

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
MEETING MINUTES
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
September 29, 2025
6 P.M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER-MAYOR FERGUSON

I call this meeting to order on Monday September 29, 2025 at 6:12 PM

Roll Call of the Trustees: Present: Trustee Siracuse, Brauchler, and Wandel. Absent: Trustee Espersen and Twichell.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

Present The Fred Basket: Food Pantry & Community with Proclamation for annual food drive; October 12th through October 25th, 2025.

Cassie Pinkoski and Jim Joy from Water and Soil projects and Lake Erie Management Commission came to speak to the Board and the public on the projects that are being done within the Village. There are two projects; one located on Water Street and the other is behind the Fire Hall; Canadaway Creek. With both locations; debris and gravel were removed, banks were sloped to increase capacity. On the Water Street end, knot weed was removed and the area was reseeded. Behind the Fire Hall, the stream was widened, concrete was removed, and a set of stairs was put in place. Will be returning in the spring of 2026 to do some planting at both locations. They are looking at the summer of 2026 to do a project at Risley Street Falls for fish passage. The approximate cost to the Water Street and Fire Hall projects in total were at \$717,540; paid for completely in state and federal grant funding.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS members of this Board have read the Official Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of September 2, 2025 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.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS members of this Board have read the Official Minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting of September 10, 2025 and

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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.

D. PUBLIC PORTION-

This portion of the meeting is for public comment. Any member of the public wishing to speak, once recognized, shall stand at the microphone, and state their name and address. Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes if speaking for themselves or five (5) minutes if speaking on behalf of a group. I will ask the speakers to refrain from remarks that are in poor taste, slanderous, or not germane to any action taken or contemplated by the Board.

Andrew Ludwig-Speaking five minutes on behalf of Save Our Reservoir. Heard about the signed PPD contract. The Village Trustees should be working for the Village, not for the other districts that we are working with. The County's explanations on the recent boil water order, why blame the treatment plant if they say they are not sure of the cause of the boil water order? Didn't the County tell you boil water orders were not an emergency, but they were patting themselves on the back for coming in on the weekend to handle the "emergency" of the boil water order. During the September 10th meeting, the Department of Health must have meant they want to help the North County Water District and not help the Village because that is what they are doing.

Sam Drayo-The resolution on the agenda for the chlorination project should have been publicly bid. The board should consider what is being done to reduce spending in the budget. No austerity budget has been implemented; no hiring freeze has been implemented. What has the board done to reduce the spending? The Board authorized payment to LaBella for \$15,000 for a study that should have been paid for by the County. The Village is losing revenue by charging PPD drastically less than they should be; loss of revenue. Espersen shouldn't have involved the late Jim Sedota's name to be the one who implemented the contract. It would have been the Board who voted on the contract, not Mr. Sedota. It was just wrong for him to bring Jim's name into it.

E. CORRESPONDENCE-

Correspondence dated September 4, 2025 was received from Fire Chief Joshua Myers requesting Joshua Fritz be removed from the Active Roll of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

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BE IT RESOLVED that the name Joshua Fritz be removed from the Active Roll of the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department, Incorporated.

Correspondence dated September 23, 2025 was received from Adam Ahrens, Assistant Chief of the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department, resigning his position; effective immediately.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

BE IT RESOLVED that Adam Ahrens resignation as Assistant Chief of Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department Inc, effective immediately is approved.

Correspondence dated September 22, 2025 was received from Heidi and Kelly Powell; Festival Fredonia Co-Chairs, requesting to hold the Harvest Moon Cemetery Tour and Festival Friday October 17th and Saturday October 18th.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

BE IT RESOLVED that the request of Festivals Fredonia to hold the Harvest Moon Festival and Tours on Friday October 17th, and Saturday October 18th, 2025 from 6pm to midnight in Barker Commons East and West is hereby approved along with the following:

1. Use of the parking spaces in front of the White Inn in between White Street and the Main Street entrance to the White Inn from 6pm to midnight for the Tour's CHQ Transit Trolleys, both evenings.
2. Placement of the lighted traffic sign opposite of Cushing Street leading up to the event to alert residents about the trolleys and traffic during that weekend.

