

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF WARWICK  
FEBRUARY 4, 2025**

**10,511**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. in Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY. Present was: Mayor, Michael J. Newhard. Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Thomas McKnight, and Mary Collura. Also, present was Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante. Others present, Lesley Pearl, Gabrielle Minieri, Andrew Ludewig, Herbert and Elisa Wood, Thomas and Mary Lamontagne, Matt LoPinto, Gail Hoffer-Loibl, Darren McNeill, Rilke Greenmun, and Jason Steiker.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
The Deputy Village Clerk held the roll call.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried for the Acceptance of Minutes: January 21, 2025

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$277,454.17.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Announcements**

1. Notice of Completion of Tentative 2025 Assessment Roll & Hearing of Complaints.

**Correspondence**

1. Letter from Gary Lahti requesting a Special Use Permit for 15 Smith Street, SBL 211-4-14.

Mayor Newhard stated that the applicant would need to consult the Planning Board or the Planning Board Secretary regarding the appropriate pathway for proceeding. He noted that a detailed review of the parcel, its use, and applicable setbacks would be necessary.

### **Discussions**

#### **1. Stanley-Deming Mural Project.**

Mayor Newhard informed the Board that Wickham Works requested to refresh part of the Stanley-Deming mural as part of Tree Fest, with no funding needed from the Village. Trustee McKnight noted the existing murals are still in good condition but acknowledged weathering over time. He suggested exploring alternative locations, such as the basketball fence. Mayor Newhard recalled previous smaller murals from the Go and Do Camp and expressed interest in reinstating them. He also highlighted the popularity of the "Welcome to Warwick, New York" mural. Trustee Foster supported the project, emphasizing community and youth involvement.

#### **2. Wickham Works Artist-in-Residence Program.**

Mayor Newhard discussed reviving the Village's Artist-in-Residence program in collaboration with Wickham Works, which selected artist Nicole Hixson. Her work will focus on sustainability and public engagement. He suggested opening future selections through an RFQ and revisiting the topic during budget discussions. Trustee Foster felt the project was more of a planned piece than an artist residency and supported a more open selection process. Trustee Collura welcomed the program's return, noting Hixson's experience and strong relationship with the Department of Public Works. Mayor Newhard described the project as a live sculpture made of plants with an educational component, particularly during Tree Fest. Trustee Collura suggested incorporating community involvement into future artist residencies.

#### **3. Streetlight Maintenance Agreement.**

Trustee Cheney informed the Board that the streetlight conversion project began on Monday and that a maintenance agreement needs to be determined. He outlined two options: a cost-plus agreement with a 20% markup and a \$250 monthly fee or a fixed-price agreement at \$30 per light per year, totaling about \$12,600. Since the lights are under a one-year warranty, he suggested the cost-plus option for the first year, expecting minimal maintenance needs.

Trustee Cheney also noted that the Village of Florida and the Town of Warwick own their streetlights and suggested collaborating on maintenance to share costs. Given this possibility, he favored a short-term contract.

Trustee Cheney added that the Village will have an inventory of extra streetlights and fixtures. He stated that the DPW has been maintaining and converting decorative streetlights to LED and recommended they continue this responsibility.

#### 4. Short-Term Rental Fees and Draft Applications.

Mayor Newhard introduced the topic of short-term rental fees and draft applications, noting that the Planning Board Secretary developed the forms and that the proposed fees were aligned with those used by the Town.

Trustee McKnight explained that the application form was designed to match the Town's format to maintain consistency and reduce confusion, as some residents mistakenly refer to the Town's website instead of the Village's.

Trustee Cheney suggested clarifying the language for owner-occupied and unoccupied dwellings. Trustee McKnight clarified that the code defines owner-occupied properties as those where the owner resides for more than six months of the year. He acknowledged that the current wording could be misleading and suggested revising it for clarity, particularly given the zoning considerations in the business district.

Trustee Foster inquired whether certain application fees would only apply to the central business district, which Trustee McKnight confirmed. She suggested simplifying the fee categories, but Trustee McKnight noted that the distinction between owner-occupied and non-owner-occupied rentals must be maintained, as non-owner-occupied properties require a designated agent within a specific distance.

Trustee McKnight also highlighted the workload of the Building Department staff, who must not only conduct inspections but also verify that rental listings match the details submitted in applications.

Trustee Foster asked if an online or fillable form could be implemented, but Trustee McKnight explained that the Building Department's technology is dated, making integration difficult. For now, applications will remain in paper form.

Mayor Newhard thanked everyone involved in the process and stated that the next step would be addressing penalties. Once finalized, the regulations and application process will be publicized.

Trustee McKnight expressed appreciation to the Town for assisting in the process, noting that while the codes differ, the operational aspects will be similar.

5. Petition for Zone Change – 1 Galloway Heights & 4 Overlook Drive.

Mayor Newhard introduced a petition for a zone change regarding 1 Galloway Heights and Overlook Drive, owned by Mr. Singer. He acknowledged that residents were present to share their thoughts and noted that the Village had received a written letter from Kathy Cass of Highland Avenue, who expressed concerns that the proposed change was too large and would significantly alter the neighborhood.

Trustee McKnight noted that in the previous discussion, many details were missing, so he reviewed the zoning and property specifications. He confirmed that the property is located in a single-family residential zone with a Limited Office Overlay, which permits uses such as business offices, funeral homes, and government offices. The existing building, constructed in the 1940s, has a first-floor footprint of 1,254 square feet on a lot measuring 14,148 square feet (approximately one-third of an acre).

