

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

10,912

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, October 20, 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 Village Clerk, Raina Abramson and Village Attorney, Benjamin Gailey. Absent was Village Attorney, Isabelle Hayes. Others present, Barton & Loguidice representatives, Karen Clark and Rich Straut (virtual).

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

Acceptance of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried for the Acceptance of Minutes: October 6, 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

Acceptance of Reports

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried for the Acceptance of Reports – September 2025: Clerk’s Office & Tax Collection Report, Treasurer’s Statement of Revenue and Expenditures, Justice Department, Planning Department, Building Department, and Department of Public Works. All reports are on file in the Clerk’s Office.

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 Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$637,789.43.

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

1. Police Report.

No report.

Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to enter into Executive Session to seek confidential advice of counsel.

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

In Executive Session: Mayor Newhard, Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Mary Collura and Thomas McKnight. Village Attorney Benjamin Gailey, Village Clerk Raina Abramson, Barton & Loguidice Engineers, Karen Clark & Rich Straut.

Exit Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to exit Executive Session and resume the regular meeting at approximately 8:00 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

Announcements

1. Overnight parking, between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., on Village streets, is prohibited from November 1st through April 1st.

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.

No comments.

Vacation Carry Over – Mike Finelli

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to Village of Warwick Employee, Mike Finelli, 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

RESOLUTION
VILLAGE OF WARWICK BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LOAN TO WELL #3 CAPITAL PROJECT FUND

WHEREAS: The Village is installing Well #3 and related infrastructure to improve its water supply system, which capital project is paid in part by a grant awarded by EPA Clean Water Drinking Grant, and expensed from the Well #3 Capital Project Fund (H fund). The current balance in the H fund is not sufficient to pay current project expenses, although the Board of Trustees anticipates receiving grant funds prior to the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year. Accordingly, the Board intends to authorize a loan from the Water (F fund) to the H fund, which loan will be paid back to the Water (F fund) upon receipt of grant funding.

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes a loan in the amount of \$717,629.39 from the Water (F fund) to the Well #3 Capital Project Fund (H fund), which loan shall be paid back to the F fund upon receipt of grant funding.

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 how much of the \$717,000 loan to the Well #3 Capital Project Fund would be used to pay existing vendor obligations versus how much would cover future project costs yet to be incurred.

Trustee Cheney responded that his understanding was that the \$717,000 loan was intended to cover the full cost of the project.

Trustee McKnight asked if there was an estimate of the expenses already incurred for the project. He also questioned what would happen if the Board chose to delay moving the resolution forward until confirmation was received regarding the anticipated grant funding.

Trustee Cheney stated that while it was not necessary to enter executive session to discuss the matter, the Board currently had a contractor bill before them for approval that evening. He explained that the Village had outstanding obligations to the contractor and that withholding payment would not be in the Village's best interest. He added that although the Village was not required to retain the contractor, it would be unfair to delay payment for completed work.

Trustee McKnight clarified that he was not suggesting withholding payment for any work already completed. He asked how much funding would be needed to bring the project current on existing expenses and how those costs could be separated from the expenses associated with the final phase of the project. He also inquired whether all payments were being handled through a single vendor working on a set schedule.

Trustee Cheney explained that there were essentially two vendors involved in the project and that both were expected to be about 90% complete within approximately a month and a half. He stated that based on the existing contracts with the electrical and general contractors, the allocated funds would be needed to cover nearly the entire project cost by the end of the year.

Trustee Foster asked for clarification, noting that the grant was a cost-reimbursable type. She inquired whether the Village would need to pay the project costs upfront and then receive reimbursement afterward, rather than receiving the funds proactively.

Trustee Cheney explained that the funding for the project consisted of two components. The first was the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) allocation, which the Village already had in hand and was separate from the rest of the funding. The second component was a grant from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), secured through Congressman Ryan's office. He noted that he was unsure how far along the process was in finalizing that grant and believed that Pitingaro & Doetsch had been handling the related work. He added that the Village had not yet signed any grant agreements for that portion of the funding.

