

**VILLAGE OF FREEVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2025**

A Special Meeting was held by the Village Board of Trustees on January 22, 2025 at Village Hall for the purpose of discussing the Town of Dryden's LGE Grant Application.

Call to Order: Mayor McCarty called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Present: Mayor Miles McCarty, Trustees: Jason Cuykendall, David Fogel, Diana Radford, Stephanie Ortolano; Town of Dryden Board Member Dan Lamb

Town of Dryden Local Government Efficiency Grant Application: Town Board Member Dan Lamb answered Trustee questions regarding the purpose and scope of the Fire Department Study. Discussion was held regarding the benefits and drawbacks of the study, as well as the administration of fire and emergency services within the Town.

Motion was made by Trustee Fogel to approve the following resolution:

Support for Town of Dryden's LGE Grant Application for Fire Department Study

Whereas, the Town of Dryden Town Board has been responsible for reviewing budgets and contracts for three fire departments within the Town, Neptune Hose Company, W.B. Strong, and Varna Volunteer Fire Department,

Whereas, two of the three departments are in corresponding villages, Neptune Hose in the village of Dryden and W.B. Strong in the village of Freeville,

Whereas, the Town Board is concerned at the increasing costs of the operating and equipment costs of the fire departments and the challenge of understanding the many unique needs of the departments,

Whereas, the Town of Dryden is interested in having an independent consultant review the best options for the fire departments for long term continuity of services,

Whereas, the Town of Dryden is applying for a New York State Local Governmental Efficiency (LGE) Grant that would provide a grant to cover 50% of the cost of a study,

Whereas, the Town of Dryden will pay the local match required by the state and the study will be done at no cost to the villages of Dryden or Freeville.

Whereas, the Town of Dryden included in their 2025 budget funds to pay the local share of the grant and the villages will not be responsible for any of the cost of the study.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Village Board of Trustees supports the Town of Dryden's application for an LGE grant for a study for the long-term planning of the Town fire departments.

Seconded by Trustee Ortolano. Trustee Radford, Trustee Fogel, and Trustee Ortolano voted aye. Mayor McCarty and Trustee Cuykendall voted nay. With a majority of three 'aye' votes, motion passed.

Trustee Cuykendall motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Ortolano seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Murray
Village Clerk-Treasurer