He explained that the proposed development would increase the building size to 5,376 square feet, more than four times its current size. He also pointed out zoning setback requirements, noting that because it is a corner lot, both street-facing sides must adhere to a 30-foot front yard setback, while the proposed plan only allows for 12 feet on one side, making it non-conforming.

Trustee McKnight further analyzed the impact of the proposal on lot coverage, stating that while the building footprint alone would occupy about 12% of the lot, the addition of parking lots, walkways, and other paved surfaces would increase total coverage to over 80%. This far exceeds the Village's zoning regulations, which limit total development, including pavement, to 40% of the lot.

Trustee McKnight continued by providing further analysis of the property's past and proposed uses. He noted that the building previously housed a real estate office and other businesses. Currently, property records indicate it has three bedrooms and three full bathrooms, with a 2020 permit confirming the conversion of a half-bath into a full bath. He questioned whether this use aligns with the

intent of the Limited Office Overlay (LOO) zone but stated that was a separate issue.

He highlighted the significant increase in density under the proposed development, which calls for 12 residential units—eight two-bedroom apartments and four one-bedroom apartments—totaling 20 bedrooms and 12 bathrooms. This would be nearly seven times the current number of bedrooms. He also raised concerns about the impact on the wastewater treatment plant, as the increased density would put additional strain on local infrastructure.

Trustee McKnight referenced the Village's zoning code, which defines the Limited Office Overlay as a transition area between commercial and residential zones. He argued that the proposed structure would be far denser than the neighboring properties, making it more commercial in nature rather than serving as a transition. He pointed out that the applicant has other options, such as seeking variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to address setbacks or applying for a special use permit. However, he emphasized that if the existing structure were demolished, any new building of the proposed size would be non-conforming with the surrounding area, regardless of the approach taken.

Trustee McKnight noted that there are alternative ways to proceed without changing the property's use. He referenced Village Attorney Stephen Gaba's previous statement that even if the zoning were changed and a developer's agreement was put in place for a specific use, a future Board could overturn the agreement, leaving the zoning change in effect. This, he explained, presents another potential issue with approving the request.

Trustee Foster asked for clarification.

Trustee McKnight clarified that while a future Board could overturn a developer's agreement, the zoning change itself would remain in place, setting a precedent. He reminded the Board of the extensive process involved in developing the Village's Comprehensive Plan, which prioritizes protecting residential neighborhoods and preventing commercial encroachment. He stated that the proposed zoning change does not align with that vision, emphasizing that the plan was created with strong community engagement.

He pointed out that existing mechanisms, such as the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Comprehensive Plan, provide a clear framework for addressing such proposals. Based on those guidelines, he believed that changing the zoning was not the right approach. Trustee McKnight noted that the applicant could still seek a variance for a specific exception, but the current proposal violates setbacks,

exceeds development coverage limits, and does not function as a transition between zones. He concluded that approving the zoning change would not be a responsible decision.

Mayor Newhard acknowledged that while the comprehensive plan does address housing, it also emphasizes the importance of buffering neighborhoods. He noted that maintaining these buffers was a key aspect of the plan's development.

Trustee Foster expressed some disagreement with the idea that the proposal is entirely out of alignment with the comprehensive plan but agreed that the intensity of the development on that site is inappropriate. She noted that beyond considering the impact on adjacent properties, the Village must also evaluate the quality of life for future residents. She pointed out that the proposed development lacks outdoor space, such as a yard or private area, which could negatively impact those living there.

Trustee McKnight pointed out that the proposed 24 parking spaces are intended to compensate for the non-conforming parking situation of an adjacent building also owned by the applicant. He emphasized that the site plan consists primarily of a large building and parking. While he acknowledged that the applicant could pursue a variance through the Zoning Board of Appeals, he reiterated that a zoning change is not appropriate in this case.

Trustee Foster questioned the intensity of the proposed development, wondering whether the scale of the project is necessary from the applicant's perspective.

Mayor Newhard acknowledged that construction costs are likely a factor in the scale of the proposal but noted that financial considerations alone do not justify whether the project should be permitted.

Trustee McKnight reiterated that the comprehensive plan emphasizes the importance of buffering residential neighborhoods.

Trustee Foster explained that while the comprehensive plan supports buffering residential neighborhoods, lower-intensity residential uses that meet "missing middle" goals would be in alignment. However, she expressed concern that the proposed level of density—with no accommodations for quality of life—is problematic.

Trustee McKnight explained that the Limited Office Overlay is intended as a transitional zone and does not explicitly allow mixed use—specifically, commercial use on the first floor with apartments above. He noted that the

building, formerly used as a real estate office, now contains three apartments, which he believes does not conform to the overlay's intent. He compared this to commercial zoning, which explicitly permits mixed use, and suggested that if the overlay doesn't state it, then such a conversion may not be permissible. Although this issue hasn't been widely problematic in the past, he raised concerns that the current use deviates from the intended zoning provisions.

Trustee Collura expressed concern that approving this project might set a precedent, encouraging adjacent commercial property owners to expand in ways that could negatively impact the neighborhoods.

Trustee Cheney expressed his opposition to changing the zoning to GC (General Commercial). He argued that the new zoning would open the door to inappropriate uses—such as gas stations and similar commercial enterprises—which would disrupt the proper transition between commercial and residential areas. He also noted that the proposed 12-unit development seemed overly intense, echoing concerns that while increasing housing is important, it should not come at the expense of residents' quality of life.