Trustee Foster noted that the Village had received an award letter for the EPA grant.

Trustee McKnight acknowledged that the grant process was progressing and commented that it appeared to be moving in the right direction, though the timeline was somewhat delayed.

Trustee Foster asked whether the Village was permitted to move forward with the project before a formal grant agreement had been executed.

Trustee Cheney confirmed that the Village had asked that question at the outset to ensure that proceeding with the project would not jeopardize the grant.

Trustee McKnight agreed that the project was a critical piece of infrastructure that needed to be completed. He clarified that his question was primarily about the project's timing, noting that he was not familiar with the schedule of fees outlined in the contract.

Trustee Foster confirmed that the project was already well underway, noting that during their recent site visit, there had been a significant amount of activity taking place.

Trustee McKnight asked which vendors were involved in the project.

Trustee Cheney stated that Pitingaro & Doetsch were the engineers for the project, TAM was serving as the general contractor, and Joseph Warren was the electrical contractor.

Trustee McKnight asked whether the amount stated in the resolution represented the total project cost.

Trustee Cheney explained that the amount in the resolution was calculated by the Village Treasurer, based on the projected total cost of the project and the expenses incurred to date, with the ARPA funding also factored in.

Trustee McKnight indicated his understanding.

Trustee Foster explained that the Village had not allocated enough funds in the H Fund in advance of the project expenses. She clarified that the resolution simply allowed for money to be temporarily transferred until the Village received reimbursement.

Well #3 – TAM Enterprises, Payment #12

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to approve payment #12 in the amount of \$140,953.29 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 H.8330.2000.

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

Safe Street for All – Transportation Planner, Creighton Manning Engineering & Surveying

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Creighton Manning Engineering & Surveying to provide transportation planning services for two transportation safety initiatives under the Safe Streets 4 All Grant: (1) Townwide Transportation Safety Action Plan and (2) Slow Down Warwick Demonstration Projects, at a total cost not to exceed \$239,260.00 and to sign the same. Funds are appropriated in budget code H-8097-2000.

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

Facility Use Request – Veterans Memorial Park, Warwick Youth Lacrosse Club

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to grant permission to Warwick Youth Lacrosse Club to use Veterans Memorial Park for practices on October 27, 2025, November 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, and 21, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Request includes use of restrooms and use of electricity for the football/Over 35 Field lights. Events 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. Approval pending the receipt of field light fee.

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 McKnight asked for clarification regarding the condition stating that events “must be in coordination with other activities.” He questioned whether the Village was responsible for that coordination.

Mayor Newhard clarified that the coordination would be handled by the organizations themselves.

Trustee Collura added that the groups involved were accustomed to this process and regularly coordinated their schedules with one another.

2025-26 LGRMIF – Acceptance of Proposal from ICC Community Development Solutions

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to accept the proposal from ICC Community Development Solutions for the purchase of Laserfiche, an Electronic Content Management System, at a total project cost not to exceed \$15,713 for: (1) the purchase of software, with licensing up to 100 users, at a cost of \$3,418, (2) two days of remote staff training at a cost of \$2,800, (3) set up of Records Management process automation around implementing the NYS LGS-1 Schedule at a cost of \$1,695, (4) two days of remote workflow training at a cost of \$2,800, and (5) the processing and upload of scanned images into the repository at a cost of \$5,000 per the recommendation of Village Clerk/Records Management Officer, Raina Abramson and part of the 2025-26 NYS Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant award. Funds are appropriated in FY25-26 budget code A1410.4950.

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

Reports

Trustee Cheney’s Report:

Trustee Cheney reiterated that the DEC had issued a drought watch, which is the first of four levels used to indicate issues with precipitation and water availability. In response, the Village

had established voluntary water restrictions, asking residents and businesses to cease outside water use such as car washing and lawn watering, and to conserve water indoors wherever possible. He noted that additional information on water conservation was available on the [Village website](#).

