

Village of South Glens Falls  
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY 12803  
April 15, 2026  
Regular Village Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM

**Regular Village Board Meeting**  
TRUSTEE TIMOTHY CAROTA PRESIDING  
Minutes

**Attendance:**

Trustee Carota	Clerk Treasurer Samantha Berg
Trustee Comstock	Superintendent Alan Dubois
Trustee Middleton	Xavier DeRush
Attorney Nikas	Berry Blot
Chris Rich	Cheryl Lawyer
Dan Collins	Robert Ulrich
Tim Pease	Heather Mabb
Jen Conroy	Reed Antis
TJ Wade	Kevin Gallagher
Eavesdropping	N. Bodkin
WTEN	

Absent: Mayor Orlow and Trustee Baxter

Trustee Carota opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Forum**

**Mark Ward - 44 Tamarac Dr:** concerns about stormwater entering the sanitary sewer system through sump pumps and other residential discharges. He noted that enforcement of existing regulations can be difficult and shared an example from Onondaga County, where a 2011 law required inspections of all properties by certified inspectors to identify improper connections to the sanitary sewer system. There was no fee associated with the program; property owners were simply required to disconnect sump pumps from the sanitary sewer system. He further explained that the requirement was implemented as part of compliance with an environmental consent order intended to reduce sewage overflows during rain events. In response to questions about alternatives for homeowners, he stated that sump pump discharges were redirected to yards, storm sewers, or other approved outlets, provided they were not connected to the sanitary sewer system. Attorney Nikas responded that the Village is considering a similar approach and agreed that reviewing an established program could provide a practical solution rather than creating a new system from scratch. It was noted that the Village already has an ordinance addressing illicit discharges, but enforcement has been challenging, and the issue has been largely overlooked over time.

Paula Gallagher – Larchwood Lane, added that the Village has been working on the issue for a long time without results, and wanted a timeline as the cost has been on everyone else. Trustee Carota responded that the reason this has come up is due to the water and sewer rate increase. Mr. Ward also commented that 38 residents do not have water meters. Trustee Carota responded that the water and sewer billing was going to be addressed in this meeting. Mr. Ward then brought up former Mayor Bodkins' note, and Trustee Carota and Trustee Middleton stated the Board would be addressing the rates at this meeting.

**Reed Antis - Village Historian:** asked if the Village would be affected by the new Election Law that changes the voting dates. Trustee Carota responded that he would research the matter and provide follow-up information.

**Heather Mabb - 12 Tamarac Drive:** expressed concerns regarding the accuracy of the Village's new water meter after observing a significant increase in winter water usage compared to summer usage, despite reduced seasonal water consumption. She stated that a plumber had inspected the property and found no leaks and asked whether the Village could assist with troubleshooting or verifying meter accuracy. She also inquired about the availability of irrigation meters, noting that some residents had reported not receiving notification about the program and that irrigation meters were reportedly backordered. Trustee Middleton explained that residents could perform a basic accuracy check by comparing the meter reading before and after using a measured quantity of water, such as filling a five-gallon bucket. Trustee Carota acknowledged that similar concerns had been raised by other residents and stated that the Village would investigate the reported increases in water usage and review the accuracy of the meters to determine whether there were any issues with the meters or other causes. In response to a question regarding the accuracy of the previous water meters, Clerk Treasurer Berg stated that the older meters were likely less accurate than the newly installed meters. Regarding irrigation meters, it was reported that supply delays had resulted in backorders. The Board advised that additional irrigation meters had been ordered and were expected to arrive within the next few weeks.