Trustee Foster noted that while the Limited Office Overlay doesn't explicitly permit mixed use, she believes that having an office on the first floor with an apartment above would fit the transitional nature intended for the zone.

Trustee McKnight stated that although the zoning does not explicitly list mixed use as an option under the Limited Office Overlay, it does not prohibit it.

Trustee Cheney stated that any development proposal exceeding a two-family use would require review by the Board through a special use permit, ensuring that the Board would control the decision-making process.

Trustee Collura asked if the proposal would also require review by the Architectural Historic Review Board, given that it would be considered commercial.

Mayor Newhard noted that similar cases in the past—such as projects involving, Wheeler, and rental properties—have gone before the Architectural Historic Review Board.

Mayor Newhard explained that historically, the property was transitioning to other uses before it was incorporated into the current overlay zone. He noted that the overlay zone was implemented relatively recently, and prior to that, the property was used for commercial purposes; an orthodontist office since the 80s.

Mayor Newhard stated that there appears to be a consensus among the Board regarding the property in question. He noted that the request also includes a contiguous property on Overlook Drive, which is tied to the applicant's other developments. He suggested that this move seems aimed at rectifying issues that should have been addressed earlier and asked for the Board's feedback.

Trustee Cheney stated that the GC zone is not appropriate for the Overlook property either. He emphasized that if any adjustments are necessary to achieve compliance, the applicant must obtain the required variances through the ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals). He is not open to expanding the uses permitted in a GC zone for that property.

Mayor Newhard asked whether a contractor's or developer's agreement might be used as an alternative to submitting the request to the ZBA. He noted that the issue is complex and expressed his intent to understand the various options available.

Trustee Foster suggested revisiting developer's agreement to limit the uses of the property.

Trustee Cheney suggested that rather than limiting the allowed uses, the Board should consider negotiating a developer's agreement to grant the applicant flexibility regarding bulk and setback requirements—allowing for adjustments that may not strictly comply with current zoning regulations.

Trustee Cheney explained that opting for a developer's agreement would allow the Board to retain control over the property's bulk and setback adjustments, whereas other approaches would be subject to oversight by the ZBA.

Trustee McKnight acknowledged that the applicant approved the overall look of the complex but noted that the current parking facilities are insufficient and that the lot lines restrict alternative development options. He expressed some uncertainty about how these issues might be further addressed.

Trustee Cheney stated that the property does not comply with the current zoning regulations.

Trustee McKnight suggested that rather than pursuing an alternative approach that would change the zoning, the Board should work within the existing zoning framework to address the issues. He stated that this approach is reasonable.



Trustee Foster suggested consulting with the Village Attorney about the developer's agreement concept to ensure its terms are solid and then providing the applicant with a letter outlining these options.

6. Moratorium on Land Use Approvals for Public Utility Facilities Involving Energy Storage Systems.

Mayor Newhard noted that the current moratorium has expired and that there is no zoning in place for these facilities. He expressed his personal view that the moratorium should be extended until proper zoning is established.

Trustee Foster asked whether issues have since been resolved.

Mayor Newhard stated that he believes the issue was resolved, although negotiations are still underway regarding some contractual elements—especially related to the bonds, which have been significantly increased. He also noted that the full report was never provided.

Trustee Cheney stated that the Board has the flexibility to modify the zoning as needed, ensuring they maintain sufficient control over the applicant and secure the necessary benefits.

Trustee Foster explained that receiving the full report would offer valuable information to guide future zoning decisions and help determine the protective measures needed.

Mayor Newhard mentioned that NYSERDA has created a model law, which he believes will be helpful in developing the zoning as they move forward. He noted that a mandatory peer review is part of the process and began considering other important components to address.

Trustee McKnight expressed his agreement with extending the moratorium until zoning rules are finalized.

Trustee Cheney noted that the Village's original law was based on NYSERDA guidelines. He expressed hope that NYSERDA has since refined its approach, taking a deeper dive into the issue to develop stronger protections and a more effective model for communities.

The Board discussed the moratorium, referencing a 1,700-acre solar farm with battery storage in Canton, New York, which has faced significant pushback from residents due to concerns over land use, habitat impact, and potential dangers.

The discussion then turned to the timeframe for extending the Village's moratorium. According to the original resolution, the first moratorium lasted one year, with the option for two six-month extensions. Since no extension was previously enacted, the Board considered moving forward with a six-month extension at the next meeting to allow time for zoning updates.

The Board also discussed reviewing NYSERDA's model code as a starting point and checking with NYSERDA or NYCOM for any updates. It was noted that a recent session on the topic strongly promoted battery storage, but officials had many questions. The Board agreed to have the Village Attorney prepare a resolution for a six-month moratorium extension at the next meeting.

**Public Comment - Agenda Items Only**

**GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public may speak only during the meeting's Public Comment period and at any other time a majority of the Board allows. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer, step to the front of the room/microphone, give their name, residency, and organization, if any. Speakers must limit their remarks to three minutes (this time limit may be changed to accommodate the number of speakers) and may not yield any remaining time they may have to another speaker. Board members may, with the permission of the mayor, interrupt a speaker during their remarks, but only for the purpose of clarification or information. The Village Board is not required to accept or respond to questions from the public at meetings but may request that inquiries be submitted in writing to be responded to at a later date. All remarks must be addressed to the Board as a body and not to individual Board members. Interested parties or their representatives may also address the Board by written communications.

