

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
OCTOBER 6, 2025**

10,879

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, October 6, 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 Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante. Others present, John Peruso, Gail Hoffer-Loibl, and Donald H. Fletcher, P.E. from Barton & Loguidice (virtually).

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

Mayor Newhard began the meeting by recognizing the Warwick Valley Chamber of Commerce for the success of Applefest. He commended everyone involved for their hard work in making the event such a success and expressed appreciation for the Warwick Town Police, noting their strong presence helped ensure the festival felt safe and well-organized. He also thanked the additional law enforcement and emergency personnel who assisted, including officers from Chester, Greenwood Lake, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the State Police, and EMS.

Trustee Foster added that the police presence at Applefest was always positive, noting that the officers carried themselves with kindness and professionalism, contributing to the overall welcoming atmosphere of the event.

Trustee Collura added that Warwick Valley Telephone deserved recognition for providing free Wi-Fi during Applefest. She said this was a major improvement for both vendors and Main Street merchants, many of whom had previously experienced difficulties with their service and credit card machines during the event. The free Wi-Fi also benefited festival attendees, making the overall experience smoother and more convenient.

Mayor Newhard agreed, stating that Warwick Valley Telephone's contribution made a significant difference for everyone involved. He expressed appreciation for their support and again congratulated all those who contributed to making Applefest a success.

Acceptance of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried for the Acceptance of Minutes: September 15, 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

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Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$245,339.19.

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. Call to Artists – The Village of Warwick is inviting local and regional artists to submit their qualifications to design and execute temporary public art projects for the Slow Down Warwick campaign.

Trustee Foster announced a call to artists for qualifications as part of the “Slow Down Warwick” campaign. She explained that the Village was inviting local and regional artists to design and implement temporary public art projects funded through an 80% federal share grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Safe Streets for All initiative. The purpose of the project was to test various roadway painting techniques and other temporary measures aimed at reducing speeding and crashes. Ten sites would be selected based on injury and crash data, with one to three artists chosen to create street murals and other visual interventions at these locations. Trustee Foster noted that some projects might alter roadway shapes to encourage safer driving behaviors and that artists with experience in large-scale mural work or community-engaged art were especially encouraged to apply. She emphasized the importance of collaboration between the selected artists, Village officials, transportation safety engineers, and planners to make the infrastructure more visible and effective.

Trustee Foster continued by explaining that combining art with infrastructure was intentional, as visible design changes have been shown to influence driver behavior more effectively while also enhancing the community’s visual appeal. She said data strongly supports the success of such approaches, and the Village intended to test which methods worked best locally. The results would be compiled into a report that could inform similar efforts throughout the Town. She added that full details and photos of example projects were available on the Village website, with applications for artists due by October 14.

2. Village of Warwick Fall Leaf Pickup.

Trustee Cheney announced that the Village of Warwick would begin leaf pickup on November 3 and asked residents to avoid placing leaves out too early, especially before Halloween, to prevent them from being scattered. He reminded everyone that leaves must be placed at the curb in paper bags and that the final pickup would begin on December 8. To ensure collection, all leaves should be curbside before that date. He also noted that residents could bring bagged leaves to the Village's brush pile at the Department of Public Works site in Veterans Memorial Park, which would be open every Saturday and Sunday in October and November from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

3. Voluntary Water Restriction

Trustee Cheney reported that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation had issued a drought watch for the region, noting that a watch is the first of four drought advisory levels—followed by warning, emergency, and disaster. While no statewide mandatory restrictions were in place, residents were strongly encouraged to voluntarily conserve water. He explained that the Village's reservoir capacity had been reduced due to the lack of precipitation, prompting the Village to issue voluntary water restrictions. To address the situation, the Village was drawing more water from Well No. 2 through the microfiltration plant in Memorial Park and would forgo the third scheduled system-wide flushing unless conditions improved. Residents were asked to conserve water by eliminating outdoor uses such as watering lawns, washing vehicles, and filling pools, and to wash only full loads of laundry and dishes. Trustee Cheney said additional water conservation tips could be found on the Village [website](#) and urged everyone to follow the voluntary measures to help prevent escalation from a drought watch to a warning.

4. All Things Halloween!

Trustee Collura announced several upcoming Halloween events in the Village of Warwick. She said the Village Recreation Department and the Warwick Lions Club would host the annual Spooktacular Halloween Costume Parade on Friday, October 31. Lineup would begin at 4:30 p.m. on High Street, with the parade starting at 5:00 p.m. and proceeding down Main Street to Railroad Avenue. A costume contest with prizes would follow on Railroad Avenue, featuring categories for Most Original, Scariest, Best Group/Family, and Cutest, divided into age groups ranging from infants to adults. Refreshments would be sponsored by ShopRite of Warwick.

