a parade. I, myself, love the idea of a parade, however there are a few hiccups with the "flow" of the Halloween seasons. I would love to have the most amount of Pomfret/Fredonia community members attend the event but also participate in it. I feel (just my own opinion) that many would either participate in a parade OR Trunk or Treat not both. Trunk or Treat is a very low maintenance activity, where even a couple of our participants from last year, stated "they actually felt like they were part of the community". We had 3 cars participating of individuals that live out on the "out of town roads" who normally wouldn't have any trick or treaters at their houses. With this, I would love to strengthen the Trunk or Treat event as much as possible this year. The Trunk or Treat event allowed performers (i.e. Collage, FHS Marching Band, Danza! etc.) to show case some of their skills as well as have the trunks around. The lower pavilion idea, was a strength from last year, creating more parking opportunities however there were some areas that created a bottle neck "flow" of people....one was a trunk that passed out balloons and would individually inflate them when a child went to that car. I may when asking for sign-ups put a limitation on those interaction-based items to make a quicker flow of traffic. Another comment that was expressed to me was that a number of people saw and heard that there were individuals (large, large groups) of people from Eden, Irving, North Collins, Angola who attended. As this is

something out of anyone's control, I want to try to keep this/advertising as localized as possible because it is for the community members of Fredonia and Pomfret.

As the weeks grow nearer, I'll continue to strengthen the prep for Trunk or Treat, however I wanted to send one final Summer Rec email with some future news!

Thank you all again and I'm looking forward to the Rec Department's next event.

Angela Mackowiak

That's all I have for my report.

Mayor-That's all?

Cruz-Keefe- Yes, sir.

Mayor-Oh okay, good job. I do want to mention that we have had to close some of the restrooms when they are not, when there's not an event going on. The ones in the upper area where the tennis courts are because the tennis court, basketball courts, and pickleball courts are constantly used; those are open in the morning and the police shut them at night. We have had some significant vandalism on the ones down in the lower part of the bowl. Everything from stones being piled into them, just to things that we need to take care of. So, we thank the police for being on top of that. Angela and her team did a great job this year, again, as usual just fantastic work creating great memories for our students that they will share for years and make just another quality-of-life event for the downtown. We are working with Police Chief Myers and we'll be working with the Fredonia High School to do our best to return the homecoming parade back to Route 20, if we can find the safest possible way to do that. It's been a tradition and last year, a lot of Route 20 was torn up and it was very difficult. So, Chief is going to be working with the fire department and see if we can't try to get it back on Route 20 in time for the homecoming game. So, keep your eyes and ears open on that one. Trustee Wandel, what do you have for us tonight?

Mulholland-

Timothy Mulholland-LaBella is working out the committee assignments. So, mine's a bit of a general overview. Good evening, everyone it's been a couple busy weeks for me as I've gotten up to speed in this new role. I've been spending a lot of time reading reports, meeting with staff, and talking with several residents. Every conversation helps me better understand not just the issues themselves, but how they affect people day-to-day, just like today's conversation with the residents of Forest Place. So, thank you all for sharing your thoughts and ideas. When it comes to the parking proposal, I met with multiple business owners along Main Street corrido, both before and after the proposed changes get a grasp on the path forward. Reactions to the new proposal along Main Street, I believe, are generally positive. I do think it will help businesses along that stretch. The business is the lifeblood of our town. It sounds like we have more work to do with the proposed changes on Forest. So, I am glad we were able to get more of a discussion today. I look forward to discussing that further at the workshops. I spent some time at the farmer's market this weekend meeting with leadership and vendors there to get some feedback on the vendor law as we work through changes. I met with Chief Myers at the police station; it's one of the committees I would hope to be assigned with is the police committee. So, this initial meeting was good and we established an open line of communication. The last thing that I want to say is that the state comptroller's office has a multi-day course on local government accounting. It's coming up on September 2nd and 3rd that I am going to try to register for. I would suggest to my fellow board members to consider this as well. The state comptroller

mentioned we need to deeply monitor finances and I think this is a great way to learn. They also have several on-demand courses as well that we could benefit from. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor-Thank you for your work and thank you for being out and about.