Resident Tom Lamontagne, 6 Gallaway Heights – Privilege of the Floor:

Tom Lamontagne addressed concerns regarding the proposed construction at 1 Gallaway Heights. Having lived in the neighborhood for four years, he shared his observations on changes in the area. He stated that he prefers a residential development over retail or office use, as it would likely generate less traffic.

However, he raised concerns about past unfulfilled promises by the developer. When the gym was built, the developer assured that the parking lot across from his home would be designated for employee parking. Until two weeks ago, the lot had been consistently full, but it is now mysteriously empty, leading him to believe that employees were recently instructed to park elsewhere.

Mr. Lamontagne also pointed out that the developer had originally promised garbage collection would not take place in the parking lot and would instead be located within the commercial area. Now, the proposed plan includes garbage pickup in the lot, which he

believes will create logistical issues. He expressed skepticism that a garbage truck could navigate the lot without incident, given the limited space and the number of parked vehicles. While he is not opposed to residential use, he feels that 12 units may be excessive.

Mr. Lamontagne acknowledged the Village's need for affordable housing, noting that rental prices, such as a recent listing for \$3,000 on Forester Avenue, are out of reach for many residents.

Resident Mary Lamontagne, 6 Galloway Heights – Privilege of the Floor

Mary Lamontagne, 6 Galloway Heights, expressed concerns about parking availability in relation to the proposed development. She noted that the parking lot is almost always full and questioned whether the project complies with the required number of spaces per apartment. She asked for clarification on whether the rule mandates 1.5 or 2 spaces per unit, emphasizing that if 12 units are built, at least 24 designated parking spaces would be required.

She pointed out that the current parking arrangement is unstructured, with spaces spread out and not clearly assigned. Additionally, she observed that residents and visitors frequently use the lot overnight, particularly during snowstorms.

Mrs. Lamontagne continued expressing concerns about parking and safety issues related to the proposed development. She noted that in order to ensure parking spaces were used exclusively by tenants, access to the lot would need to be restricted, which could require rerouting entry points. Without such measures, she doubted whether parking could be effectively designated for residents.

She stated that she would find a small-scale development, such as two townhouses, to be a more appropriate fit for the neighborhood's character and footprint. She also raised concerns about the potential impact of additional residents in close proximity to the school, emphasizing traffic and pedestrian safety issues.

Mrs. Lamontagne described the dangers of the nearby intersection, noting that drivers frequently accelerate to beat the changing traffic light at South Street, often reaching speeds of 50 mph. She recounted multiple instances where she nearly had accidents while pulling out of the area. Additionally, she pointed out that during icy conditions, cars have skidded into the brick wall of a nearby house. Despite the location being designated as a 20 mph school zone, she observed that drivers routinely speed through it, creating a hazardous situation for children and pedestrians.

Trustee Foster encouraged Mary Lamontagne to submit a letter detailing her experiences with traffic safety concerns in the area. While acknowledging that it was a separate issue

from the zoning discussion, she noted that the Village had successfully persuaded the Department of Transportation (DOT) to install sidewalks and address issues leading down to South Street. However, she explained that the DOT has refused to extend improvements up to Forester Avenue, despite the Village's belief that this section is critical.

Trustee Foster emphasized the importance of addressing pedestrian safety in this area, given its proximity to the elementary school, parks, and residential neighborhoods. She suggested that additional community input, such as Mrs. Lamontagne's firsthand experiences, could strengthen the Village's efforts in advocating for further improvements.

Resident Herbert Wood, 7 Galloway Heights – Privilege of the Floor

Herbert Wood asked what the builder's next steps would be following the meeting. He noted that residents only recently learned of the proposal through the newspaper and wanted clarification on the decision-making process.

Mayor Newhard responded that no vote was taking place that evening and that the discussion was intended to gauge consensus. Based on the conversation, the Board would likely make a determination at the next meeting not to approve the zoning change. It was explained that the applicant has two options moving forward: he could apply for a special use permit from the Board, which the Board has the authority to approve or deny, or he could appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). If the matter were to go before the ZBA, residents would receive notice, and the process would include opportunities for public input.

Mr. Wood acknowledged the explanation and noted that his front porch is less than 50 feet from the applicant's property, making the proposed changes particularly relevant to him.

Resident Jason Steiker, 52 Galloway Road – Privilege of the Floor

Jason Steiker expressed concern about the potential precedent the Board could set by approving the zoning change. He and his wife, Leslie, moved to Warwick in part because of its visual appeal and character. He stated that the increasing commercial development along the street has already altered the area, and he believes further commercial expansion would be a mistake.

Mayor Newhard agreed with Mr. Steiker concerns but also acknowledged that the development of the complex had significantly improved the corner. He reminded the Board and residents of the previous conditions, recalling the bus garage, a neglected motel, and the real estate office, which he described as a blight on the area. He noted that

while there are valid concerns about future development, credit should be given for the improvements made to the site.

Mayor Newhard thanked the residents for attending and sharing their concerns, emphasizing that their input is important in the decision-making process. He assured them that the Board is carefully evaluating the proposal. Based on the discussion, he stated that the project, at least as a special use permit in its current configuration, is unlikely to move forward. However, he acknowledged that other options could still be explored.

