

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
WORKSHOP
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
January 21, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

New Notes are Italicized;

A. RESOLUTIONS

1. Opera House Annual 5K Run/Walk Approval-*Twichell addressed Chief Price*
2. Opera House Summer Fundraiser Approval
3. Festivals Fredonia 2025 Schedule Approval
4. Call For Public Hearing for White Inn for Grant Administration
5. Registrar of Vital Records
6. Promotion of Jason Jakubowicz to Motor Equipment Operator- *Wandel questioned Scott Marsh*
7. Approval to Hire Jack Ippolito at the DPW to Laborer Position
8. Training Request from Erlyssa LeBeau
9. Town of Tonawanda Plant Tour Approval
10. Request For Proposals for Legal Counsel
11. Approval for Southern Tier west annual membership.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement Office- N/A

DPW- *busy with snow removal, some equipment is down but may be up by the end of the week; salt truck is down. Mayor thanked DPW for their hard work.*

Fire Department- *Chief Myers addressed the Board regarding the services they provide and the area they cover. They have a massive responsibility to the Village, the Town and the College. He explained all the contributions and money that the volunteers spent for our Fire Department. (see attached)*

Police Department- *Mayor presented certificates from Sen G. Borello for years of service.*

Recreation Department- N/A

Wastewater Treatment Plant- *DEC data study completed; cleaning out clearwell; plant tour in Tonawanda;*

Water Treatment Plant- N/A

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Amended Committee Assignments
2. February 3rd meeting (NYCOM)
3. *HCA Agreement in regards to Solar Law; Village will receive money back. Can go through the IDA to come up with formula for how to charge the solar company.*

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Dog Catcher
2. Parking Rate a *Local Law* will have to be created to raise the rates
3. *Wandel will share the Go Bike report from last year re Central Connection.*

A. EXECUTIVE SESSION

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
REGULAR MEETING
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
January 21, 2025
Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M.**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Fredonia, duly called and held on the 21st day of January 2025 at 7:00 PM. in the Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall in Fredonia, New York and public notice of the time and place of this meeting has been given to the news media and conspicuously posted in one or more designated public locations in accordance with Section 104 of the Open Meetings Law.

A. CALL TO ORDER-MAYOR FERGUSON

I call this meeting to order on Tuesday January 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

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. Jim Lynden stood to address the Board regarding the tax levy and Village budget. He stated that Lake Erie water contains tens of billions of sewage overflow from different municipalities every year, Cleveland 4.5 billion gallons, Detroit River 28.2 gallons. Toxic algae blooms come in this direction. None of this is in our own reservoir.

E. CORRESPONDENCE-

Correspondence dated January 7, 2025 was received from Rick Davis, Executive Director of the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, Inc., requesting the use East and West Barker Commons and Gazebo, on Sunday, April 27, 2025 from 7 am to 1 pm, for the annual 5k Run/Walk to benefit the 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center.

Upon motion by Trustee Twichell and seconded by Trustee Brauchler, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the request from Rick Davis, Executive Director of the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, Inc., to use East and West Barker Common, the Gazebo, and close Church Street between Day and Temple from 7am to 1pm, Sunday, April 27, 2025 (Day St. will be blocked for the start of the race for no more than 10 minutes) is hereby approved with the stipulation that the group will be responsible for cleanup and is subject to the direction of the Police Department and the Village receiving a Certificate of Insurance in the amount of \$1 million dollars naming the Village as an additional insured, which has been received.

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CONTINUED

Correspondence dated January 7, 2025 was received from Rick Davis, Executive Director of the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, Inc., requesting the use West Barker Common and Gazebo, on Saturday June 7, 2025 from 7 am to 3 pm, for the annual Opera House Summer Fund-raiser.

Upon motion by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Twichell, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the request from Rick Davis, Executive Director of the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, Inc., to use West Barker Common, the Gazebo, for the annual Opera House Summer Fund-Raiser on June 7, 2025 is hereby approved with the stipulation that the group will be responsible for cleanup and is subject to the direction of the Police Department and the Village receiving a Certificate of Insurance in the amount of \$1 million dollars naming the Village as an additional insured, which has been received.

Correspondence dated December 13, 2024 was received from Festivals Fredonia requesting the use of dates and various Village properties for the 2025 festival season.

Upon motion by Trustee Brauchler and seconded by Trustee Espersen, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that permission is hereby granted to the Festivals Fredonia Committee for the Exclusive use of Barker Common East and West including us of the Gazebo, various parking space privileges and Village Streets for the following festivals or events for which they assume responsibility:

Fredonia Easter Festival – April 12
Fredonia Italian Festival – June 21 (co-hosted by the Fredonia Beaver Club)
Red, White & Blues - September 5-6
Harvest Moon Cemetery Tours – October 17-18
Miracle on Main Street – December 6

F. MAYOR'S REPORT- 1/8 attended a Dunkirk Fredonia Cahmber meeting via zoom and discussed grant opportunities; 1/10 attended a meeting re: the WTP chlorination system; 1/15 attended a Board Special Meeting; 1/16 held my first department head meeting for the 2025 year; met with Tom Carl, new county legislator; attended a NCCWD meeting on the same day; attended an annual luncheon in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and gave a proclamation; introducing new sub-committees; he met with village resident Alberto Ray to discuss various fishing zones along Canadaway Creek; looking into parking apps that could replace the current coin operated meters.

G. TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Brauchler N/A

Espersen – met with LaBella to discuss chlorination system fixes, awaiting other grant opportunities; met with Scott and Luis re ltrs sent to residents re lead in pipes. Pls call the DPW if you have any questions and received a letter.

Siracuse- N/A

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Twichell – Barker Library Museum will be having a reception for Jamie Hogarts photography Thurs. Jan 23. They currently have a sports display of local athletics entitled “We are the Champions”.

Wandel – met with WWTP Supervisor David Felt – (see attached)

H. TREASURER’S REPORT – (see attached)

I. ADDITIONAL REPORTS-

1. Code Enforcement Report for the month of December 2024 was read and ordered filed.
2. Fredonia Police Department Report for the month of December 2024 was read and ordered filed.
3. Fredonia Justice Court Report for the month of December 2024 was read and ordered filed.

J. RESOLUTIONS-

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Twichell and seconded by Trustee Espersen and carried unanimously, the Board moved to table the resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Fredonia wishes to hear public comments relating to the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) project supporting the renovation, equipping, and furnishing of The White Inn at 52 East Main Street in the Village by D&S White Inn, LLC, and

WHEREAS, The CDBG program is administered by the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR), and provides resources to eligible local governments for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefitting low/moderate income persons, and

WHEREAS, OCR requires that grant recipients hold a public hearing to provide information to the public and to consider citizen comments regarding CDBG funded projects to help make determinations for the future use of CDBG funds, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Fredonia hereby calls for a Public Hearing whereat all interested parties shall be heard; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing shall be held on February 3, 2025, at in the Village Hall, Trustees Room, 9-11 Church Street, Fredonia, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that at least eight (8) days’ notice of such hearing shall be given by the Village Clerk by the due posting thereof in the Municipal Building and on the Village’s website, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the Village.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the duties of the Village of Fredonia Registrar are hereby assigned (or renewed) to the Village Clerk, Annemarie Johnston of 12 Carol Ave, Fredonia, effective immediately at a rate of pay commensurate with the current State of New York Registrar reimbursement rate.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Jason Jakubowicz, Center Rd, Cassadaga, NY is hereby promoted to the position of Motor Equipment Operator at the Department of Public Works at an hourly rate of **Twenty-Nine Dollars and Twenty-Three cents (\$29.23)** effective January 27, 2025 and subject to civil service rules and regulations and a probationary period of six months.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Jack Ippolito, Howard Street, Fredonia, NY is hereby hired as a full-time laborer to work with the Department of Public Works at an hourly rate of **Eighteen Dollars and Nineteen Cents (\$18.19) per hour**, effective January 27, 2025 subject to civil service rules and regulations,

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the request from Erlyssa LeBeau, Treasurer, to attend the ARC Conference in Ithaca, NY on February 6, 2025 at a cost of **Sixty-Dollars (\$60.00)** is hereby approved.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the request from Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor, David Felt, and Tony Mistretta, to tour the Town of Tonawanda WWTP on February 6, 2025, at no cost to the Village is hereby approved.

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Fredonia desires to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals for legal counsel, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law § 103, the Village intends to seek proposals prior to entering any public work contract; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer and/or her designee to draft and issue an RFP for additional legal counsel.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village pay \$200 for its annual basic membership to Southern Tier West (CAP), 4309 Route 219, Salamanca, New York.

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

WHEREAS THE Village of Fredonia wishes to stay proactive regarding the current EMS Billing practice, and

WHEREAS the following service level rates have been suggested by our billing company (Professional Ambulance Billing)

BLS – Basic Life Support Transport -	\$1,000 to \$1,200
ALS – Advanced Life Support Transport -	\$ 1,250 to 1,450
ALS-2 Advanced Life Support Transport -	\$1,500 to \$1,700
P/I – Paramedic Intercept -	\$ 785.00 to \$ 900.00
T/R – Treat and Release -	\$ 400.00 to \$400.00
MLS – Loaded Mileage -	\$ 38.00 to \$ 40.00

now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the suggested service level rates mentioned above are hereby approved by the Fredonia Village Board of Trustees and will take effect immediately.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION- Upon motion duly made by Trustee Espersen and seconded by Trustee Brauchler and carried unanimously, the Board entered Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at the DPW at 7:36 PM.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Twichell and seconded by Trustee Wandel and carried unanimously, the Board exited Executive Session with no vote taken at 8:45 PM.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Twichell and seconded by Trustee Wandel and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned the regular meeting 8:50 pm.

L. MEETING SCHEDULE-

The next Village of Fredonia Board of Trustees Workshop and Board Meeting will take place Wednesday February 5, 2025. 7 PM in the Trustee Room, second floor, Village Hall, Board Meeting to follow.

ANNEMARIE JOHNSTON
VILLAGE CLERK