Speaking of good news, with regards to the budget, not always perfect, but certainly better than last year, you got the Treasurer's report for the year end of 25-26.

Lazarony-Absent

Wandel-

Paul Wandel-

1. Tuesday, July 7 Public Information Session (PIS) planning meeting

- 1. I met with Labella Engineering and CC DOH reps to discuss planning efforts for the proposed July 9 PIS.*
- 2. Details discussed and agreed. Looking forward to this event.*

2. Wednesday, July 8 DPW Streets meeting

- 1. Attendees included Trustee Wandel, DPW Admin Jen Marx, Interim DPW Supervisor Jennes Merrill.*
- 2. Our two-plus-hour meeting at the department headquarters included:*
 - 1. Concerns and negative resident feedback regarding the status of pavilion rentals at RJP. Complaints included the very unclean state of the pavilion and tables when they were rented.*
 - 2. Jenn M. stated that a cleaner was previously tasked with this duty but is no longer.*
 - 3. Jenn M. suggested a person from the Rec program fulfill this duty in a min wage position. Otherwise, it would require a DPW streets laborer to perform this duty and likely incurring overtime.*
 - 4. Staff issues: The department is down one laborer. Also, there is a vacancy for department foremen since Doug Bunge recently retired.*
 - 5. The need for someone holding a Class D water license is a concern. Apparently, three DPW staffers are applying for this license at \$725/applicant.*
 - 6. The streets department building needs a new roof. This is partly due to recent storm damage and insurance processing is needed to finalize commencement.*
 - 7. This board discussed and approved the fire alarm contract for Doyle Security at the last meeting.*
 - 8. Three E size drawings for the village water mains, sanitary sewers and storm sewers are in the possession of Labella engineering for CAD updates. Trustee Wandel will pursue them for hard and soft copies for the streets department.*
 - 9. Trustee Wandel to complete the transfer of GIS mapping drawings of village water mains to the street department.*
 - 10. Department need for a replacement pickup truck. A quote was received for a new 2027 fleet pickup truck for the purchase price of \$47K. It was suggested that CHIPS funds be used for this purchase.*

11. Also, using CHIPS funds for the paving of the village East parking lot is to be reconsidered. Contact with the NYS DOT Rep for advice and confirmation needs to be done.
12. The existing DPW loader is 14 years old. Replacement is needed. A CAT quote was received for a model 930. Waiting for the Kubata quote.
13. Flashing signs at village crosswalks are being reviewed.
14. Village sewer lift station issues are under review. Trustee Wandel is investigating details for power backup equipment and will advise the department supervisor.
3. **Thursday July 9: Public Information Session held to inform all village residents and businesses about our new water source interconnect project.**
 1. This session was held at the new Town of Pomfret town hall at 8110 Chestnut Road. Public was invited to attend and speak with representatives from the village, Labella engineering, the NCWD and the CC DOH.
 2. All information displayed by these representatives is now available for your review on the village website.
 3. I initiated this effort last May to help residents understand the water interconnect project. It explains what we are doing and why.
 4. In summary, the public turnout was well received, featuring great dialogue and many compliments.
4. **Thursday July 16: Meeting as a guest with the North County Community Foundation.**
 1. I was invited as a guest by Chairman Rick Johnson.
 2. This is an advisory group for local economic development.
 3. I learned a great deal about the economic development activities underway in our local area.
 1. Topics included housing needs and development; local job creation; and developing conditions for business and industry to invest in Northern CC.
 2. Topics included the existence of NY Forward and DRI for downtown revitalization. These NYS grants range from \$4.5 M to \$10M. The Village of Fredonia must get on board with this.
 3. Many CHQ activities were presented. Highlighted were many project completions and those in development.
 4. I had an opportunity to speak to community leadership, focusing on the status and ongoing development of the village water source project. My audience of 12 foundation members was extremely receptive and applauded the village's movement toward establishing a new water source installation.
5. **Friday July 17: Virtual meeting with Labella Engineers. mayor Mike and myself.**
 1. Topics included spot locations for interconnect pump / dosing stations in the village.
 2. Current project statuses: geotech borings ongoing; data gathering ongoing.
 3. Labella currently has a strong focus on responding to the CC DOH, with a deliverables deadline this September.
6. **Saturday July 18: I attended an informal Republican picnic at RJP.**