He also provided an update on the New York State Department of Transportation paving project. The night work at West Street and Main Street had been completed, including the installation of new storm drainage structures. Sidewalk crews were returning to work on the east side of Oakland Avenue, where construction had paused for some time, and were expected to complete the majority of that work by the end of the following week.

Trustee Cheney added that winter work would be limited and dependent on weather conditions, focusing on small tasks rather than large-scale projects. He reported that the Bellvale-to-Village stretch had been milled, and milling of the Route 94 section from the state line to the Village was scheduled for the current and following week. Paving for both sections was expected to be completed prior to Thanksgiving. He concluded by urging drivers to use caution in construction zones, follow posted signs and detours, and pay attention to flaggers for the safety of the workers.

Trustee Foster's Report:

Trustee Foster reported that the skate park officially opened over the weekend, noting that Mayor Newhard gave a beautiful speech during the event. She described it as a wonderful community effort and said the park would be a great resource for the Village. She added that it was exciting to see so many people come out to celebrate the opening.

She also provided an update on the Safe Streets for All art initiative, sharing that the open call to local artists had resulted in 14 qualifying submissions, all of which were of very high quality. The committee planned to meet the following Wednesday to score the submissions. Trustee Foster mentioned that she had already reviewed them several times and was impressed by the strength of the entries. She added that while some additional submissions were received, only those within the required local area were eligible, noting that one even came from as far away as Scotland.

Trustee Foster noted that the Village would be moving forward with the contract for Creighton Manning, which would allow work to begin on the Town-wide Transportation Safety Action Plan in the near future.

Trustee Foster continued by announcing the upcoming third annual *Witches Night Out*, a Warwick Merchants Collective event scheduled for October 30. She described it as a fun evening

of dining, shopping, raffles, and spirits taking place along Main Street, Railroad Avenue, West Street, and surrounding areas. She added that she enjoys participating herself each year and is usually unrecognizable because she goes all out with her costume.

Mayor Newhard remarked that the event is always remarkable, noting that when he looks across his store that evening, he often sees dozens of witches' hats—sometimes fifty or more—and that the costumes are truly impressive.

Trustee Collura's Report:

Trustee Collura shared several Halloween-related updates. She announced that the second annual *Warwick If You Dare* self-guided Halloween Home Map was now available on the Village website, featuring 13 decorated homes this year. She noted that the event had become very popular, with many residents and visitors driving around to enjoy the displays.

She reminded everyone that there was still time to enter the *Scare the Mayor* contest by emailing the Village Clerk at clerk@villageofwarwick.org by October 27, and said it was an event the community looks forward to each year.

Trustee Collura also reported that the Warwick Valley Community Center would be hosting its annual Haunted House on October 23, 24, and 25 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. This year's theme would be *The Twilight Zone*, and tickets could be purchased through the [Community Center's website](#).

Lastly, she announced that on Sunday, October 26, Warwick Cares, in collaboration with the Warwick Valley Prevention Coalition, the Town of Warwick, and the Village of Greenwood Lake, would host a *Mind Matters* event at Ben Winstanley Park from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event, organized by Aina Sellier of Warwick Cares, would focus on mental health and depression awareness and include speakers, informational resources, wellness organizations, food vendors, and music by Sound by Mylez.

Trustee McKnight's Report:

Trustee McKnight reported on the solar project at the DPW building, noting that progress had been slower than anticipated due to the contractor needing to revisit and inspect a few issues. He stated that he would be meeting with the contractor and the Village engineer on Wednesday morning to review the project status and determine the next steps, adding that he and Village Attorney Benjamin Gailey would need to assess where things currently stand.

