

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
MEETING MINUTES
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
August 31, 2026
6 P.M.**

Proclamation for Embrace Fredonia

A. CALL TO ORDER-MAYOR

I call this meeting to order on Monday August 31, 2026, at 6 PM

Roll Call of the Trustees: Present: Trustee Brauchler, Wandel, Mulholland, Lazarony

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Mulholland, the approval of minutes was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS members of this Board have read the Official Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of August 17, 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.

At this time the mayor and board of trustees held a formal recognition session for the members of the community group Embrace Fredonia in which the mayor presented them with a proclamation. This official document recongnized Tuesday, September 1st, 2026, as "Embrace Fredonia Day" in honor of their exceptional community service, leadership, and volunteer efforts to improve the village.

The Mayor addressed the installation of village surveillance cameras. He explained that these were implemented as a proactive security measure following recurring vandalism and property damage in the village park over the last two years, aimed at enhancing community safety.

Chautauqua County District Attorney Jason Schmidt addressed the Board regarding local law enforcement and community safety. He reflected on his history as a village resident, noting that the community has changed over the past two decades and that law enforcement currently faces significant challenges due to limited funding and resources. He emphasized the value of technology, such as camera footage, in helping solve crimes and protecting the community. The Board and the public subsequently engaged in an extended, sensitive discussion regarding the village's use of Flock Safety license plate reader (LPR) and surveillance cameras. Residents expressed concerns about transparency, potential government overreach, and data privacy, noting a lack of public awareness prior to the installation. In response, the Mayor and the Board explained that the cameras were implemented as a proactive security measure to monitor key

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travel corridors and deter recurring vandalism in the village park. It was clarified that the technology is not used for facial recognition and that the data retention period has been reduced from 30 to 7 days, with access restricted solely to active criminal investigations.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Lazarony and seconded by Trustee Mulholland and carried unanimously, the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue

Executive Session

Matt Higgins, a civil engineer from *LaBella Associates*, provided a status update on the village's water system improvements project. He confirmed that the project schedule remains unchanged and noted that the preliminary design submission is on track for the September 30th deadline mandated by the consent order. Mr. Higgins discussed a proposed memorandum of understanding regarding property access for site evaluation at 10273 Route 60, confirming the property owner has signed the agreement, and provided an outlook on project funding, which currently includes \$6.25 million in secured grant funding and \$12.5 million in 0% interest loan financing through the EFC, with additional applications currently pending.

D. CORRESPONDENCE-

Correspondence was received from Fire Chief, Joshua Myers on August 19, 2026 to remove the following individuals from the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. membership roll.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby approves that Craig Carpenter, Gena Figueroa, Steve St George, and Ron Hagberg be removed from the membership rolls of the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Inc., effective immediately.

Correspondence was received from Justin Hooch requesting the use of Barker Commons to hold the annual Rockin' the Commons, raising funds for Roswell Park on Saturday September 26, 2026.

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

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BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the use of Barker Commons to hold the annual Rockin' the Commons music festival on Saturday September 26, 2026 beginning at 11:00 am is hereby approved as set forth below:

- Use of Barker Commons and electrical outlets
- The setup of food vendors
- Waiver of the noise ordinance
- Trash will be picked up on an as needed basis and nothing left overnight.
- Electric wires will be properly protected to prevent accidents
- No vehicles on the grass
- Insurance Certificate will be provided with the Village of Fredonia as an additional insured in the amount of at least one million dollars.

Correspondence was received from Larry Fiorella, Chairperson, of Festivals Fredonia Inc. requesting use of village property for the “Red, White & Blues” (RWB) Festival Friday September 11th and Saturday September 12th, 2026.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the request of Festivals Fredonia Inc. to use village property Friday, September 11th and Saturday, September 12th, 2026 to hold the annual “Red, White, and Blues” (RWB) Festival is hereby approved as set forth below:

- Permission to place advertising yard signs around the village promoting the festival, two weeks prior to the festival.
- Placement of RWB banner to be hung across Temple Street from August 24th through September 14, 2026; approval received from DFT and National Grid.

Saturday September 12, 2026:

- Use of West Barker Commons and the Gazebo from 8:00am to 8:00pm
- Parking meters bagged as “No Parking” around the perimeter of West Barker Common, including both sides on Park Street and Church Street (between Temple Street and Center Street), and the north side of Main Street, starting at 8:00am. Musicians/vendors will use this space for loading and unloading as well as food vendors will be along Park Street and motorcycle parking along Church Street, between Center Street and Park Street.
- The suspension of the open container law within West Barker Common, and throughout the village in front of establishments participating in the festival, to allow wineries to operate near the park from noon until midnight and festival participants to be outside on

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the sidewalks in front of participating establishments. The list of participating establishments is attached.