1. *In attendance were NYS Senator George Borello, NYS Assemblyman Andrew Molitor, various CC legislators and local residents.*
2. *This informal picnic setting allowed one-on-one dialogue with state and county representatives.*
3. *One positive outcome was my invitation to Assemblyman Molitor to attend a Fredonia village workshop to listen to our concerns and questions at the village level as well as receiving a status of current activities at the state level.*
4. *This picnic meeting illustrates effective networking and how we can develop and utilize bi directional communication and ideas to ultimately benefit the operational efficiency and quality of our local governance.*

**G. TREASURER'S REPORT –
FISCAL YEAR END 25/26
JUNE 2026**

Mayor-Thank you, goes to show that Mr Napoli's suggestions were started in last year's budget; it helped improve this year's budget and I think our department heads deserve some credit. They are much more diligent; they always are, but being diligent working with Erlyssa and making sure they're staying within budget and that the spending is accountable. So, we appreciate that.

H. ADDITIONAL REPORT-

I. RESOLUTIONS-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that Chief Building Inspector, Charles LaBarbera's request to attend training September 16-18th, 2026 at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, Mayville in an amount not to exceed seven hundred and thirty dollars (\$730.00) is hereby approved.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Mulholland and seconded by Trustee Wandel, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that Chief Water Operator Luis Fred's request to attend training September 14th through 17, 2026 in Buffalo, NY at the Water Supply Symposium in an amount not to exceed one thousand one hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$1,167.00) is hereby approved.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Wandel, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to section 5-520 of Village Law, the following budget transfers are hereby approved:

- \$9,000 from H5110.2 Street Capital to A8560.44 Shade Trees Contractual

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Cruz-Keefe, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia has a contract with H&K Services for the chlorination project at the Water Treatment Plant, and

WHEREAS LaBella Associates, who is engineering the project has recommended a change order for the addition of an isolation valve in the chlorination room as well as the disconnect switch on the chlorine exhaust fan in the amount of two thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars (**\$2,673.00**), and

WHEREAS these funds are in addition to the contract price with H&K Services; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the mayor is hereby authorized to sign the change order with LaBella Associates for H&K Services to proceed with the addition of the isolation valve and the disconnect switch on the chlorine exhaust fan in the amount of two thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars (**\$2,673.00**).

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that Fire Chief Joshua Myers' request for Timothy Fisher to attend Fire Line Supervisor training in Queens, NY August 10th through 21st at no cost to the Village is hereby approved.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Cruz-Keefe, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that Fire Chief Joshua Myers' request for Levi Wright to attend Fire Line Supervisor training in Queens, NY August 10th through 21st at no cost to the Village is hereby approved.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Mulholland, the following resolution was unanimously approved as amended:

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia maintains contracts with the Town of Pomfret for the purchase of water and sewer services, and

WHEREAS these contracts expired in December of 2025 and an extension is necessary, and

WHEREAS the attached agreement extends the contracts, one year, from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 with no other changes; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the mayor is authorized to sign the extensions of the Town of Pomfret water and sewer contracts as attached.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Mulholland and seconded by Trustee Wandel, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia requires a new Pickup Truck for the Street Department, and

WHEREAS, Fredonia Ford, Fredonia NY has submitted a quote using state bid in the amount of forty-six thousand five hundred fifty-eight dollars (**\$46,558.00**) for a 2027 Ford F250 Superduty truck, and

WHEREAS, the Ford F250 is necessary for the Village's purpose and will be funded using CHIPS funding; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED the board hereby approves the purchase of the 2027 Ford F250 Superduty truck from Fredonia Ford in the amount of forty-six thousand five hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$46,558.00).

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia requires repairs of a culvert on Forest Place within the Village, and

WHEREAS S. St George Enterprises, Inc, Fredonia NY provided a quote in the amount of thirty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$31,400.00) to perform the emergency repairs, and

WHEREAS the culvert repairs are necessary for the Village's purpose and will be funded through CHIPS funding; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED the board hereby approves S. St. George Enterprises to perform the emergency repairs on Forest Place in the amount of thirty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$31,400.00).

