

VILLAGE OF FREEVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
September 1, 2026

A special meeting of the Village of Freeville Board of Trustees was held on September 1, 2026, at the Village Hall.

Call to Order: Mayor McCarty called the meeting to order at 6:06PM.

Present: Mayor Miles McCarty; Trustees: Stephanie Ortolano, Anusuya Rangarajan, Will Olson; Clerk-Treasurer Julia Wallace; Planning Board Chairman Tom Cavataio.

Privilege of the Floor:

Planning Board Chairman Tom Cavataio addressed the board with updates from the Planning Board. Chris Little, business owner of Stone & Tile Tec at 11 Fall Creek Road, is working with the Planning Board to get an expired building permit reopened for a building addition he'd like built. He has paid for a Site Plan Review which is required due to the parcel's existence in the floodplain. The Planning Board has also started to make grammatical corrections to Article 4 of the LUDC and wants to implement a system for reporting when new local laws are adopted into the LUDC. Clerk-Treasurer Wallace assured Chairman Cavataio that she would notify him anytime a law is passed that impacts the content of the code. Lastly, Chairman Cavataio is also the leading force on the Freeville Tree Planting Program. He gave an update regarding their continued efforts to clean up the Genung Nature Preserve trails and also announced that he is starting to locate trees for their 9th annual tree planting.

Minutes: Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting and the August 20, 2026 Special BOT meeting minutes. Trustee Rangarajan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Planning Board Minutes: Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the Planning Board meeting minutes from their July 28, 2026 and August 25, 2026 meetings. Trustee Rangarajan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Public Works: Trustee Olson made a motion to approve the public works report. Trustee Rangarajan seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

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

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

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

Vouchers: Trustee Olson motioned to approve abstract #0926. Trustee Rangarajan seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed.

Old Business:

DEC / WWTP: Mayor McCarthy reported that he will be attending a web meeting with the Town of Dryden's water committee on September 28, 2026 alongside Village Engineer Jeff Tubolino. The purpose of the meeting is to keep this board informed on the upcoming steps of the long-term WWTP project.

DPW Training Budget Mod: Trustee Rangarajan Made a motion to approve the following budget modification:

Village of Freeville					
Board of Trustee Meeting September 1, 2026					
FY 2026-2027 Budget Modifications					
General Fund Modifications					
Expense Accounts					
Account	Description	From	To	Difference	Balance
GG2770	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,614.00	0.00	1,614.00	1,614.00
GG8130.4	Sewer Plant Contractual, Training	275.00	1,889.00	(1,614.00)	0.00
To cover the training and hotel costs for DPW employee Dylan Schlee					

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

Fall Creek Parcel Acquisition: Confusion arose after reading the letter from Tompkins County regarding parcel 2.-1-2 on Fall Creek Road. Clerk-Treasurer Wallace was under the impression that the County would be buying the parcel from the Village, as negotiations on this have occurred since 2023. Trustees asked that Wallace could clarify with the county on who the purchasing agent is so they can anticipate the sale to the county or the purchase of the parcel for a total of \$1,000.

Chevy Dump Truck Sealed Bid: Trustee Rangarajan made a motion to approve the following resolution:

Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Sealed Bids for the Sale of the 2019 Chevrolet Silverado Dump Truck

WHEREAS, the Village owns a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado dump truck currently assigned to the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle is no longer needed for current or future Village operations; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has determined that it is in the best interest of the Village to sell the vehicle in accordance with New York State General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the condition, mileage, and market value of the vehicle and has established an asking price of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Freeville Board of Trustees hereby declares the 2019 Chevrolet Silverado dump truck as surplus equipment and authorizes the solicitation of sealed bids for its sale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that sealed bids will be accepted beginning September 1, 2026, and must be received by the Village Clerk no later than Monday, October 5, 2026 at 11:00 AM, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minimum acceptable bid shall be \$70,000, however the Board reserves the right to consider and accept bids below the asking price if deemed in the best interest of the Village; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Clerk-Treasurer Wallace and DPW Employee Dylan Schlee are hereby authorized to advertise and distribute notice of the sealed-bid opportunity to municipalities and municipal equipment networks, including but not limited to DPW departments and highway departments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Clerk Wallace and Mr. Schlee are authorized to provide photographs, specifications, maintenance records, and any additional information reasonably required by interested municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any final sale shall be subject to approval by the Village Board of Trustees and executed in accordance with all applicable laws and procedures.

ADOPTED AND PASSED this first day of September, 2026 by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Freeville.

Trustee Orolano seconded. All members voted in favor. Resolution adopted.

New Business:

Tompkins Trust Lockbox: Trustees discussed whether opening a lockbox for the collection of tax and sewer payments at Tompkins Trust would be in the best interest for the Village and its residents. Mayor McCarty explained that they've had this idea in the past and that the staff at Tompkins Trust is always happy to meet to answer questions. With previous conversations about switching biannual sewer billing over to quarterly in the 2028 fiscal year, the board discussed whether it would be smart to utilize a "trial run" during our next biannual cycle. Clerk-Treasurer Wallace said she'd prepare a report which will answer board member questions about autopay, internal changes, etc. which they can review at the next meeting.

Fiscal Request for Genung Nature Preserve: A resident submitted a budgetary request to Clerk-Treasurer Wallace requesting funds to replace some of the walking beams at the Genung Nature Preserve. It was discussed that a precedent has already been set that no donations would be distributed to volunteer or nonprofit groups this year given the nature of our budget. Accepting this proposal would go against this precedent. Trustee Rangarajan made a motion to reject the proposal. Trustee Olson seconded. All members voted in favor. Proposal rejected.

Trustee Rangarajan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Olson seconded. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Wallace
Village Clerk