F. MAYOR'S REPORT-

Trunk or treat is scheduled for October 25th. The website contains the information for how to register for a tent. There will be no Halloween parade. The Homecoming parade was moved due to safety concerns with the work that was being done on Route 20 and the traffic that takes place on the route. I am hoping that it stays moved. We are looking at creating a school speed zone on Chestnut Street. Attended the Chamber of Commerce awards ceremony to celebrate the owners of the White Inn. We are seeking sponsors for the New Year's Eve celebration this year and anyone who is interested can send an email to the mayor email address. Spring Line Doors and Windows is a new business that just opened downtown. The roadwork continues on Main Street; there was one lane poured today. On 9/26, Dr Wright from Fredonia Central School met to discuss school projects and how to better work together with the Village. Spoke Thursday on

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Viewpoint. Still working on possible consolidation/shared opportunities, meetings with Department of State as well as the Town of Pomfret. Participated in interviews with multiple news channels on Tuesday.

G. TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Brauchler-No Report

Espersen-Absent

Siracuse-No Report

Twichell-Absent

Wandel-On the 16th, met with the Department of Health, Luis Fred, and LaBella on the new chlorination system. Working on ironing out the details for purifying our water. On the 9th, met with Richard Ketchum, Espersen, Hamlin to discuss alternative two details and just to listen to the residents. I value the feedback of the residents. On the 29th, I did the same thing. On September 5th, met with the college to keep the bridge going between the college and the Village.

H. TREASURER'S REPORT – None

I. ADDITIONAL REPORT-

CODE ENFORCEMENT AUGUST REPORT

FIRE DEPARTMENT AUGUST REPORT

POLICE DEPARTMENT AUGUST REPORT

J. RESOLUTIONS-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

BE IT RESOLVED that the regular and overtime payrolls of the various Village Departments and bills approved by the Finance Committee and set forth in Abstract #775 through #778 are hereby approved and directed paid and available in the Village Clerk's office, 9-11 Church Street, Fredonia, NY.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS the agreement with the Pomfret Water District requires Village approval for all new water services; and

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WHEREAS the Town of Pomfret has received the application of a residential water, within the North End Phase One water district, service at 5042 W Main Road; owned by Nicholas Dangelo, and

WHEREAS The Pomfret Town Board had this on their agenda to approve the application at the Town Board Meeting, September 10th, 2025, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED the Village of Fredonia hereby approves the residential water service connection at 5042 W Main Road, Fredonia, NY.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

BE IT RESOLVED that Angela Mackowiak, of Fredonia, NY, 14063 is hereby appointed to part-time Recreation Director with the Village of Fredonia effective immediately; for a salary of \$2,000 (two thousand dollars) for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Wandel; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

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

- \$384,300 from F8029 Water Fund Balance to H8330.2 Purification Chlorine Project

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Wandel; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS the Village has been working to get into compliance with the Department of Health at the water treatment plant and provide the community with healthy drinking water; and

WHEREAS LaBella, Inc. engineered the chlorination project and set up the scope in preparation for the bidding process; and

WHEREAS, bids were due on September 10, 2025 and H&K Services provided a quote in the amount of \$384,300.00; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED the Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees hereby approves H&K Services to perform the water treatment plant chlorine system replacement project in the amount of \$384,300.00.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS the Village Charter requires the Village Clerk to reside within the Village of Fredonia; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board is authorized to waive the requirement for 270 (two hundred seventy) days; and

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WHEREAS, the Board has received limited applicants for the Clerk position within the Village; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board approves the waiver of the Village Clerk residing within the Village limits for a 270 (two hundred seventy) day period.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

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

- \$18,000 F8320.41 Water Supplies Purchased to H8330.2 Water Intake Platform Replacement

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Wandel and seconded by Trustee Siracuse; the following resolution was approved by a 3-0 vote:

WHEREAS, the Village requires the replacement of its water intake platform at the water treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, BRIGHT'S Mechanical Contractor, Tonawanda, NY, has offered a quote in the amount of \$17,730 (seventeen thousand seven hundred thirty dollars) to fabricate and deliver a new carbon steel platform; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Fredonia hereby approves BRIGHT'S Mechanical Contractor to fabricate and deliver a carbon steel platform in the amount of \$17,730.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION- Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Wandel and carried unanimously, the Board entered Executive Session at 7:15 PM regarding personnel matters within Village Hall.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler and carried unanimously, the Board exited Executive Session with no vote taken, at 7:25PM.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Siracuse and seconded by Trustee Brauchler and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 7:26 PM.

L. MEETING SCHEDULE-

The next Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees Workshop will take place Wednesday October 8, 2025 at 9AM and Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday October 13, 2025 at 6 PM in the Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall, Board Meeting.

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