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Mulholland and seconded by Trustee Cruz-Keefe, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees has had a change within the board, and

WHEREAS the change in the board member requires adjusting the times for the workshop schedules for the following workshops:

August 10, 2026

August 24, 2026

WHEREAS the workshops will now be at 4:30pm instead of noon as originally scheduled on the second floor of Village Hall in the Trustee Room; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized to publish notice in the and mail copy of said schedule to WDOE radio and the Dunkirk Observer.

Mayor-Before we go to the next one, everyone knows we just had two new trustees get elected to the board in the last couple of months and we have a new trustee replacing someone that has left. So, I had done committee assignments and I have to reassign everybody; there was some time issues with work. Two of our trustees work full time and so daytime meetings become tough with some of the committees that I had assigned them. So, I was made aware of this today and we will readdress at the next meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, a motion to table the resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS the mayor creates committees that oversee the departments to be approved by the board of trustees, and

WHEREAS the following committees have been created:

COMMITTEE

TRUSTEES

POLICE

LAZARONY, MULHOLLAND

DPW	WANDEL, LAZARONY
FINANCE & INSURANCE	BRAUCHLER, LAZARONY
FIRE	LAZARONY, MULHOLLAND
PARKS & RECREATION	CRUZ-KEEFE, BRAUCHLER
CODE/ZONING	WANDEL, BRAUCHLER
WATER/SEWER	WANDEL, MULHOLLAND
PERSONNEL	CRUZ-KEEFE, BRAUCHLER

BE IT RESOLVED the board hereby approves the committees as listed above.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION-

L. MEETING SCHEDULE-

The next Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees Workshop will take place on Monday August 10, 2026 at 4:30 PM Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall. The next Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees Meeting will take place Monday August 17, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall.

Stay safe ladies and gentleman. And, I will remind you, I know there's a nice little commercial at the end of this meeting that you must stop when people are waiting to go walk into the crosswalk. They don't wait for you, you don't wait for them to walk into the street for you to stop. Those bump outs were built specifically so that if there's a person standing there ready to cross the street, it is the law in New York State that you must stop. So, please keep your eyes on that. Our police are keeping an eye on that as well and we look forward to a great ending, getting towards the end of summer 202. Have a great week everybody.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cruz-Keefe and seconded by Trustee Wandel and carried unanimously the Board adjourned the board meeting at 7:01 PM.



Erlyssa LeBeau <treasurer@villageoffredoniany.gov>

Parking law proposal Forest? Clerk read at meeting?

1 message

Rik Napoli <riknapoli@gmail.com>

To: treasurer@villageoffredoniany.gov

Thu, Jul 30, 2026 at 11:48 PM

Hope you are all well. Messaging in regards to the proposed no parking law on Forest. I live at 151 Forest. As a homeowner I am extremely concerned about this. I understand this street, on it everyday. Parking is not an issue to go to this extreme. What I can't figure out is what will us homeowners do moving cars, sealing & repairing driveways, lawn services, guests? How will we entertain? It's a significant change in our lives. I have to think that everyone uses their street out front at some point? Or since I find most streets crowded in Fredonia should we just put into law no parking on any streets? Do we have actual data showing there are accidents on Forest due to massive parking issues? If there have been accidents I must have been out of town. I was a shop owner and planning board member for years, this is wild to me. Please let me know if there is anything we can do.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter,
Rik Napoli

Dear Mayor and Board of Trustees

During my thirty-five year career providing health care to Chautauqua County families, I appreciated the Chautauqua County Health Department as a valuable resource for public health initiatives, like lead poisoning reduction, tobacco cessation and tick-borne disease awareness. And I respected its impartial administration of NY State public health regulations. These include citations and Consent Orders (must-do corrections) for private and municipal water systems which fail to meet State standards. Recently, in the matter of Fredonia's water system improvement, I have watched the County Health Department fall into the role of political enforcer.