**Millenium Strategies LLC - Intermunicipal Agreement**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Village of Warwick and the Town of Warwick for provision of grant consulting services for calendar year 2025 from Millenium Strategies LLC in return for an annual payment to the Town of Five Thousand And 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000) and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Payment #4 – TAM Enterprises, Inc., Well #3 Treatment Plant Project**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to approve payment #4 in the amount of \$70,925.57 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the Well #3 Treatment Plant Project as per the recommendation of Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. Funds are appropriated in budget code F.8330.2350.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Change Order, No. 2, – Pole Barn Project, TAM Enterprises, Inc.**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 2 for the DPW Pole Barn Project with TAM Enterprises, Inc., decreasing the project's contract price to provide a credit of \$10,880 for interior framing performed by the Village of Warwick. The new contract price is \$231,970 with a project date of substantial completion as January 23, 2025, as per the Village

Engineer, Keith Woodruff.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Aye      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**UDIG NY Spring into Safety Event**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to grant permission to DPW Employees Mike Finelli, Jason Makuch, Chris Kane, Mike Faulls, Andrew D'Alessandro, Dylan Gerstner to attend the UDIG NY Spring into Safety Event on March 4, 2025, at the Newburgh Armory, Newburgh, NY and for Mike Moser, Chris Bennett, Tony Rivera, Tim Palmer, Matt Hann to attend on March 27, 2025. The event is free of charge and takes place on both days from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., with registration at 7:30 a.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Aye      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**NYSBOC - Mike Finelli**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to Assistant Public Works Supervisor, Mike Finelli, to register for membership to the Rockland County Chapter of New York State Building Officials Conference (NYSBOC) at an annual cost of \$50 and for membership to the Tri County Chapter of NYSBOC at an annual cost of \$65.00.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Aye      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Discussion**

Trustee Foster asked why the membership was for Rockland County rather than Orange County.

Trustee Cheney explained that he does not believe a similar organization exists in Orange County. He noted that Rockland County provides essential training modules required for maintaining certification, making it important to be part of that organization to access necessary training opportunities.

**Rescind Motion - Matthew Hann, Vacation Days**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to rescind the motion approved on January 21, 2025, granting permission to Village employee, Matthew Hann, to carry over 5 vacation days per the request of the employee.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

**Resolution Amending Schedule of Fees to Change Building Fees**

WHEREAS, Village of Warwick Code §64-1 provides that a comprehensive schedule of fees, including Building Department fees, be approved by the Village Board; and

WHEREAS, in order to amend the Village's Schedule of Fees to change the Building Department fees it is necessary for the Village Board to adopt a resolution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village's Schedule of Fees is hereby amended as follows:

In the Schedule of Fees, under heading "Building Department" the following fees shall be deleted:

Category	Sub-Category	Type of Fee	Amount
Building Department	Municipal Co and violation search		\$100.00

; and

In the Schedule of Fees, under heading “Building Department” the following fees shall be added:

Category	Sub-Category	Type of Fee	Amount
Building Department	Municipal Co and violation search	Municipal Co and violation search	\$200.00

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Foster,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting      Aye

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting      Aye

Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting      Aye

Mary Collura, Trustee, voting      Aye

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting      Aye

### **Discussion**

Trustee McKnight asked for clarification regarding the number of municipal searches conducted in 2024 and the inspection requirements associated with them.

Mayor Newhard confirmed that there were 99 municipal searches during the calendar year, each requiring an inspection. He stated that the process aligns with expectations.

Trustee Cheney asked whether an estimate had been provided regarding the number of hours the Building Inspector spends on municipal searches. While acknowledging that such an estimate might not be essential, he noted that the previous allocation of 100 dollars seemed to be inadequate.



Trustee McKnight noted that both the Building Clerk and the Building Inspector are involved in the municipal search process. He explained that the work includes administrative tasks, inspections, and reviewing records, which can be time-consuming. While the actual workload could exceed initial estimates, he supported increasing the allocation from \$100 to \$200 as a reasonable adjustment.

**RESOLUTION ENACTING**  
**A LOCAL LAW TO REVISE THE VILLAGE CODE’S PROVISIONS**  
**REGARDING AMUSEMENTS AND EXHIBITIONS**

WHEREAS, the Village Board has before it a proposed local law amending Village of Warwick Village Code Chapter 34 – “Amusements and Exhibitions.”; and

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board held a public hearing on the proposed local law and heard all persons interested in the subject matter thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board hereby adopts the above local law; and
2. That the said local law shall be published, posted and filed in the office of the Secretary of State in Albany as required by applicable law.

Trustee Foster presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Cheney,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting	Aye
Carly Foster, Trustee, voting	Aye
Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting	Aye
Mary Collura, Trustee, voting	Aye
Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting	Aye

**Facility Use – Veterans Memorial Park, OC Bombers**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to OC Bombers to use the Koch, Brown, Cassin, Ahearn and Daniel Prial Fields in Veterans Memorial Park for a fundraising tournament on Friday, July 25 through Sunday, July 27, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Event must be in coordination with the other activities taking place in the park such as Warwick Little League, Warwick Youth Football, Highlander Rugby, Warwick Adult Kickball League, and Warwick Wascals. Completed park permit, proof of insurance, and security deposit have been received.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Aye      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Discussions**

Mayor Newhard asked whether all issues with the Little League and related parties had been resolved.

Trustee Cheney responded that discussions are still ongoing.