- The RWB committee will provide cleanup assistance in the park after the festival.
- Picnic tables, as many as possible, placed in Gazebo side of Barker Common, closer to Park Street for purposes of moving them under the tent that will be erected on Friday September 11, 2026.
- Hard closure of Water Street between Main and Canadaway Streets from noon until midnight.
- Hard closure of Church Street from Temple to center Streets, the churches will be formally notified.
- Close Park Street from Church Street to Main Street to accommodate musicians, vendors, and motorcycle parking.
- If necessary, “frame” tents will be set up in front of the gazebo, in the middle of Church Street in the event of inclement weather. The “frame” tents will not require pounding of any stakes into Church Street.
- Trash receptacles/barrels throughout the West Side of Barker Common, with more on the gazebo side to accommodate food trash and outside, in front of taverns on Water and Main Streets; which will also serve as virtual boundaries for alcohol.
- No glass containers will be permitted.
- Closure of the alleyway/parking lot driveway between DeJohn’s and the former Monster Beach Brewery & Tiki Bar, and from Mrs. Fred’s to Eagle Street. The western parking lot is still accessible from the main entrance near Lena’s Pizza via Canadaway Street. The entrance to the alleyway between Fred’s and Eagle Street will have limited access from Eagle Street.
- Police and/or Fire Department escort out of the village for the annual 9/11 Motorcycle Run and a police escort back into the village as the motorcycle’s return. Escorting will begin at 10:00am from the legion to routes 60&20 and return back to the legion parking lot by 2:00pm.
- That the Fredonia Police Department and Fire Department place their light up signs on Main Street near Prospect Street on Friday and Main Street near Water Street on Saturday, advertising the festival and warning motorists of increased pedestrian traffic.
- Insurance certificate has been received naming the Village of Fredonia as additional insured in the amount of one million dollars.

Correspondence dated August 3, 2026 was received from Thomas E Warne, ATW Property Holdings, LLC requesting relief on water/sewer bill at 29 Center Street due to water supply line failure.

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Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Lazarony, the following resolution was unanimously tabled.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the water/sewer bill; account number 0156 at 29 Center Street, is hereby approved to receive a sewer reduction in the amount of four hundred thirty-eight dollars and eighty-six cents (**\$438.86**) due to water supply line failure.

Correspondence dated August 3, 2026 was received from Lynne Rhoads requesting relief on water/sewer bill at 6 George's Place due to a long-term water leak.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Lazarony and seconded by Trustee Wandel, the following resolution was unanimously tabled.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the water/sewer bill; account number 2450 at 6 George's Place, is hereby approved to receive a sewer reduction in the amount of ten thousand six hundred forty-seven dollars and forty-seven cents (**\$10,647.47**) due to large long-term water leak.

E. MAYOR'S REPORT-

F. TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS-

**Brauchler
Cruz-Keefe-Absent
Mulholland
Lazarony
Wandel**

G. TREASURER'S REPORT –

H. ADDITIONAL REPORT-

I. RESOLUTIONS-

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

BE IT RESOLVED that David Riddle, water treatment plant operator trainee, is hereby approved to attend training for Grade II Water Treatment Plant Operator at SUNY Fredonia

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September 21st through October 2nd, 2026 in an amount not to exceed one thousand five hundred and ninety-five dollars (\$1,595.00).

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

WHEREAS, open and accessible government strengthens public confidence, improves decision-making, and provides residents with a meaningful opportunity to bring concerns and information to their elected representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes that public comment should be conducted according to reasonable and consistently applied rules that allow participation while preserving the orderly conduct of Village business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Fredonia as follows:

Public Comment Reinstated

- A public comment period shall be included on the agenda of every regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. The public comment period shall ordinarily occur before the Board votes on resolutions or other substantive business.
- Any previous resolution, rule, motion, or practice prohibiting general public comment at regular meetings is hereby rescinded or superseded to the extent that it is inconsistent with this resolution.