The Health Department has issued a Consent Order to the Village of Fredonia that demands a set of corrective actions for its water system deficiencies which shall be met exclusively by making new connections to the North Chautauqua County Water District, an entity of County government. This Order reverses the Health Department's previous support for the Village's contribution to public health through its history as a regional, intermunicipal supplier of redundant water. I agree that the Health Department must have a mandate to order corrections. But it plays politics by demanding the decommissioning of the Village reservoir and treatment plant while designating a specific municipal system to which it must connect to meet State standards. The Health Department wrote a letter of support to the Village in 2019 when new connections to the County's Water District were constructed. The connections were intended to supply redundant water to the Village and neighboring communities. Seven years later, those connections remain unable to supply the Village.

Of course, the Health Department's recent actions are partly the original fault of those Village Trustees who approved a convoluted and wasteful plan rather than upgrade Village facilities at less cost. That decision will place the Village in the hole for \$52 Million according to detailed analysis by a long-time Village ex-Treasurer. But the Trustees' decision also places the County Health Department in the position of determining the fiscal fate of the North Chautauqua County Water District. The District is historically in violation of its foundational requirement for self-sufficiency through water sales. Its accumulated debt of \$5 Million has been transferred from the County Legislature's General Fund to its own water customers. I find it very convenient that the Consent Order's ultimatum to Fredonia is also the County Water District's stated answer to repaying the debt accumulated by its underfunded Water District.

In fairness, the Village Board of Trustees has worked to correct most of the Village's treatment plant deficiencies cited by the County Health Department in 2023. The issues of reservoir water capacity and an inadequate reservoir dam spillway remain to be

addressed. The costs and alternatives of dredging the reservoir and reconstructing the spillway have never been analyzed by an engineering study. While that has not prevented wild speculation, it does beg the question of how much further the Village must go to be compliant with State regulations without incurring additional losses in investments in its water resources.

The Chautauqua County Health Department's Consent Order appears to be an arbitrary decision. It did not issue a Consent Order demanding how and when the Village's 2023 decision to buy all water directly from Dunkirk was to be obeyed. Three trustees who no longer serve on the board voted in favor of the Dunkirk plan which was subsequently overturned in court for the simple failure to recognize NY State environmental regulations. The Dunkirk resolution was also never rescinded by the Village Board prior to its 2025 vote to buy all water from the North Chautauqua County Water District. This plan was approved by two trustees who no longer serve. The new plan withstood another legal challenge in 2026, but its approval in court is under notice of appeal. The Consent Order is at risk of becoming irrelevant.

The Health Department's apparent conflict of interest is bad enough without its use of false data to support its Consent Order. The population of the Village is not 15,400, as any review of the US Census will show. Yet that is the Health Department's claim which effectively makes the Village system capacity appear less able to provide water to all customers. The Health Department has also inflated the daily output of water from the treatment plant for the same reason, thus making the reservoir's reserve water volume appear less adequate. Adding insult to injury, the Health Department co-sponsored the July 9 water system informational meeting at a building owned by the Town of Pomfret with full knowledge that the building lacks a certificate of occupancy. The building's legal status is the liability of the Town government which is subject to potential misdemeanor charges for building code violations. But as co-sponsor of the event the Health Department should have denied the food service which occurred in a building which lacks certified sanitation facilities. But meeting its public health obligations on July 9 was secondary to the Health Department's enforcement of a political agenda.

The Village of Fredonia is better served by sparing its taxpayers the burden of connecting to the County's troubled Water District. The Village's current lack of funds has resulted in failure to pay the engineering firm responsible for design and oversight of construction on the new County connection plan. In addition, the lack of funds jeopardizes matching grant applications. I believe that an alternative and fiscally responsible solution exists to resolve the Village's remaining non-compliance with State standards. All that is required to find it is the political will of the Trustees and a Village-focused Consent Order from the County Health Department.

Mark Twichell, DDS



Village Clerk <villageclerk@villageoffredoniany.gov>

Correspondence

2 messages

Andrew Ludwig <aludwig63@icloud.com>
To: Village Clerk <villageclerk@villageoffredoniany.gov>

Sat, Aug 1, 2026 at 10:45 AM

Please have the letter below read as a correspondence at the August 3rd village board meeting.

Thank you.