Trustee McKnight continued by explaining that there were some questions regarding the payment schedule for the solar project, as it did not align with the timing of the grant funds. He stated that upon contract signing, the Village would receive 25% of the grant amount, with the remaining 75% issued once the system was operational. However, most project costs would need to be paid prior to installation, requiring the Village to temporarily use funds from another source until reimbursement was received. He noted that the grant operated on a direct-pay reimbursement basis and that he had already discussed the matter with the Village Treasurer.

He also reported that Barton & Loguidice had submitted a proposal for the Climate Adaptation Plan grant. The proposal estimated an out-of-pocket cost of approximately \$20,000, with an additional \$5,000 in in-kind services. He said the figures were consistent with previous discussions and anticipated that the project would move forward toward a resolution.

Trustee Foster asked whether the Board should wait for the outcome of the EFC (Environmental Facilities Corporation) INI (Inflow and Infiltration) study before committing to the Climate Adaptation Plan, expressing concern about the potential need to repay \$15,000.

Trustee Cheney explained that the funds in question came from different sources. He stated that the \$15,000 referenced by Trustee Foster would be covered by the Sewer Fund, noting that approximately \$100,000 had been set aside specifically for ongoing inflow and infiltration work. He added that the Climate Adaptation Plan expenses discussed by Trustee McKnight would come from the General Fund.

Trustee McKnight added that the purpose of developing the Climate Adaptation Plan was to position the Village to be more competitive when applying for future infrastructure-related grants.

Mayor Newhard asked whether Trustee McKnight planned to move forward with a resolution for the Climate Adaptation Plan.

Trustee McKnight confirmed that he would like to proceed with a resolution for the Climate Adaptation Plan and asked Village Attorney Benjamin Gailey for assistance in drafting it. He said he would ensure that Mr. Gailey had the most up-to-date version of the proposal.

Mayor Newhard's Report:

Mayor Newhard began by reflecting on the recent opening and dedication of the Village Skate Park, thanking the members of the Warwick Skatepark Initiative for their decade-long fundraising and perseverance. He expressed special appreciation to former Trustee Bill Lindberg

for his leadership and dedication to the project, noting that his commitment and engagement were instrumental to its success. The Mayor praised the entire committee for their efforts.

He then extended his gratitude to the Warwick Town Police for their excellent work maintaining public safety during the “No Kings Day” rally held on Railroad Avenue over the weekend. He explained that the police had requested the placement of large Village trucks at both ends of the block for security reasons and had maintained direct communication with event organizers for over a month leading up to the rally. He commended Chief Rader and his officers for their professionalism and preparation, noting that the event took place on a busy Saturday and proceeded smoothly without incident.

Mayor Newhard also announced that on Sunday, October 26, the Village would have two tents at the Farmers Market—one dedicated to the *New York Forward* grant and the other to the *Patriots Path* project at Veterans Memorial Park. He stated that the landscape architect would be on site gathering public feedback on the Patriots Path design, while he and members of the *New York Forward* task force would be present at the other tent to assist with community outreach. He mentioned that a survey, accessible through a QR code, had already received a strong response. As part of the *New York Forward* outreach efforts, the Mayor said a “walkabout” with local architects would take place the following day. The group would tour the Village’s historic and commercial districts, and possibly some of the parks, to share design ideas and vision-based observations that would help inform future planning. He noted that this exercise always yielded valuable insights.

Additionally, Mayor Newhard shared that on Thursday morning at 7:45 a.m., he would meet with the Park Avenue School Student Council to discuss ways to make the Village more beautiful and enjoyable for children. He said these community engagement efforts were an important part of preparing the Village’s *New York Forward* application.

He concluded his report by expressing enthusiasm for the ongoing projects and noted that the Board would need to return to executive session.

Public Comment – *Non-Agenda Items*

No comments.

Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to enter into Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

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

In Executive Session: Mayor Newhard, Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Mary Collura and Thomas McKnight and Village Attorney, Benjamin Gailey.

Exit Closed Session and Adjourn Regular Meeting

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight and carried to exit Executive Session and adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 9:15 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

Raina M. Abramson, Village Clerk