VILLAGE OF FREEVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
August 4, 2026

A special meeting of the Village of Freeville Board of Trustees was held on August 4, 2026, at the Village Hall.

Call to Order: Mayor McCarty called the meeting to order at 5:53PM.

Present: Mayor Miles McCarty; Trustees: Juan Vazquez-Leddon, Anusuya Rangarajan, Will Olson; Residents Pamela and Paul Bateman, Dennis and Shirley Ray; Fire District Representatives Michael Perehinec, Steve Shahan; Clerk-Treasurer Julia Wallace; Planning board Member Diane Eaton.

Privilege of the Floor:
Fire District representatives Michael Perehinec and Steve Shahan addressed the Board regarding what to expect with the soon-to-be implemented fire district. They gave a list of meeting dates to be aware of and answered board member questions regarding fire taxation, their responsibilities, and expectations as to when the district will take effect. They are hoping to have everything implemented and running by the beginning of 2028. The also took some time to discuss what a fire district is and the pros and cons to implementing one. The Village of Freeville remains responsible for their fire department and their worker's comp through December of 2027. Fire district representatives assured that they'd be fiscally assisting us with this as much as possible.

Residents from Fall Creek Road, Paul and Pamela Bateman And Dennis and Shirley Ray, addressed the board with the growing concerns surrounding wastewater management and pump station operations affecting their properties. Mr. Bateman presented the board with a container of water he believes to be sewage that has been spreading throughout the basement at 8 Fall Creek Road. Mrs. Ray expressed her frustrations regarding how long this has been an issue for and asked about solutions. Mayor McCarty assured them that the Lehigh Crossing Pump Station would be fully fixed and operational by next week. The residents also thanked Dylan Schlee for his attention to this issue and for manually keeping the pump working while it was inoperable.

Minutes: Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Vazquez-Leddon seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Planning Board Minutes: There were no planning board minutes to approve given that the June Planning Board meeting was canceled. Planning Board Member Diane Eaton caught the board up with Planning Board operations. Chirs Little of Stone and Tile Tech addressed their board seeking a renewal on an expired permit on his property. They are looking to perform a site plan review for him at their next meeting.

Public Works: DPW employee Dylan Schlee was present to give the board an update on public works proceedings. He cleaned up several trees and fallen branches after thunderstorms swept through the Village and has been doing his best to keep our portion of the rail trail free of debris. He also mentioned that his request for training and hotel accommodation was included in this month's agenda and welcomed the board to ask him any questions about it if they felt the need to.

Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the public works report. Trustee Rangarjan seconded. All members voted in favor. motion passed.

Treasurer: Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Rangarjan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Code Enforcement: Trustee Vazquez-Leddon made a motion to approve the code enforcement report. Trustee Rangarajan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk: Trustee Olson motioned to approve the Clerk Report. Trustee Vazquez-Leddon seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed.

Vouchers: Trustee Olson motioned to approve abstract #0826. Trustee Rangarajan seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed.

Old Business:

DEC / WWTP: Mayor McCarthy reported that he will be scheduling a meeting between himself, Village Engineer Jeff Tubolino, WWTP operator Jeremy Jacot, Clerk-Treasurer Julia Wallace, and DPW employee Dylan Schlee to ensure everyone is on the same page about the next steps in the long-term WWTP revitalization project. He will keep the board informed as to what he learns at this meeting. Mayor McCarty also discussed the pros and cons of hiring Fleet versus W2O to fix the Lehigh Crossing Pump Station as this replacement has become an emergency for residents living nearby.

ZBA Board Chair Reversal: Clerk-Treasurer Wallace explained that a miscommunication caused Mike Whalen to be appointed as ZBA Chair. This appointment has since been reversed as Kristen Olson plans on staying on as ZBA Chair until the end of her term in 2027.

New Business:

Dylan Schlee's Request for Training and Hotel Stay Coverage: DPW employee Dylan Schlee submitted a letter to the board requesting that they cover the cost of his next WWTP operator training and hotel stay this coming November. He explained that this training is required for him to get his 2A WWTP operator license. Clerk-Treasurer Wallace presented a report that details the cost of hotels for that range of dates in the area, the cost of the class, and the cost of mileage reimbursements. The board moved that Clerk-Treasurer Wallace should create a budget mod moving funds from the gifts/donations fund of the sewer budget to cover these accommodations. This budget mod will be voted on at the next regularly scheduled BOT meeting.

INHS Easement Resolution: Trustee Vazquez-Leddon made a motion to approve and certify the following resolution:

VILLAGE OF FREEVILLE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A Resolution Approving the Form of a Certain Easement and Accepting Its Dedication

WHEREAS, the Village of Freeville has been presented with a proposed easement granting the Village certain rights necessary for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has reviewed the form and content of said easement and finds it acceptable and in the best interest of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to formally accept the dedication of the easement and authorize execution and filing of all related documents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Freeville hereby approves the form of the easement as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village hereby accepts the dedication of said easement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to execute the easement and any related documents on behalf of the Village, and to coordinate filing of the fully-executed easement with the Tompkins County Clerk's Office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized to provide written permission to Guy Krogh, Esq., to file the fully-executed easement and any related documents with the Tompkins County Clerk's Office on behalf of the Village, and to ensure that all required filing materials are properly transmitted and indexed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of August, 2026 by the Village of Freeville Board of Trustees.

Trustee Rangarajan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Adjournment: Trustee Vazquez-Leddon motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Rangarajan seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:59PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Wallace
Village Clerk