Andrew Ludwig
30 Ryan Place
Fredonia, New York 14063
716-490-0457

The OBSERVER headline of a Thursday, July 23, 2026 article by M.J.Stafford declares that *Fredonia officials debate filmed workshops*. In Stafford's article he quoted Trustee Paul Wandel as stating that "I think the reasoning for the concerns for having on camera, there were some sensitive areas of information that we didn't want publicized." A village trustee stating as recorded on camera, that as an elected official, he was discussing matters of public concern that he/they didn't want publicized.

Obviously confidential information should not be discussed publicly at village board workshops and meetings. That is what the executive sessions of said meetings are for. But Wandel didn't use the word "confidential". He used the word "sensitive". Fire Chief Josh Myers stated that he would be more "comfortable" having a conversation about his plans for the village's fire department with the village board in a workshop setting that is not filmed.

Village board workshops and meetings are not held, broadcast, recorded and posted on You Tube for the comfort or sensitivities of the Fire Chief, the Mayor or the Trustees. They are broadcast and recorded so that the taxpaying public can see what their government is doing and how elected officials are spending citizens' hard earned tax dollars.

So much for claims of transparency by Mayor Ferguson and two of his trustee followers who all voted to remove public comment from village board meetings for safety reasons. I am quite surprised that the trio didn't pull out the safety excuse as a reason not to televise, record and post workshop meetings on YouTube.

Watch the the July 27 village board workshop on YouTube. But be warned. The meeting is over three hours long. Watch this painful marathon of a meeting and you will see public officials contradict themselves and each other while discussing topics that include vendor laws, parking meters, sewer districts and their plans for joining the NCWD. These same public officials display an alarming lack of knowledge about the issues and policies they discuss and eventually enact into local laws.

More than 350 people viewed the July 27 village board workshop just two days after its posting. Village board meetings and workshops easily average over 200 views. Apparently there are citizens interested enough in the "sensitive areas" that Wandel doesn't want filmed to tune in to these YouTube recordings.

When I was an inexperienced teacher, newbie educators were encouraged to video record themselves for the purpose of self improvement. I have to wonder if the mayor and village board members have ever watched themselves and considered some much needed improvements in their performance. Comments on YouTube recordings of these meetings are not allowed. While it is understandable that some members of the public might take cheap shots and/or make personal attacks on our elected officials, not allowing comments also prevents the public from being heard. Hearing from the public is now more important than ever since public comment has been removed from village board meetings and our local government continues to make

unpopular decisions. At least citizens can still watch Fredonia government on Local Access TV and YouTube. For now that is.

All one has to do is watch the July 27, 2026 village board workshop to see why Wandel, Ferguson and Brauchler might not want to have workshop meetings televised, recorded and posted. And those are the very reasons that these meetings must continue to be televised, recorded and posted on YouTube. For the concerned citizen, village board workshops and meetings are absolutely must see TV.

Village Clerk <villageclerk@villageoffredoniany.gov>
To: Andrew Ludwig <aludwig63@icloud.com>

Mon, Aug 3, 2026 at 7:21 AM

Good afternoon,

I received your request and the letter will be read as correspondence at the August 3rd meeting.

Thank you,

Eryssa

[Quoted text hidden]

7/29/2026

Dear board and Mayor,

I would like this letter to be read at the next Village board meeting. My name is Charlie Siragusa I live at 111 Liberty Street. I have exhausted my efforts to try to resolve this issue. AgriAmerica seemingly has a water leak on their property that is flowing on to my property. The DPW attempted to assist me but they could not find a leak. I have attempted to work with AgriAmerica to resolve the issue but they have failed to follow through. My neighbors and myself have written agreements with them to maintain the drainage behind our homes but they have promised to resolve this but have yet to address these issues. I have personally met with and spoken with the Mayor who even came to my property one time but nothing has been done. When I last spoke with Jen Marx at the DPW on July 22, 2026 she had mentioned the Mayor was going to send a letter to AgriAmerica to comply with fixing their water leak. When I had a water service leak at my residence I was required to make the repair within 10 days and I did so. Why are we allowing this manufacture to be excused from this same rule? Why is the Village not concerned about the thousands of gallons of unbilled water increasing our taxes? I have to continually pay contractors to clean the receivers behind my residence to avoid flooding my basement. I am asking again for the Village to assist me with this issue on behalf of myself and my neighbors on Liberty street. Please call if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you,

Charlie Siragusa

PAID
AUG 03 2026
VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
9-11 CHURCH STREET
FREDONIA, NY 14063

Donna Bjurlin
147 Forest Place
Fredonia, NY 14063

August 3, 2026

To the Village Trustees, Village of Fredonia

RE: Proposed parking changes to Forest Place — request to enter into the record and read aloud during public comment

Thank you for the time and service you give this village. These aren't easy decisions to weigh, and I don't take your work lightly.

I'm writing as a resident of Forest Place about the proposals to either eliminate parking entirely or convert the street to one-way. I'm respectfully asking you to reconsider both.

My honest concern up front: I've heard no explanation of the actual problem these changes are meant to solve. Forest Place is narrow, yes — but it works. Larger vehicles and trailers get through fine with cars parked on one side, exactly as it's set up today. Before residents can weigh in meaningfully, we need to understand what's prompting this.

A full no-parking rule would hit residents hard:

- No room for driveway work, snow plowing, or contractors.
- No way to host family and friends — meals, birthdays, graduations — once the driveway fills.
- Increased time and resource burden when swapping cars for morning and evening commutes.
- Some of us walking half a mile from wherever we can find a spot to reach home, and negatively impacting the residents on neighboring streets.
- *A real hit to property values. A home you can't park near is a home that's harder to sell.*

And it wouldn't only affect us. The creek and parkway run along much of Forest Place, and the whole community uses them — neighbors walking and swimming, photographers using the creek as a backdrop. No-parking signs would push all of that out too.

On the one-way idea specifically: it would add real inconvenience with no benefit I can see. Parking is already limited to one side for the entire length of the street, so the room is already there. Making it one-way wouldn't change that — it would just send more traffic onto the neighboring side streets and move the congestion around rather than solve it.

One more piece worth connecting. If the Main Street meters come off at the same time the students living in the upper Forest Place housing lose the street parking they depend on, they'll naturally fill the Main Street spots meant for business customers — which defeats the very purpose of pulling the meters to attract a stronger customer base.

One note on process. Many of us first learned about this from a Facebook post, not from any formal notice. I don't raise that to point fingers — I raise it because a change this significant to the people who live here deserves to reach us directly, with a fair chance to weigh in. Going forward, I'd respectfully ask that any changes affecting Forest Place be brought formally to the residents they impact.

So I'm asking two things. Reconsider any changes to Forest Place as it stands today. And if there's a genuine, on-going problem behind this, please share with us — I'd bet the residents can help find a solution that doesn't cost us our street.

Thank you for hearing me out.

Warmly,

Donna Bjurlin
Forest Place Resident

August 1, 2026

Mayor and Members of the Village Board
Village of Fredonia
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063

Subject: Petition Against Proposed Parking Ban on Forest Place

Dear Mayor and Members of the Village Board,

We, the undersigned property owners, residents of Forest Place, and surrounding neighbors, are writing to express our collective opposition to the proposed parking ban on our street. We ask that the Board permanently table this proposal.

First, we are deeply disappointed by the total lack of transparency surrounding this decision. We only learned of this proposal through the last line of a local news article published late Thursday evening. Expecting taxpayers and neighbors to process a major change to their street and respond over a single weekend before a Monday vote is completely unacceptable. We were given no formal notice and no opportunity for input before being placed under this artificial time crunch.

Beyond the improper notice, this proposal will severely erode our property values and degrade our quality of life. Functional, accessible parking is directly tied to the financial value of residential real estate. Real estate data shows that eliminating accessible street parking in residential neighborhoods can lead to a 5% to 15% reduction in overall home values and increase vacancy rates for rental units by up to 25%. Eliminating parking on Forest Place instantly makes these homes less marketable, creates massive friction for prospective buyers, and penalizes homeowners and landlords who have invested their hard-earned money into this neighborhood. The Village Board should not be passing arbitrary restrictions that actively destroy the financial equity and rental viability of its own residents.

We also strongly dispute the claim that banning parking will make Forest Place safer. Parked cars act as a vital, natural speed control during the day by narrowing the roadway. Stripping those cars away turns our residential street into an uninterrupted drag strip.