**TJ Wade – 29 Second Street** voiced concerns about the operation of motorized bicycles and similar vehicles on Village streets, sidewalks, and recreational trails. Board members and residents expressed concerns about excessive speeds, unsafe operation, lack of helmet use, and the potential for serious accidents involving pedestrians and motorists. Attorney Nikas discussed possible enforcement options, including applicable traffic and safety violations, and whether law enforcement has the authority to confiscate a vehicle as evidence when violations occur. He noted that questions remain regarding enforcement involving juveniles under the age of 16. He also discussed reviewing language used by neighboring municipalities regarding motorized bicycles and age restrictions to determine whether similar provisions could be considered by the Village. Additional concerns were raised regarding speeding by motorized bicycles, motorcycles, and other vehicles along Harrison Avenue, particularly from River Street to the top of the hill. TJ Wade, 29 Second St, reported vehicles traveling at excessive speeds, noise from modified exhaust systems, and motorized bicycles operating on sidewalks, through parks, and across private property. Trustee Middleton advised that the Village has been actively addressing traffic concerns on Harrison Avenue and noted



that the Village's engineering consultant had completed a traffic study. The findings were presented to the Board, and approval had been received for the installation of a four-way stop at the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Main Street, along with additional traffic-calming measures. It was noted that traffic control changes must be based on engineering recommendations and follow the required approval process. Trustee Carota stated that the matter would be discussed further with the Police Chief and that additional information regarding enforcement options and applicable laws would be presented at a future Board meeting. He also acknowledged concerns regarding the operation of dirt bikes on Village trails and agreed to include those issues in its discussions with the Police Chief. Trustee Carota concluded by encouraging residents to continue reporting safety concerns and stated the Village's commitment to working toward solutions to improve public safety.

**Motion 041526-1 to cancel the 04/01/26 Water Sewer Billing from the new rate schedule (Water \$125.00 / Sewer \$215.00 with water meter readings) and then reissue at the past flat rate schedule (Water \$125.00 / Sewer \$110.00 covering 10/01/25 - 03/30/26). Revisit the protocol so the taxpayer is not charged with water usage prior to the motion changing the rates, issue a credit for those who have paid, and send out new bills for those who have not:** Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** Trustee Middleton discussed errors identified in the recent water and sewer billing process. He explained that, following consultation with legal counsel, the Village could not apply newly adopted water and sewer rates retroactively to services provided prior to the effective date of the rate change. It was further noted that the corrective action would not require rescinding the previously adopted rate resolution. The Board announced its intent to correct the billing errors by issuing revised bills for the affected billing cycle. Residents were advised that previously issued bills would be voided and recalculated using the previously established flat water and sewer rates for that billing period. It was further explained that any related sewer charges affected by the billing error would also be corrected. To facilitate the rebilling process, he requested that residents refrain from making payments on the current bills. The online payment system had been disabled, and the Village would temporarily suspend acceptance of payments until corrected bills were issued. Trustee Middleton acknowledged that the rebilling process would place a significant workload on the Clerk Treasurer's office and asked residents for their patience while staff completed the necessary corrections. The Board clarified that, for the corrected billing period, both water and sewer charges would be billed using the previous flat rate schedule. Beginning with the current billing cycle, water service would continue to be billed at the existing flat rate, while sewer charges would be calculated using the newly adopted sewer rate structure, including applicable usage charges above the established base allowance. The Board also noted the importance of irrigation meters in ensuring outdoor water usage is not included in sewer usage calculations. Resident asked whether future bills would again be based on actual meter readings. Trustee Middleton responded that a determination had not yet been made and that, at the present time, billing would continue using the flat-rate method while the matter remained under review.



Kevin Gallagher, 9 Larchwood Ln, addressed the procedure for unpaid water and sewer charges that may ultimately be levied on the property tax roll. The Board indicated that the Clerk Treasurer would coordinate with the County regarding any required notifications.

**Clerk Treasurer Berg exited the meeting.**

- 1. Motion 041526-2 for a Special Meeting and Budget Workshop on 04/22/26 6:00 pm with a special Executive Session for Grievance and PBA Negotiations:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** Trustee Carota discussed the proposed budget, specifically the projected water and sewer revenues. It was noted that the anticipated sewer revenue had increased, while the projected water revenue remained consistent with the prior year's budget. Board members observed that the tentative budget reflected revenue figures from the previous fiscal year and did not incorporate the anticipated revenue associated with the recently revised water and sewer billing. It was stated that this would simplify the current budget review process because the revenue estimates were consistent with the prior year's projections and would minimize the need for additional adjustments. The Board discussed making the necessary revisions to the budget as updated revenue information becomes available and noted that the budget could be amended, if necessary, following its adoption to reflect actual revenue projections.