**Standardized Notice Form from the NYS Liquor Authority, 30 Day Wavier – The Warwick Wine Bar, LLC**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to acknowledge receipt of the Standardized Notice Form from the New York State Liquor Authority for a Class Change to the existing liquor license for The Warwick Wine Bar, LLC located at 8 West Street, Warwick, NY 10990 to include liquor (current liquor license includes beer, wine and cider only) and authorize the Village Clerk to submit a letter notifying the New York State Liquor Authority that there are no objections to this notification and application, and waive the thirty (30) day notice requirement of the filing of a New York State Liquor License Application.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Aye      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Resolution Amending Schedule of Fees to Change Summer Recreation Fees**

WHEREAS, Village of Warwick Code §64-1 provides that a comprehensive schedule of fees, including Summer Recreation fees, be approved by the Village Board; and

WHEREAS, in order to amend the Village's Schedule of Fees to change the Summer Recreation fees it is necessary for the Village Board to adopt a resolution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village's Schedule of Fees is hereby amended as follows:

In the Schedule of Fees, under heading “Summer Recreation” the following fees shall be deleted:

Category	Sub-Category	Type of Fee	Amount
Summer Recreation	Park Program	Registration fee per week for the first child	\$20.00
Summer Recreation	Park Program	Registration fee per week for additional siblings	\$15.00

; and

In the Schedule of Fees, under heading “Summer Recreation” the following fees shall be added:

Category	Sub-Category	Type of Fee	Amount
Summer Recreation	Park Program	Registration fee per child, per week	\$20.00

Trustee Foster presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Cheney,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting	Aye
Carly Foster, Trustee, voting	Aye
Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting	Aye
Mary Collura, Trustee, voting	Aye
Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting	Aye

#### **Discussions**

Trustee Foster provided an explanation regarding a change in the Summer Recreation Program fees. She stated that last year, the Village attempted to implement a discount for families enrolling a second child, but the electronic registration system failed to accommodate it. Due to this limitation, the Village will now revert to a standard flat fee for all participants.

Mayor Newhard added that, as in the past, families experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to reach out to the Recreation Director or the Village for assistance. He emphasized that the Village has always been willing to work with families in need.

#### **Budget Modification - Tabled**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight to approve the budget modification request as per the Village Treasurer's memo dated January 29, 2025.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows:

Trustee Cheney ____	Trustee Foster ____	Trustee Collura ____
Trustee McKnight ____	Mayor Newhard ____	

#### **Discussion**

Trustee Cheney expressed concern about reallocating \$60,000 from the road paving

budget, noting that this money, which was not spent last year, typically would have been used for paving projects. He explained that the Village receives approximately \$200,000 in CHIPS funding for paving, and an additional \$100,000 is allocated from the Village budget. The reallocation means that \$60,000 worth of paving work that was planned for last year or this spring will not be completed.

He warned that this shortfall could cause the Village to fall behind on its paving schedule. Looking ahead to the 2025-2026 budget, he suggested that the Board explore ways to compensate for the lost funding to ensure the paving program stays on track.

Trustee Foster suggested that since the *Safe Streets for All* program is starting much later than expected, there may be an opportunity to reallocate some of the unspent funds. She recommended reviewing the budget to see if any flexibility exists.

Trustee Cheney clarified that the funding for *Safe Streets for All* was budgeted based on grant money the Village was expected to receive. Trustee Foster acknowledged this but noted that there was also an in-kind contribution component. While it may not be a significant amount, she agreed that it was worth checking.

Trustee Cheney cautioned that the Board should be careful about how they approach the funding and ensure they fully understand the financial sources involved. Trustee Foster agreed and stated that she had indicated a specific amount of in-kind contributions, which could be double-checked for accuracy.

Mayor Newhard clarified that the funds in question are ultimately being directed toward the pole barn project.

Trustee McKnight questioned how the pole barn project ended up \$60,000 over budget and expressed frustration over the misalignment in funding. He pointed out that even the initial estimate for the pole barn was lower than the actual cost and suggested that he would rather see the \$60,000 go toward paving instead.

Trustee Cheney responded that there is not enough money in the budget to complete the necessary work for the pole barn, particularly for the interior build-out, which is the current focus.

Trustee Foster then asked for more details on the budget discrepancy, questioning whether the overage was due to changes in project scope, increased material costs, or another factor. She emphasized the need for clarity on what caused the difference.

Mayor Newhard speculated that the issue may be that the full build-out was never included in the original budget.

Trustee Cheney agreed, stating that the initial budget only covered constructing the frame, structure, concrete, and foundation, rather than the full interior build-out.

Trustee McKnight suggested that gaining more insight into the remaining work on the pole barn project would be helpful. He proposed inviting the DPW Supervisor to attend a Board meeting to provide a detailed update. Expressing concern over reallocating \$60,000 from the paving budget, Trustee McKnight stated that he is not in favor of the decision, as road paving is a tangible and necessary improvement. He acknowledged that there may be other capital funds available that could be used for the pole barn, considering it is a Village asset. However, he reiterated that diverting funds from paving does not seem like the right approach.