This creates an extreme hazard for our entire community. Forest Place is home to senior citizens, young children, and a significant number of college students living in local rental properties. These students are a vital part of our community, and they deserve safe living conditions just like anyone else.

Forcing residents, guests, and student renters to park blocks away creates serious personal safety risks. Our street suffers from a severe lack of adequate street lighting, and the sidewalks are dangerously uneven, cracked, and hazardous. Expecting residents, students, and the elderly to navigate pitch-black, crumbling walkways through snowbanks and ice during winter conditions to reach their homes is an accident waiting to happen. The Village is actively creating a physical liability for pedestrians.

Finally, it is frustrating to see the Board move so aggressively on a parking ban while basic maintenance is routinely ignored. The dangerous, unfixed hole at the bend of Forest Place remains an open liability for drivers, and our street is filled with unpatched potholes. Furthermore, it took the Village over two full months of constant complaints to finally fix the severe tree root issues on our street. That long delay showed where our neighborhood falls on the Village's list of priorities, yet the Board is moving at record speed to strip away our parking rights.

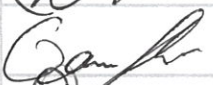
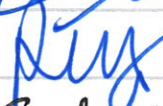
We respectfully ask that the Village Board take the following actions:

1. Permanently table any vote, resolution, or further consideration regarding a parking ban on Forest Place.
2. Direct resources toward addressing the actual safety issues on our street by fixing the hazardous hole at the bend, repairing potholes, addressing uneven sidewalks, and improving street lighting.
3. Commit to proper public notice, dedicated public hearings, and open dialogue with residents and property owners before introducing any future changes that impact our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and for giving this critical matter the attention it requires.

Sincerely,

Printed Name	Street Address	Signature	Date
Kaitlyn Bowen-Burns	60 Forest Pl	Kaitlyn Bowen-Burns	8/1
Kim Powell	91 Forest Pl	Kim Powell	8/1/26
Jillian Domenico	53 Forest Pl	Jillian Domenico	8/1/26
Kevin Burns	60 Forest Pl	Kevin Burns	8/1/26
Gabby Domenico	53 Forest Pl	Gabby Domenico	8/1/26
JASON Domenico	53 Forest Pl	JASON Domenico	8/1/26
mark Swihart	34 1/2 Forest Pl	mark Swihart	8/1/26
Leah Hains	34 1/2 Forest Pl	Leah Hains	8-1-26
Shane Cybulski	30 Forest	Shane Cybulski	8-1-26
Joyce Hains	30 Forest Pl	Joyce Hains	8/1/26
Bill Walker	35 Forest Pl	Bill Walker	8/1/26
Wendy Penner	44 Forest	Wendy Penner	8/1/26

Printed Name	Street Address	Signature	Date
Dawn Eckenrode	50 Forest Pl		8/1
Aaron Shuler	62 Forest Pl		8/1
Gerriviere Figueroa	62 Forest Pl	Gerriviere Figueroa	8/1
Paul Abate	45 Barker St	Paul Abate	8/1
Ryan Zigler	45 Barker St	Ryan Zigler	8/1
Kaylee Lacen	59 Forest Place	Kaylee Lacen	8/2
Edwin Lucan	59 Forest Place		8/2
Cynthia Karnes	70 Forest Pl.		8/2
Michelle Green	99 Forest		9/2/26
Elizabeth Mastrangelo	121 Forest Pl		8/2/26
Mary Ann McKillip	117 Forest Pl		8/2/26
JAMES McKillip	117 Forest Pl.		8/2/26
Nelson Burt	109 Forest	Nelson Burt	8-2-26
Rose Carrie	105 Forest	Rose Carrie	8-2
Jennifer Russo	51 Barker St	Jennifer Russo	8-2
Melissa Putney	26 Leverett	Melissa Putney	8-2
Mark D. Putney	26 Leverett	Mark D. Putney	8-2-26
Ashton Putney	26 Leverett	Ashton Putney	8-2-26
KRIS KANE	18 LEVERETT		8-2-26
Joe Garri	22 Leverett		8-2-26
Mike Willey	62 FOREST		8-2-26
Regina Willey	62 Forest		8-2-26
Sofia Russo	51 Barker	Sofia Russo	8.2-26