- 2. Grant Projects Update**
  - a. CDBG Disbursement #2 - \$20,201.55**

**Discussion:** None

- 3. Motion 041526-3 to approve Transfers (\$25,536.03):** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** None

A -1640-0403-000	A -1640-0402-000	\$1,500.00	DPW HEAT/LIGHTS
A -1640-0406-0000	A -1640-0407-0000	\$200.00	DPW REPAIRS/MAINTEN
FX-8310-0405-0000	FX-8310-0400-0000	\$200.00	WATER ADMIN BILLING EXP
G -8110-0404-0000	G -8110-0404-0000	\$60.00	ADMIN BILLING EXP
G -8130-0100-0000	G -8130-0101-0000	\$1,500.00	SEWAGE DISPOSAL OVERTIME
A -5142-0100-0000	A -5110-0100-0000	\$11,935.36	ST. MAINT PERSONAL SERV
A -5142-0101-0000	A -5110-0101-0000	\$4,115.37	ST. MAINT OVERTIME
A -1990-0400-0000	A -5989-0400-0000	\$2,052.18	ST CONSTR ASPHALT
A -5110-0402-0000	A -5142-0403-0000	\$918.81	SNOW REMOVAL C.E.-SALT/SAND
A -1990-0400-0000	A -5110-0405-0000	\$1,669.57	ST. MAINT VEHICLE REPAIRS
<b>a.</b> A -5110-0800-0000	A -5010-0800-0000	\$1,384.74	ST. ADMIN. FICA/MEDICARE

4. **Motion 041526-4 to approve the Bills and Payroll as Audited:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** None

- a. General - \$30,546.31
- b. Water - \$9,212.05
- c. Sewer - \$3,233.21
- d. Sewer Capital Project - \$23,118.75
- e. Payroll -
  - i. 04/01/26 - \$26,091.84
  - ii. 04/08/26 - \$24,422.20

5. **Motion 041526-5 to receive and file the March monthly reports for DPW and PD:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** None

6. **Motion 041526-6 to engage Pittsburgh Tank for Inspection and Power Washing of the Water Tank:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion:** Superintendent Dubois has a July deadline for inspection, and the quote includes pressure washing.

7. **Old Business**

- a. **National Fitness Campaign:** Trustee Middleton updated that the Village was awarded \$35,000 from MVP Healthcare for the grant and has a meeting with the National Fitness Campaign organizer to work on the other \$210,000 the Village will need.

8. **New Business**

- a. **Motion 041526-7 to appoint Matthew French as Temporary Acting Building Inspector (\$200.00/week):** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

9. **Trustee Reports**

**Trustee Middleton:** The Sewer line is fixed and ready to go. Spoke to John Pagano, Building & Codes Inspector, who is at New York University Hospital awaiting a heart transplant. It may be about 2 weeks for a donor and then a 6 to 12 week stay in New York City within an hour of the hospital. Our backup Building & Codes Inspector at the Town of Moreau passed away two weeks ago. He reached out to Matt French, who used to be the Building & Codes Inspector at the Village, who said he will do inspections and issue permits per diem. Trustee Middleton asked residents to be patient and courteous with the Clerk Treasurer's Office during the ongoing billing correction process, noting that the office is serving as the primary point of contact for many resident concerns. He further stated that residents with questions or concerns



regarding Village administration are encouraged to contact a Trustee or the Mayor directly.

**10. Mayor's Report:** None

**11. Motion 041526-8 to adjourn the Regular Village Board Meeting to enter into Executive Session for PBA Negotiations at 8:07 pm:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**12. Motion 041526-9 to adjourn Executive Session and enter the Regular Village Board Meeting with no action taken at 8:38 pm:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**13. Motion 041526-10 to adjourn the Regular Village Board Meeting at 8:39 pm:** Trustee Middleton motioned, Trustee Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