#### **Motion to Table Budget Modification**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to table the budget modification request as per the Village Treasurer's memo dated January 29, 2025.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

#### **Vacation Carryover - Karen Vermillion**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to Village of Warwick Employee, Karen Vermillion, to carry over 5 vacation days.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

#### **ZBA Member Appointment - Nikki Delille**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to appoint Nikki Delille as Member to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy with a term ending April 6, 2026.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Refund – 50 Main Street, Kim Williams**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to authorize a refund Kim Williams in the amount of \$100.00 for a Certificate of No Exterior Effect & New Permanent Sign Application for a project located at 50 Main Street due to the application being withdrawn.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows:    **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Return of Planning Board Escrow – 19 Poplar Street**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to return the Planning Board escrow balance of \$1,121.01 and the Zoning Board of Appeals escrow balance of \$1,644.22 to Randi and Bob Barlow for site plan and variance approval at 19 Poplar Street. All invoices have been paid as per emails from Zoning Board of Appeals Attorney, Ashley Torre, Planning Board Attorney, Elizabeth Cassidy, and Village Engineer, Keith Woodruff.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows:    **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**AHDRB Member Appointment – Glenn Rhein**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to appoint Glenn Rhein as Member to the Architectural and Historic District Review Board to fill a vacancy with a term ending April 5, 2027.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows:    **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

**Waive the Reading of the Motion**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to waive the reading of the bond resolution dated February 4, 2025, amending prior bond resolution dated October 21, 2024, which authorized the issuance of \$575,770 bonds of the Village of Warwick, Orange County, New York, to pay the cost of the replacement of lead service lines, in and for said village, to remove any consent provisions within said resolution.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

**BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2025**  
**A RESOLUTION AMENDING PRIOR BOND RESOLUTION DATED**  
**OCTOBER 21, 2024, WHICH AUTHORIZED THE ISSUANCE OF \$575,770**  
**BONDS OF THE VILLAGE OF WARWICK, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW**  
**YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF THE REPLACEMENT OF LEAD**  
**SERVICE LINES, IN AND FOR SAID VILLAGE, TO REMOVE ANY**  
**CONSENT PROVISIONS WITHIN SAID RESOLUTION.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to a bond resolution dated October 21, 2024 (the “2024 Bond Resolution”), the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Village of Warwick (the “Village”) previously authorized the issuance of \$575,770 bonds of said Village to pay the cost of undertaking a lead service line replacement program including but not limited to inventory, design and replacement of lead service lines within the Village’s established water system, and including incidental expenses in connection therewith;



WHEREAS, the Village is eligible for a zero-percent interest loan in the amount of \$575,770 from New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (“EFC”) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Lead Service Line Replacement (BIL-LSLR) program for the aforesaid project; and

WHEREAS, the Village will be eligible for a grant from New York State in the amount of \$575,770 to buy out the EFC loan; and

WHEREAS, EFC has requested that the 2024 Bond Resolution be amended to delegate responsibilities relating to the issuance and sale of the bonds solely to the Village Treasurer, as chief fiscal officer of the Village pursuant to the Local Finance Law; and

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick, Orange County, New York, as follows:

Section (A): Sections 4 through 8 of the Bond Resolution dated October 21, 2024, which authorized the issuance of \$575,770 bonds of said Village to pay the cost of undertaking a lead service line replacement program, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Village Treasurer, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. The faith and credit of said Village of Warwick, Orange County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. To the extent not paid from sewer rents or charges, or other available sources, there shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said Village a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 6. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form. All obligations issued hereunder shall be signed in the name of the Village of Warwick, Orange County, New York, by the manual or facsimile signature of the Village Treasurer and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted or impressed thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the Village Clerk.

Section 7. The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as he or she shall deem best for the interests of said Village; including, but not limited to, the power to sell said bonds to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, he or she shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of municipal bonds. The receipt of the Village Treasurer shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the Village by the facsimile signature of the Village Treasurer, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the Village), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the Village Treasurer. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the Village not to impose and collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Village Treasurer shall determine.

Section (B). The amendments of the Bond Resolution set forth in Section (A) of this Bond Resolution shall in no way affect the validity of any liabilities incurred or encumbered,

obligations issued, or actions taken pursuant to said Bond Resolution, and all such liabilities incurred, encumbered, obligations issued, or actions taken shall be deemed to have been incurred, encumbered, issued or taken pursuant to said Bond Resolution, as so amended herein.

Section (C). This Bond Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by  
Trustee McKnight,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting      Aye

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting      Aye

Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting      Aye

Mary Collura, Trustee, voting      Aye

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting      Aye

#### **Public Comment – *Non-Agenda Items***

No comments.

#### **Final Comments from the Board**

##### **Trustee Collura:**

Trustee Collura shared several upcoming community events. She first highlighted a new conversation series being introduced by the Warwick Historical Society. The first event will take place on Sunday, February 9, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the Buckbee Center. This discussion will feature Warwick Historical Society Curator Michael Bertolini and promises to be both engaging and informative.

She also announced a second event occurring the same day, Sunday, February 9, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Warwick Community Center on 11 Hamilton Avenue—the *Community Care Cards* event, sponsored by Warwick Cares and the Warwick Valley Prevention Coalition. This initiative, now in its second year, invites community members

to create Valentine's Day cards, which are then distributed to residents throughout the Village. She noted the success of last year's event and gave a special acknowledgment to Bill and Judy Lindberg, who helped distribute the cards through Meals on Wheels.

Additionally, she announced that Meals on Wheels will be holding volunteer training sessions on March 4th and March 11th at 2:00 p.m. in the community room of the Albert Wisner Public Library. Those interested in volunteering can contact Meals on Wheels at (845) 986-3389 for more information. She noted that Meals on Wheels is celebrating its 50th anniversary of serving the community this year and congratulated them on their incredible work.

**Trustee Foster:**

Trustee Foster provided several updates. She shared that she recently met with the Government Affairs group at the high school and found the meeting to be a wonderful experience. The students asked excellent questions, including some that she plans to pass along to Trustee Cheney regarding the process of converting the rail line to passenger service and identifying the decision-making authorities for such a project. The students also inquired about potential internship opportunities with the Village. Trustee Foster noted that the *Safe Streets for All* grant includes funding for local internships, which could create opportunities for interested students.

She then reported on the success of the Winter Wiggle event, describing it as well-timed and well-received by the community. She shared a touching moment where an attendee mentioned that they had been feeling hopeless but, after participating in the event, felt a renewed sense of appreciation for the community.

On a less positive note, Trustee Foster provided an update regarding the RAISE Grant application. She explained that recent changes in federal funding processes created unexpected challenges. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the grant was modified at the last minute, and even the grant's name was changed. These changes were posted without formal notification, leading to confusion. Many applicants, including the Village, only became aware of the modifications shortly before the submission deadline. As a result, every document that had been prepared—including letters of support—became outdated, and the evaluation criteria had also changed. Additionally, the available funding was clarified to be only about one-tenth of what was initially expected. Due to these unexpected shifts, the Village did not submit the application, but Trustee Foster expressed confidence that future opportunities will arise. She noted that transportation remains a key focus of the current federal administration, and the Village will continue to seek funding opportunities in this area.

Mayor Newhard acknowledged Trustee Foster's hard work and effort on the *RAISE Grant* application, despite the unforeseen challenges. He expressed appreciation for the

progress made, noting that the Village was still able to achieve success with the *Safe Routes for All* grant.

Trustee Foster remained optimistic, stating that although the *RAISE Grant* was not submitted, the planning and preparation efforts were still valuable. She emphasized that the Village had developed strong project scopes and that there is continued interest in seeing those projects come to fruition. She expressed a commitment to continuing efforts to secure funding opportunities.

Mayor Newhard agreed, highlighting that the information gathered through the process remains extremely valuable. He encouraged Trustee Foster to leverage the Village's partnership with Millennium Strategies, the grant-writing firm, to explore additional funding opportunities and ensure that the work already done is put to good use.

Trustee Foster emphasized the importance of leveraging Millennium Strategies to help identify funding sources for the specific scopes of work the Village has already developed. She highlighted that these projects, particularly efforts to expand sidewalks to the high school, are significant and should remain a priority. She reiterated that the Village should continue pursuing grant opportunities to make these improvements a reality.

Trustee McKnight acknowledged the significant effort that goes into securing grants, especially for a small municipality without the resources for a full-time grant writer. He noted that while much of this work goes unseen by the public, he recognizes and appreciates the dedication involved. He also expressed sympathy regarding the setback with the *RAISE Grant*, calling it unfortunate news.

Trustee Foster admitted that she struggled with delivering the news about the *RAISE Grant* setback, feeling disappointed while writing her update. She expressed a hope that there might still be a way to make the project work in the future.

Trustee McKnight described the grant setback as a gut punch but expressed gratitude for the effort put into the application process. He echoed Mayor Newhard's sentiment that the work done has laid a foundation for future opportunities.

Trustee Foster agreed, stating with confidence that the Village will find a way to get it done and continue pursuing funding for the planned projects.

**Trustee Cheney:**

Trustee Cheney reminded everyone that the Department of Public Works (DPW) is hiring and encouraged anyone interested to contact the Village Clerk.

He also provided an update on the LED streetlight conversion project, reaffirming that All Bright Electric began work on Monday, February 3. The project is expected to take approximately six weeks, with a projected completion date of March 14. Trustee Cheney requested that residents report any issues with the new or existing streetlights to the Village DPW, particularly cases where light is casting onto buildings or windows. Since the replacements occur during daylight hours, adjustments may be necessary. Residents can report concerns by calling (845) 986-2031 and pressing 6 when prompted, or by emailing [dpw@villageofwarwick.org](mailto:dpw@villageofwarwick.org).

Mayor Newhard asked Trustee Cheney to explain the Smart Controls feature of the new LED streetlights, so the public could better understand their function and benefits.

Trustee Cheney explained that the Smart Controls on the new LED streetlights allow for adjustments to the intensity of the light, though they do not change the color. He noted that one of the most significant features of the system is its ability to track actual energy usage.

In the future, when rate structures change, the Smart Controls will enable the Village to pay for the precise amount of energy used per light, rather than a blanket rate per unit. While this feature is not yet in effect, he expressed hope that the state would implement such a system in the coming years.

Mayor Newhard expressed gratitude to Trustee Cheney for his efforts on the LED streetlight conversion project. He commended the work put into the initiative.

**Mayor Newhard:**

Mayor Newhard announced that a Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued for a landscape designer.

Trustee Foster clarified that the purpose of this RFP is to support the design and implementation of the Patriots Path, a key component of the Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan.

Mayor Newhard announced that two alternate members on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and the Architectural Review Board have been appointed as permanent members. As a result, there are now open alternate positions on both boards.

He explained that while alternates do not vote regularly, they are expected to stay informed on board matters and step in when a regular member is unable to attend a meeting. He emphasized the importance of these boards and encouraged interested residents to consider applying.

**Adjournment**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 9:10 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Aye    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

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Jennifer Mante, Deputy Village Clerk