Rules for Public Comment

Public comment shall be conducted according to the following rules:

- Any member of the public may speak about Village business, an agenda item, or another matter reasonably within the authority of the Village government.
- The Village Clerk shall make a speaker sign-up sheet available before the meeting. Speakers who have signed up shall ordinarily be recognized in the order listed, followed by any other person wishing to speak. A person shall not be denied the opportunity to speak solely because the person did not sign up before the meeting began.
- Each speaker shall be allowed up to three minutes. The same time limit shall be applied equally to all speakers. Time may not be transferred from one speaker to another.
- Each person may speak once during the public comment period unless the presiding officer permits additional comment for purposes of clarification.
- Comments shall be addressed to the Board as a whole. Public comment is an opportunity for the Board to receive information and viewpoints and is not ordinarily a question-and-answer session. The Mayor, a Trustee, or an appropriate Village official may briefly clarify a factual matter or arrange for follow-up when appropriate.
- Speakers may criticize Village policies, decisions, operations, employees, or elected officials. A speaker shall not be interrupted or ruled out of order merely because the

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Board disagrees with the speaker's viewpoint or because the comments are critical, uncomfortable, or unpopular.

- Conduct that materially disrupts the meeting is prohibited. Examples include shouting over another recognized speaker, refusing to stop after the allotted time has expired, making a threat of violence, blocking access within the meeting room, or otherwise preventing the Board or the public from hearing or proceeding with the meeting.
- Before directing a speaker to stop or leave the meeting, the presiding officer shall ordinarily identify the rule being violated and provide a reasonable warning and opportunity to comply. Immediate action may be taken when reasonably necessary to address an actual threat or protect the safety of those present.
- These rules shall be administered in a viewpoint-neutral and consistent manner. No person shall receive preferential or unfavorable treatment based upon the person's identity, political position, support for or criticism of the Village, or relationship with a member of the Board

Public Hearings and Special Meetings

- This resolution does not replace any public-comment requirements applicable to a legally required public hearing. Public comment at special or emergency meetings may be permitted when appropriate but is not required by this resolution.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Mulholland, 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:

- \$12,400 from H8330.2 Filtration Underground Wiring to H8330.2 Filtration Intake Structure

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

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia requires the removal and replacement of a new gate valve stem, trash rack, and mobilization at the Reservoir Water Intake Structure, and

WHEREAS Allen Marine Services, Tonawanda, NY has provided a quote in the amount of twelve thousand four hundred dollars (\$12,400.00) to provide all necessary labor, supervision, and equipment for the gate and trash rack, and

WHEREAS this intake work is necessary for the Village's purpose; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby authorizes Allen Marine Services to perform the removal, replacement and mobilization of the gate valve stem and track rack at the Reservoir Water Intake Structure in the amount of twelve thousand four hundred dollars (\$12,400.00).

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Kent Christopher of the Street Department is approved for the Labor Supervisor position at a rate of thirty-one dollars and twenty-six cents (**\$31.26**) per hour, effective immediately; all civil service rules and regulations shall apply.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Mark Raynor of the Street Department is approved for the Motor Equipment Operator position at a rate of twenty-three dollars and sixty-seven cents (**\$23.67**) per hour, effective immediately; all civil service rules and regulations shall apply.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Robert Gugino of the Street Department is approved for the Motor Equipment Operator position at a rate of twenty-two dollars and twenty-five cents (**\$22.25**) per hour, effective immediately; all civil service rules and regulations shall apply.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Emily Pulver, Fredonia, NY is hereby appointed as the Part-Time Village Clerk effective September 1, 2026 at a rate of eighteen dollars (**\$18.00**) per hour.

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

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia is continuing to work on the approved Water Improvement Project, and

WHEREAS this project requires the village to pursue easements with property owners, and

WHEREAS there is a proposed MOU with Natalie Swanson at 10273 Route 60, Fredonia to conduct a boundary survey, and

WHEREAS the survey is necessary for the Village's purpose; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the board authorizes the mayor to sign the MOU with Natalie Swanson for property located at 10273 Route 60, Fredonia.

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

WHEREAS the Village of Fredonia would like to offer opportunities for students of SUNY Fredonia to intern within the Village, and

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WHEREAS this internship would be an unpaid position, and
WHEREAS the internship would include website design, digital communications,
improving public information, as well as other related tasks; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the board authorizes for SUNY Fredonia students to be sought as
unpaid interns for the Village of Fredonia.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION-IF NECESSARY

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXIT SESSION

MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO END MEETING

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Lazarony and seconded by Trustee Wandel and
carried unanimously, the board adjourned the meeting.

K. MEETING SCHEDULE-

The next Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees Workshop will take place on Tuesday
September 8, 2026 at 4:30 PM Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall. The next Village of
Fredonia Board of Trustees Meeting will take place Monday September 14, 2026 at 6:00 PM in
the Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall.