

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF WARWICK  
MARCH 17, 2025**

**10,578**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, March 17, 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, and Mary Collura. Also, present was Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante and Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba. Absent was Trustee, Thomas McKnight. Others present, Police Chief, John Rader, Tony Cornelius, Robert Krahulik, Uriel Lemas, and Tim McNichol.

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 Cheney and carried for Acceptance of Minutes: March 3, 2025

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Acceptance of Reports**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried for Acceptance of Reports – February 2025: Clerk’s Office, Justice Department, Planning Department, and Building Department reports and the December 2024 and January 2025 Building Department reports.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

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

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$347,836.24.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

1. Police Report.

Police Chief Rader reported that although he did not attend any meetings in February, he wanted to share highlights from his notes. On February 11, the Police Department transitioned from its more than 30-year-old phone system to a modernized one. More significantly, the Department also switched over its records management system, using state grant funding to upgrade all patrol cars with state-of-the-art modems and new computers. Reports were now able to be completed in the field. This new system allowed for real-time connectivity with dispatch and, eventually, with every police department in Orange County. The Village was one of three departments selected as pilot programs, along with the City of Middletown and the Village of Monroe. After more than a month of implementation, the system was functioning well. Most training challenges had been addressed, and the company managing the system was responsive in adjusting the program to better suit the Department's needs. Chief Rader noted that the upgrades would allow officers to remain in the field longer, reduce the need to return to the station, and potentially lower fuel costs and vehicle wear and tear.

Chief Rader also announced that three part-time police officers had graduated from the police academy on March 7. Two of them received awards, and one earned five awards for his time in the academy. These new officers were currently undergoing the Department's training program and would soon begin solo patrols.

He added that preparations were underway to ready the Department's bicycles for spring, and officers had just provided coverage for the Village's St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Department was also preparing for the upcoming Little League Opening Day Parade in April.

2. **Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 3 of the Year 2025 entitled: "The Village of Warwick Temporary Moratorium on the Acceptance and Processing of Applications for Approval of Public Utility Facilities Involving Energy Storage Systems".**

The Deputy Clerk read the legal notice.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of the Village of Warwick will hold a public hearing on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., at Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, New York 10990 on a proposed Local Law entitled: "The Village of Warwick

Temporary on the Acceptance and Processing of Applications for Approval of Public Utility Facilities Involving Energy Storage Systems”

The purpose of this Local Law is to promote the public health, safety and welfare by enacting a six (6) month moratorium on the acceptance and processing of applications for land approvals for public utility facilities involving energy storage systems in the Village of Warwick in order to afford the Village Board time to develop and enact local registrations sufficient too oversee the approval and safe operation of the same.

A copy of the proposed local law has been posted on the Village’s website and is on file in the office of the Village Clerk and is available for inspection by interested persons during Village Clerk’s business hours.

The Village Board will at the above date, time and place hear all persons interested in the subject matter hereof. Persons may appear in person or by agent. All written communications addressed to the Village Board must be received by the Village Board at or prior to the public hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE VILLAGE BOARD  
VILLAGE OF WARWICK  
RAINA ABRAMSON  
VILLAGE CLERK

Dated: March 7, 2025

Robert Krahulik inquired whether the Village had received any applications or notices regarding proposed energy storage projects within the Village.

Mayor Newhard responded that there were none, aside from the existing project located on Church Street Extension.

There were no further comments.

**Close Public Hearing – Local Law No. 3 of the Year 2025**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to close the Public Hearing on a proposed Local Law No. 3 of the Year 2025 entitled: “The Village of Warwick Temporary Moratorium on the Acceptance and Processing of Applications for Approval of Public Utility Facilities Involving Energy Storage Systems”.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

### **Announcements**

1. The Village of Warwick General Election will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

### **Correspondence**

1. Email from village resident Brian Torpie in support of amending Chapter 36 of the Village Code to allow chickens in the village.
2. Email from village resident Patrick Gallagher regarding short-term rental deliberations.
3. Letter from the NYS Department of Transportation providing an update on the NYS Routes 94 & 17A paving and improvements.
4. Letter from the Monarch Village Pollinator Project Team requesting consideration of funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the June 2025 Monarch Village Fest.
5. Letter from The Warwick Valley Community Center requesting consideration of increasing the budget allocation towards their initiatives and programs.

### **Discussion**

1. 42 Orchard Street – Petition for Zone Change and submittal of EAF Questionnaire.

Village Attorney Steven Gaba explained that the applicant for 42 Orchard Street had previously presented to the Board regarding a proposed zoning change. The Planning Board had conditionally approved a related subdivision, and it was now up to the Village Board to determine whether it wished to proceed with drafting a local law to enact the zoning change. The proposed change would revise the zoning map designation for the area from R (residential) to LI (light industrial). Mr. Gaba noted that the draft law itself was straightforward and that the procedural steps for enacting it were outlined in the accompanying resolution, including necessary referrals. He pointed out one administrative detail: if the Board chose to move forward, the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) needed to be updated to indicate that the Planning Board was an involved agency, which simply required checking the appropriate box and submitting that page. He emphasized that the first step was for the Board to decide whether it wanted to proceed with the local law. If so, a resolution to introduce the law and set a public hearing was ready; if not, the matter would be considered closed.

Trustee McKnight asked for a review of the basics of the proposal, referencing the EAF which mentioned approximately 5,000 square feet. He assumed this referred to the rear portion of the lot, which abuts a commercial property, and sought clarification on whether the zoning change would apply only to that subdivided section or to the entire 42 Orchard Street lot.

Village Attorney Gaba clarified that 42 Orchard Street is the applicant's residence. The proposal involves subdividing the rear portion of the lot—essentially the backyard—and changing the zoning for that section from residential to light industrial (LI). He explained that this rear portion would then be merged with the adjacent car wash property, which is already using it for parking and snow storage.

Trustee McKnight questioned why the zoning proposal was framed as applying to the entire property at 42 Orchard Street when only a portion—the rear section of the lot—was being subdivided and considered for the zoning change. He sought clarification on why the proposal wasn't limited solely to the specific piece of land being merged with the adjacent commercial property.

Village Attorney Gaba explained that until the subdivision is officially completed and the rear portion is formally separated, the entire property is still technically considered 42 Orchard Street. Although only the house fronts on 42 Orchard, the rear yard—currently being used by the neighboring car wash for parking and snow storage—remains part of the same parcel until the subdivision is finalized.

Trustee McKnight asked what assurances were in place to ensure that the house at 42 Orchard Street would remain in the R (residential) zoning district and not be affected by the proposed zoning change.

Village Attorney Gaba responded that the Village Board has full authority over zoning changes. He affirmed that the house would remain in the R zoning district, and any future attempt to change the zoning for the house—whether to LI or any other designation—would require a separate application and approval by the Village Board.

Mayor Newhard asked for clarification on whether the subdivision had already occurred.

Village Attorney Gaba confirmed that the subdivision had only received conditional approval at this stage. He explained that it had not yet been finalized or filed with the county, and there was no separate deed in place for the rear portion of the property, which is referred to as Lot 2 in the subdivision plan.

Mr. Krahulik stated that the applicant had submitted a detailed metes and bounds description of the parcel for which the zoning change was being requested. He

emphasized that the request applied only to the 5,900-square-foot rear portion of the lot. The front portion, where the house is located, was not included in the proposed zoning change and would remain unaffected.

Trustee McKnight noted that he had not seen the detailed metes and bounds description and acknowledged that while it may be on file with the Planning Board, the EAF only listed the project location as 42 Orchard Street. He explained that this was why he wanted to be very clear that the zoning change applied only to the rear portion of the lot, not the entire property, which is otherwise zoned residential. He questioned whether that level of specificity was reflected in the draft local law itself, indicating that while he understood what the property involved, he was seeking clarity on whether the approach was properly documented in the law.

Mr. Krahulik offered to approach the Board with a map to provide a visual reference and help clarify the exact portion of the property subject to the proposed zoning change.

Mr. Krahulik presented a map to the Board, explaining that the property at 42 Orchard Street extends all the way back to the river. He noted that the subdivision created two lots—Lot 1 and Lot 2. The parcel that is the subject of the proposed zoning change is Lot 2, which is shown clearly on the subdivision map previously approved by the Planning Board. He pointed out the current lot line that would be eliminated and indicated where a new lot line would be created to define the subdivided rear portion.

Mr. Krahulik added that the subdivision and zoning change process was initiated at the request of the Building Inspector, who wanted to clarify and clean up the property's zoning situation. He explained that his client was happy to comply, especially to avoid any complications when selling the property in the future. Mr. Krahulik emphasized that the process had been long and costly, but his client was committed to doing the right thing and appreciated the Board's consideration.

#### **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 Tony Cornelius addressed the Board to inquire about changing a Village law passed in 1976 that currently restricts the keeping of chickens. He mentioned that he and several neighbors on Fairview Avenue have lived in the area for around 30 years and were unsure of the original intent behind the law. He said he had spoken with both the Building Inspector, who also did not know the reasoning behind the law and were open to it being reconsidered, as well as Brian Torpie.

Mr. Cornelius emphasized his commitment to sustainability and teaching his young children about where their food comes from, including vegetables, flowers, and, potentially, chickens and eggs. He described participating in the Warwick Garden Tour last year, during which about 300 people visited his property. He shared that many were surprised and inspired by what could be done with a home garden focused on fruits and vegetables, rather than just ornamental plants. He acknowledged that times have changed since 1976 and suggested that regulations—such as limiting the number of chickens or prohibiting roosters—could be put in place to address concerns. He also proposed the idea of a pilot program. Mr. Cornelius concluded by asking the Board how to go about initiating a change to the existing law.

Mayor Newhard provided some historical context, explaining that a previous Village Board—not the current one—had explored the possibility of changing the law regarding chickens. At that time, they had been working with Cornell Cooperative Extension to establish a pilot program and were making progress. However, the initiative faced significant public pushback, which ultimately led the Board to abandon the effort. Mayor Newhard acknowledged that times had changed since then—likely 10 to 15 years ago—and suggested that the topic may now warrant renewed consideration.

Mr. Cornelius acknowledged that there were common misconceptions about backyard chickens, including the mistaken belief—held by some, including his neighbor—that a rooster is required for hens to lay eggs. He emphasized that this was not the case and expressed a willingness to serve as an example for how to maintain a clean, well-managed chicken coop. He offered to open his backyard to demonstrate proper practices and suggested the possibility of establishing a pilot program to guide others. Mr. Cornelius stressed that a typical family only needs four to six chickens and made clear he was not advocating for large flocks. He supported implementing clear limits, such as setbacks from property lines, a cap on the number of chickens, and a prohibition on roosters—stating that he personally would not want to be woken up at 2 a.m. either.

Mayor Newhard shared a personal anecdote, noting that he lives near the edge of the Village, with a neighbor who resides in the Town. That neighbor owns a rooster. While the rooster is far enough away that it isn't a major disturbance, Mayor Newhard acknowledged that it is still

noticeable, suggesting some understanding of concerns about noise while also indicating that such issues can vary depending on proximity.

Mr. Cornelius expressed frustration over what he saw as inconsistencies in local regulations, pointing out that in some cases, such as a property his wife recently sold on Woodside Avenue, part of a single parcel may fall within the Town—where chickens are allowed—while another part falls within the Village, where they are not. He found it unreasonable that one portion of a property could legally have chickens while another portion could not, despite being part of the same lot.

Mayor Newhard responded that Brian Torpie had recently provided a helpful email containing examples of similar-sized municipalities and how they handle backyard chickens. He said the Board was interested in exploring the issue further and suggested reaching out to Cornell Cooperative Extension again for guidance. He mentioned the possibility of forming a small task force to help examine the topic in more depth and invited Mr. Cornelius to participate if interested.

However, Mayor Newhard noted that the Village was currently in the midst of its budget process and needed to focus on that for the next couple of weeks. Once the budget was finalized, the Board would be in a better position to move forward. He assured Mr. Cornelius that they would begin taking steps, including contacting Cornell to express interest. Mayor Newhard concluded by acknowledging that while the process was not overly complicated, it would involve public opinion—and that input was already coming in from both sides of the issue.

Mr. Cornelius asked the Board, who are all Village residents, whether any of them were opposed to the idea of allowing backyard chickens.

Trustee Collura expressed hesitation about allowing backyard chickens, citing concerns based on her experience with roaming cats in her neighborhood. She noted that if residents are unable to keep their cats indoors and contained—frequently resulting in cats appearing on her porch or in her yard—she questioned how they would be able to manage chickens. Trustee Collura admitted that while she could handle the presence of cats, she would not know how to deal with finding a chicken on her front porch, which underscored her reservations about potential enforcement and containment issues.

Mr. Cornelius acknowledged Trustee Collura's concerns but pointed out that there is a notable difference in public perception when it comes to containing cats versus chickens. He explained that while people might object to restricting cats, regulations could easily be implemented requiring that chickens remain enclosed. He emphasized that he was not advocating for free-ranging chickens and that proper chicken keeping involves keeping them in secure, enclosed spaces—something that could be clearly outlined in any future law.



Trustee Collura stated that any decision to roll back Village laws should be made with careful consideration. She acknowledged that while circumstances may have changed since the original law was passed, she believed it was enacted for a reason. Trustee Collura expressed caution about making changes too easily and emphasized the importance of thoroughly evaluating the implications before altering existing regulations.

Mr. Cornelius added that one of his family's major concerns during the spring and summer months was ticks, which he and his daughters frequently encountered. He noted that chickens are natural predators of ticks and could serve as an effective, chemical-free method of tick control—especially given the presence of deer in the area, which are known to carry ticks. Mr. Cornelius expressed frustration that, while many people dislike deer, little is done to manage them, whereas chickens could help address the tick issue naturally.

He also shared his discomfort with the use of chemical sprays, noting that he prefers not to use them on his own yard and is troubled when neighbors use products that drift onto his property, especially when his daughters are playing outside. He emphasized that this was upsetting to him and further supported his preference for natural solutions like chickens. Mr. Cornelius reiterated his willingness to participate in a pilot program, involving just a few residents, to demonstrate responsible and well-regulated backyard chicken keeping.

Mayor Newhard acknowledged that a pilot program might be a good way to move forward. He noted that one of the concerns raised the last time the Village considered allowing backyard chickens—and one that had already resurfaced—was the potential to attract predator animals. He pointed out that the Village is surrounded by nature and that wildlife such as coyotes, raccoons, and other animals are already present in the area, suggesting that this would need to be considered carefully as part of any future discussions or programs.

Mr. Cornelius responded that predator concerns could be addressed as part of the pilot program through clear guidelines on safe chicken keeping practices. He emphasized that chicken owners naturally want to protect their animals and would be motivated to take appropriate precautions. By setting an example through the pilot program, participants could demonstrate effective ways to keep chickens safe from predators—educating others in the community who may not be familiar with proper methods. He suggested that this approach could help alleviate concerns while promoting responsible ownership.

Trustee Collura asked whether it was possible to determine the sex of a baby chick at the time of purchase, specifically if there was a way to know whether it was a rooster or a hen.

Mr. Cornelius explained that when chicks are purchased from a hatchery, they can be sexed—meaning their gender can be identified—with about 99% accuracy. While not guaranteed, he noted that it is very unlikely to end up with a rooster if hens are specifically requested.

Mr. Krahulik added to the discussion by recommending that the Village consult with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, an agency he described as extremely valuable in matters like this. He noted that the Department enforces the state's Right to Farm laws and can provide significant guidance and input when drafting related legislation. He shared an example involving the Town of Warwick, which had recently received a strongly worded letter from the Department regarding its restrictions on chicken coops. The issue arose when a property owner with a small lot sought to build a chicken coop that did not comply with the Town's zoning code. The Department of Ag and Markets indicated that the restriction could be seen as a violation of the Right to Farm law and urged the Town to find a resolution. Mr. Krahulik emphasized that there were many considerations to take into account.

There were no more comments.

**RAFA Systems LLC - Starlink**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to accept the proposal from RAFA Systems LLC for the purchase of Starlink devices including activation and subscription and a one-year Service Agreement Maintenance Plan at a cost not to exceed \$14,045. Funds are appropriated in budget code codes G8120-4500 and F8320-4550.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**2025 DOT and NON-DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing Agreements – Partners in Safety**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to authorize the Mayor to execute the 2025 DOT and NON-DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing Agreements with Partners in Safety and to authorize payment in the amount of \$870.00 for the 2025 DOT & NON-DOT Consortium Fees for the Drug and Alcohol Program at a rate of \$58.00 per employee. Funds are appropriated in budget code A 4010-4910 in the FY2024-25 budget.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Vacation Carryover – Christopher Bennett**

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

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Payment #2 – TAM Enterprises, Inc., Maple Avenue Booster Station Project**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to approve payment #2 in the amount of \$19,368.64 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the Relocation of the Maple Avenue Booster Station Project for the mobilization and site clearing on Grand Street as per the recommendation of Village Engineer, Barton & Loguidice. Funds are appropriated in budget code F8320.2000.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Payment #6 – TAM Enterprises, Inc., Pole Barn DPW Project**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to approve payment #6 in the amount of \$6,109.73 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the Pole Barn DPW Project for the completion of the remaining portions of the structure's exterior construction and the demobilization by the contractor, per the recommendation of Village Engineer, Keith Woodruff. Funds are appropriated in budget code A1640.2350.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Payment #7 – TAM Enterprises, Inc., Pole Barn DPW Project**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to approve payment #7 in the amount of \$11,598.50 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the Pole Barn DPW Project for the release of the 5% retainage, per the recommendation of Village Engineer, Keith Woodruff. The contracted project work, including demobilization, was completed by the contractor on January 23, 2025. Funds are appropriated in budget code A1640.2350.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Training Workshop - Mike Moser**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser, to attend the New York Rural Water Association's 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Technical Training Workshop & Exhibition from May 19, 2025 – May 21, 2025, at the Turning Stone Resort, Verona, NY with a registration fee of \$385 which includes breakfast & lunch on May 20<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> only, and \$174 per night for the hotel stay. Mileage reimbursement is not applicable, village vehicle will be used. Funds are appropriated in budget code F.8340.4750.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE  
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Village of Warwick has been awarded a grant to complete a comprehensive Town-Wide Transportation Safety Action Plan in collaboration with the Town of Warwick, the Village of Greenwood Lake, and the Village of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the parties to the Town-Wide Transportation Safety Action Plan wish to memorialize their shared and respective responsibilities for funding and implementing the Town-

Wide Transportation Safety Action Plan through execution of an Intermunicipal Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds the terms and conditions of the said Intermunicipal Agreement to be acceptable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board hereby approves the said Intermunicipal Agreement; and
2. That the Mayor is authorized to execute the Intermunicipal Agreement and any documents necessary to carry out the terms and provisions thereof.

Trustee McKnight 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    | Absent |
| Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting | Aye    |
| Mary Collura, Trustee, voting    | Aye    |
| Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting   | Aye    |

**Engineering & Surveying Properties - Veteran's Memorial Park Master Plan**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to accept the proposal from Engineering & Surveying Properties for project management services for the Veteran's Memorial Park Master Plan with a focus on the Patriot's Path and related improvements located at 1 Memorial Park Drive with a not-to-exceed cost of \$16,000 without

prior written authorization from the Village of Warwick Board of Trustees and authorize the mayor to sign the same. Funds are appropriated in Money in Lieu of Parks fund.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**Discussion**

Mayor Newhard informed the Trustees that the Village had received a substantial number of responses to the project proposal that had been put out. He expressed excitement about the interest shown and emphasized that, due to the complexity and level of detail involved in the submissions, it was essential for the Village Engineer to carefully review the proposals.

**2025-2026 Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to submit a 2025-2026 Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) grant application to support a Document Conversion and Access Project for the Offices of the Village Clerk & Village Treasurer and authorize the Mayor so sign the same.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**ICC Community Development Solutions – Laserfiche, Records Management -  
WITHDRAWN**

**MOTION** to approve the proposal from ICC Community Development Solutions for the purchase of Laserfiche, an Electronic Content Management System, at a cost not to exceed \$15,713 for the purchase of software, with licensing up to 100 users, two days of remote staff training, set up of Records Management process automation around implementing the NYS LGS-1 Schedule, two days of remote workflow training and the processing and upload of scanned images into the repository per the recommendation of Village Clerk/Records Management Officer, Raina Abramson. Project is subject to the award of a 2025-26 NYS Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant. Funds to be included in the FY2025-26 budget.

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

Trustee Cheney \_\_\_\_ Trustee Foster \_\_\_\_ Trustee Collura \_\_\_\_

Trustee McKnight \_\_\_\_ Mayor Newhard \_\_\_\_

### **EBizDocs - Records Management**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to approval the proposal from NYSID Preferred Source Vendor, eBizDocs, for the digitization and indexing of approximately 65.25 cubic feet of records or approximately 265,000 images per their proposal dated March 5, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$46,207.20 per the recommendation of Village Clerk/Records Management Officer, Raina Abramson. Project is subject to the award of a 2025-26 NYS Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant. Funds to be included in the FY2025-26 budget.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Absent Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

### **Warwick Civil Service Position – Additional Part-time Clerk**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to add (1) one additional Clerk position to the Village of Warwick Civil Service position control and authorize the Mayor to sign form MSD-222 in accordance with Orange County Civil Service requirements. Hiring part-time staff to this position is subject to the award of a 2025-26 NYS Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant in order to perform the required 100% record verification prior to records destruction. Funds to be included in the FY2025-26 budget.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Absent Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

### **Vacation Carryover – Raina Abramson**

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

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

Trustee Cheney Aye     Trustee Foster Absent     Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye     Mayor Newhard Aye

**Facility Use – Stanley Deming, Too Good to Toss**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to Wickham Works to use the east side of Stanley Deming Park for the Too Good to Toss event from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 30, 2025, through Sunday, June 1, 2025, with cleanup to be completed by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025. The request includes use of the basketball court and the lawn area around the handball court, use of restrooms and water fountains from Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, access to the water at the basketball courts for filling the tent weights, and 18 (eighteen) parking spaces near the entrance of the basketball court to be reserved for drop-off and pick-ups only. In coordination with DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser, Village of Warwick DPW is requested to: lock the back gate to the basketball court next to the tool shed; provide 15+ orange parking cones and reflective vests for parking volunteers; placement of 10 (ten) to 12 (twelve) garbage cans/recycling bins in the basketball court; designate parking in the grass behind the basketball courts and designate additional temporary accessible parking spaces on Parkway, close to the entrances of Stanley-Deming Park; and pickup of leftover items and trash on Monday, June 2, 2025. The Warwick Police, Fire, and EMS Departments have been notified of the event. The event details and traffic plan have been approved by DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser. The Village of Warwick will contribute up to half of the total event cost, with a maximum payment of approximately \$2,100, to cover the rental, delivery, set up, and pickup of tents, tables, and chairs. Funds are appropriated in FY2024-25 Budget Code A7550.4950. 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 Absent     Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye     Mayor Newhard Aye

**Facility Use – Stanley Deming, Kindergarten Picnic**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to Sanfordville Elementary School to hold a kindergarten class picnic in Stanley-Deming Park on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, and Wednesday, May 7, 2025, between 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a rain date of Thursday, May 8, 2025. Request includes use of restrooms. Completed park permit and proof of insurance have been received.



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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Facility Use – Stanley Deming, Second Grade Picnic**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to Park Avenue Elementary to hold a second-grade class picnic in Stanley-Deming Park on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, between 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a rain date of Thursday, June 5, 2025. Request includes use of restrooms. Completed park permit and proof of insurance have been received.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Facility Use – Railroad Green, Community Health Fair**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to the Union A.M.E. Church Missionary Society to use Railroad Green on Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a rain date of Saturday, June 14, 2025, for a Community Health Fair. The request includes access to electricity, a sound system with a DJ, placement of one portable toilet, and the setup of tents for the duration of the event. A completed facility use permit, proof of insurance, and the security deposit have been received.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Road Closure – Railroad Green, Community Health Fair**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to close Railroad Avenue on Saturday, June 7, 2025, with a rain date of Saturday, June 14, 2025, from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the benefit of the Union A.M.E. Church Community Health Fair.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Facility Use – Memorial Park Pavilion, Private Event**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to AnneMarie VanOrden to use the Veterans Memorial Park pavilion to hold a graduation party on Sunday, July 13, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with setup to begin at 10:00 a.m. and cleanup to be completed by 7:00 p.m. Request includes use of restrooms, sound systems, pavilion lights, and electricity. Request also includes the setup of (1) one stage inside the pavilion, (8) eight Village-owned tables, (80) eighty Village-owned chairs, and the Village-owned picnic tables. Three local bands to play between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Completed park permit, insurance, and security deposit have been received.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Schedule a Public Hearing - Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to schedule a public hearing on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW  
TO PERMIT OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN  
GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-c**

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick is preparing a municipal budget for fiscal year 2025–2026; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the 2025–2026 fiscal year will require a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c; and

WHEREAS, in order to approve the said budget it is necessary for the Village Board to enact a local law authorizing an override of the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Village of Warwick pursuant to GML §3-c, a copy of which is attached;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the movant of this resolution does hereby introduce the attached proposed local law; and
2. That a public hearing on the said local law is hereby set for April 7, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.; and
3. That the Village Clerk is hereby requested and directed to undertake publication and posting of notice of the public hearing.

Trustee Collura 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    | Absent |
| Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting | Aye    |
| Mary Collura, Trustee, voting    | Aye    |
| Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting   | Aye    |

**Discussion**

Mayor Newhard explained that, by law, the Village must adopt a local law allowing for the possibility of overriding the state-imposed 2% tax levy limit, should it become necessary during the budgeting process. He stressed that this does not mean an override will definitely occur, but it must be in place as a precaution. The Village has been engaged in budget planning for several weeks—if not months—and it has been a particularly challenging year. The Mayor highlighted rising costs of goods and services, noting that while the Board has worked hard to shield residents from these increases, the Village is also confronting double-digit increases in insurance premiums and police expenses.

Mayor Newhard emphasized the importance of public awareness regarding these financial pressures and pointed out that the final determination on whether the 2% cap can be maintained has not yet been made. He mentioned that the Town of Warwick recently completed its own budget and enacted a similar local law in preparation for a potential tax cap override, a move he expects will be seen in municipalities across New York State. He concluded by reminding residents that the Board shares their concerns—as they are Village residents and taxpayers as well—and is doing its best to act responsibly and in the community’s best interest.

**RESOLUTION ENACTING A LOCAL LAW  
IMPOSING A SIX-MONTH MORATORIUM ON LAND USE APPROVALS  
FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY FACILITIES INVOLVING  
ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

WHEREAS, heretofore the Village Board has considered the adoption of a local law entitled: “The Village of Warwick Temporary Moratorium on the Acceptance and Processing of Applications for Approval of Public Utility Facilities Involving Energy Storage Systems”; and

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board held a public hearing on the proposed local law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board determines that the adoption of this local law is a Type II Action under SEQRA; and

2. That the Village Board hereby adopts the local law; and
3. That the local law shall be effective immediately and shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State in Albany as required by applicable law.

Trustee McKnight 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    | Absent |
| Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting | Aye    |
| Mary Collura, Trustee, voting    | Aye    |
| Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting   | Aye    |

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW**  
**TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM**  
**RESIDENTIAL ("R") TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ("LI").**  
**AMENDED**

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has received a petition to change the zoning designation of certain real property located at 42 Orchard Street from Residential ("R") to Light Industrial ("LI"); and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has before it a proposed local law entitled: "A local law to amend Village Code Chapter 145 entitled 'Zoning' to change the zoning designation of certain real property located at 42 Orchard Street from Residential ('R') to Light Industrial ('LI')"; and

WHEREAS, in order to consider adoption of the proposed local law it is necessary to first introduce it, make the necessary referrals, and hold a public hearing upon it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the movant of this resolution does hereby introduce the attached proposed local law;
2. That a public hearing on the said local law is hereby set for May 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.;
3. That the Village Clerk shall publish and post notice of the public hearing;
4. Pursuant to Village Code §145-170, the Village Clerk shall transmit to the Village Planning Board a copy of the proposed local law for review and a report; and
5. Pursuant to General Municipal Law §239-m, the Village Clerk shall transmit to the County Planning Department copies of the proposed local law, the SEQRA EAF and the site plan application filed by the owner of the subject property; and
6. Pursuant to Village Code §145-171, prior to the public hearing the petitioner shall submit to the Village Clerk a list of the names and addresses of all owners of real property within five hundred (500) feet of the property affected or any other contiguous property of the petitioner in the same ownership; and
7. Pursuant to Village Code §145-171, prior to conducting the public hearing the petitioner shall provide the Village Board with proof that notice of the public hearing, including the date, place and time of such public hearing and a summary of the proposed zoning

amendment, has been mailed to all property owners on the aforesaid list via Certified Mail

Return Receipt Requested not less than seven (7) days before the date of such hearing.

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

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

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting \_\_\_\_\_

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting \_\_\_\_\_

Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Collura, Trustee, voting \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting \_\_\_\_\_

### **Discussion**

Trustee McKnight stated that he would like to amend the resolution to clarify that the proposed zoning change does not apply to the entire property at 42 Orchard Street, but specifically to the portion in the rear that is to be subdivided. He asked Village Attorney Steven Gaba for guidance on how best to include that clarification in the resolution.

Village Attorney Gaba began to respond by noting that the local law, which should be attached to the resolution, contains the specific language addressing the zoning change. He clarified that the packet indicates the zoning change applies only to a portion of the 42 Orchard Street property and includes a metes and bounds description of that specific area. Based on that documentation, Mr. Gaba believed the resolution was sufficiently clear and that the Board was covered in terms of specifying that the zoning change does not apply to the entire parcel.

Trustee McKnight emphasized the importance of having a standalone resolution that clearly reflects the specific details of the zoning change. He noted that for future reference, it would be helpful if the meeting minutes documented the discussion and made it clear that the zoning change pertains only to the rear portion of the property at 42 Orchard Street, not the entire lot.

Trustee Cheney pointed out that the local law included in the Board's packet specifies

that the zoning change applies to “Lot 2,” which aligns with the rear portion of the 42 Orchard Street property that is being subdivided. This designation helps clarify that the zoning change does not affect the entire lot.

Trustee McKnight agreed and reiterated his point that the resolution should explicitly match the language used in the local law by referencing “Lot 2.” He emphasized the importance of consistency between the documents to ensure clarity and avoid any future confusion.

Mr. Gaba explained to Trustee McKnight how to amend the motions to ensure that “Lot 2” is specifically identified in the resolution.

**Amend - Resolution introducing a proposed local law to change the zoning designation of certain real property from residential (“r”) to light industrial” (“li”).**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to amend the RESOLUTION INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM RESIDENTIAL (“R”) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL” (“LI”).

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW  
TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM  
RESIDENTIAL (“R”) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL” (“LI”).  
AMENDED**

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has received a petition to change the zoning designation of certain real property located at 42 Orchard Street from Residential (“R”) to Light Industrial (“LI”); and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has before it a proposed local law entitled: “A local law to amend Village Code Chapter 145 entitled ‘Zoning’ to change the zoning designation of Lot #2 in the subdivision of certain real property located at 42 Orchard



Street from Residential ('R') to Light Industrial ('LI'); and

WHEREAS, in order to consider adoption of the proposed local law it is necessary to first introduce it, make the necessary referrals, and hold a public hearing upon it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the movant of this resolution does hereby introduce the attached proposed local law;
2. That a public hearing on the said local law is hereby set for May 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.;
3. That the Village Clerk shall publish and post notice of the public hearing;
4. Pursuant to Village Code §145-170, the Village Clerk shall transmit to the Village Planning Board a copy of the proposed local law for review and a report; and
5. Pursuant to General Municipal Law §239-m, the Village Clerk shall transmit to the County Planning Department copies of the proposed local law, the SEQRA EAF and the site plan application filed by the owner of the subject property; and
6. Pursuant to Village Code §145-171, prior to the public hearing the petitioner shall submit to the Village Clerk a list of the names and addresses of all owners of real property within five hundred (500) feet of the property affected or any other contiguous property of the petitioner in the same ownership; and
7. Pursuant to Village Code §145-171, prior to conducting the public hearing the petitioner shall provide the Village Board with proof that notice of the public hearing, including the date, place and time of such public hearing and a summary of the proposed zoning

amendment, has been mailed to all property owners on the aforesaid list via Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested not less than seven (7) days before the date of such hearing.

Trustee McKnight 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    | Absent |
| Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting | Aye    |
| Mary Collura, Trustee, voting    | Aye    |
| Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting   | Aye    |

#### **Zoning Change - 42 Orchard Street**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to refer the zoning change, subdivision and site plan application of Vanessa Mann and M&L Equity Auto, LLC in regard to 42 Orchard Street to the Village's Engineering Consultant for review and a report on potential significant adverse environmental impacts under SEQRA. This is an Unlisted Action in which the Village Board is acting in an Uncoordinated Review.

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

|                             |                              |                            |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Trustee Cheney <u>Aye</u>   | Trustee Foster <u>Absent</u> | Trustee Collura <u>Aye</u> |
| Trustee McKnight <u>Aye</u> | Mayor Newhard <u>Aye</u>     |                            |

#### **Discussion**

Trustee Collura asked whether the resolution now needed to be revised to explicitly state "42 Orchard Street, Lot 2" in order to reflect the clarified language and ensure consistency with the local law.

Trustee McKnight clarified that the motion in question pertained solely to the engineering aspect of the proposal. He asked whether the project was considered "unlisted" or classified as a Type 2

under SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act).

Village Attorney Gaba responded that the project was classified as unlisted.

**Zoning Change Referral - 42 Orchard Street**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to refer the property description (Schedule “A”) for the requested zoning change to 42 Orchard Street on the petition of Vanessa Mann and M&L Equity Auto, LLC to the Village’s Engineering Consultant for review and confirmation that the description is adequate and correct.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Return of Escrow Balance - 92 Maple Avenue**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to return the Planning Board escrow balance of \$1,292.50 to Mr. & Mrs. De Yin Qui for a proposed two-family home at 92 Maple Ave. This account has been inactive since 2022. All invoices have been paid as per the email from Village Engineer, Keith Woodruff.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Justice Court Training Event – Karen Vermillion**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to return to grant permission to Clerk to the Justice Court, Karen Vermillion, to attend a one-day training event organized by the Town of Wallkill Court on Friday, March 28, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Town of Wallkill Court in Middletown, NY. The training is free to attend. Mileage reimbursement to apply.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye    Trustee Foster Absent    Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye    Mayor Newhard Aye

**Reports**

**Trustee Cheney's Report:**

Trustee Cheney reported that the streetlight project was nearing completion and expected to be finalized by the next Board meeting. He mentioned that he had personally stopped by to thank the installation crew for their work, noting that they had been very responsive to outages that occurred during the installation period. Additionally, the installers addressed resident concerns about certain lights shining onto houses and properties, making adjustments as needed. Trustee Cheney expressed appreciation for their efforts and responsiveness.

**Trustee Foster's Report:**

No report.

**Trustee Collura's Report:**

Trustee Collura announced that the Village newsletter was distributed last week. Printed copies were available at Village Hall and next door at the Tourism Center for anyone who wanted to pick up an additional copy.

Mayor Newhard asked whether the Tourism Center had been open on St. Patrick's Day and, upon confirmation, inquired if the Village was planning to move forward with having the center open on weekends.

Trustee Collura responded that she was holding off on a regular weekend schedule for the Tourism Center until the weather warmed up and activity in the Village increased. She noted that recent weekend hours had not been very busy, but once things picked up, they would move forward with creating a volunteer schedule. She added that the center was still seeking volunteers and encouraged anyone interested to email her.

**Trustee McKnight's Report:**

No report.

**Mayor Newhard's Report:**

Mayor Newhard provided an update on several internal projects and grant initiatives the Village is currently pursuing. He noted that the Records Management Grant has been largely completed, and the Village is now entering its second phase with additional applications. Other ongoing efforts include a feasibility study for the Route 94 multi-use

trail, the Safe Streets for All initiative, Patriot's Path improvements in Memorial Park, and the solar panel installation at the Department of Public Works garage. He acknowledged the complexity of managing these projects at various stages but credited the Village's dedicated staff and supportive consultants at both the state and federal levels for helping move them forward. The Mayor expressed pride in the number of grants the Village has applied for and successfully secured, noting that these projects will have a lasting impact on the community.

He also announced that Phase One of the skate park project in Memorial Park has begun, with excavation work now underway. The site is located next to the lower parking lot of the Albert Wisner Library on Village property. While several trees have been taken down to facilitate the work, Mayor Newhard assured residents that berms and new trees would be added to serve as buffers—especially along the McFarland pathway, which remains an important recreational feature. He acknowledged receiving some concerns about the tree removal but reiterated that efforts were being made to preserve the natural setting.

Lastly, Mayor Newhard reminded everyone that with spring's arrival, outdoor activity is increasing across the Village and Town. He urged residents and drivers to be mindful of speed limits and to stay alert, especially near parks and areas where families and children are active.

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

No comments.

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

No comments.

#### **Adjournment**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye      Trustee Foster Absent      Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye      Mayor Newhard Aye