She also announced the return of the Village's ninth "Scare the Mayor" contest, inviting residents to compete for the scariest and most creative Halloween-decorated house. The

contest was free to enter and open to Village residents, though previous first-place winners would not be eligible to win first place again. Residents could register by calling Village Hall or emailing the Clerk's Office by October 27. Judging would take place on October 29, when Mayor Newhard and guest judges would visit participating homes to select first-, second-, and third-place winners, which would be announced on the Village website. One home would also receive the Carl Schleible Award for Exemplary Skill and Thematic Creativity, honoring the late Planning Board member who originated the haunted house on Oakland Court.

Trustee Collura added that the Village would again host the "Warwick, If You Dare" Halloween House Self-Guided Tour, compiling a list of decorated homes for residents to visit. Those wishing to participate could email her by October 8 to have their addresses included. Maps would be available on the Village's Facebook page and at Village Hall the prior to October 17th. She noted that she had developed the event the previous year with the help of Village resident, John DeLuca.

Correspondence

1. Email from Village resident, Allison Meyerson, commending Village of Warwick Water Department Employee, Chris Kane, for his outstanding service and dedication.
2. Email from St. Anthony Community Hospital Facilities Management commending Water Distribution Supervisor, Christopher Bennett and Water Department staff, Dylan Gerster and Chris Kane for their foresight, coordination, communication, and professionalism during the replacement of multiple water meters and recent water main breaks.
3. Letter from Village resident, John Peruso, requesting the consideration of leasable parking spaces in the municipal parking lot at the corner of Wheeler Avenue and Cherry Street.
4. Report from Village Engineer, Jane Samuelson, of Engineering & Surveying Properties regarding T-Mobile's Special Use Permit Application for a Wireless Communication Facility located at 15 Maple Ave., St. Anthony Community Hospital.

Discussion

1. Climate Smart Communities Grant Program - Climate Adaptation Plan & Vulnerability Assessment.

Trustee McKnight provided background on the Village's participation in the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Grant Program. He explained that over a year ago, the Village

applied through the Consolidated Funding Application process for a CSC grant to develop two key documents: a Climate Adaptation Plan and a Climate Vulnerability Assessment. The Village was awarded \$25,000 for this purpose, contingent upon a required local match. He said he had spoken with Donald Fletcher, P.E. from Barton & Loguidice, who was prepared to explain the details of what had been developed so far. At the time of the application, the Village had already earned nearly \$200,000 in grant funding through NYSERDA as a result of actions taken under both the Climate Smart Communities and the parallel Clean Energy Communities programs. The intention behind completing these new documents was to earn additional points within the Clean Energy Communities framework, which historically led to further grant opportunities. However, Trustee McKnight noted that those funding opportunities had since been depleted, as the program's available grant money was no longer being offered, despite the Village's prior eligibility for additional awards.

Trustee Foster clarified that while the additional Clean Energy Communities funding was no longer available, the Village's existing Climate Smart Communities grant remained active. She then asked whether an in-kind match would be acceptable for the grant requirement or if the match needed to be in cash.

Trustee McKnight responded that some of the required match could be provided in-kind and clarified the distinction between the two programs. He explained that the Village's previous NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities grant, which supported the ongoing DPW solar project, was separate from the current \$25,000 Climate Smart Communities grant intended for the Climate Adaptation Plan and Climate Vulnerability Assessment. The goal of having these reports professionally prepared was to help the Village reach the next tier of eligibility within the CSC and CEC programs, ideally allowing the Village to leverage those achievements for future grant funding that could support additional sustainability projects.

Trustee McKnight continued, explaining that he had asked Mr. Fletcher to assist in evaluating options because his original plan had been to use anticipated grant funding to offset the approximately \$20,000 local match required for the Climate Smart Communities grant. However, with NYSERDA funding currently unavailable—and uncertain whether it would return—this approach was no longer feasible. He added that another potential opportunity under the Climate Smart Communities program was grant funding for land acquisition related to watershed protection, which could be a valuable project for the Village. Such acquisitions would include restrictions against development, which aligned with the Village's preservation goals. Trustee McKnight thanked Mr. Fletcher for preparing a proposal included in the meeting's supporting documentation and noted that, while some of the match could be provided in-kind as Trustee Foster had

asked, the technical nature of the required reports meant that an in-kind contribution would only partially satisfy the match requirement.

Trustee McKnight continued, explaining that the \$25,000 Climate Smart Communities grant would require approximately a \$21,000 local contribution, as outlined by Mr. Fletcher. He noted that this amount would represent an out-of-pocket expense for the Village without any guarantee of additional grant funding or future financial return from the project.

Trustee Foster referenced the proposed FEMA Act of 2025, which she said appeared likely to move forward. She explained that under the current system, communities impacted by presidentially declared disasters typically receive 75% reimbursement for response and recovery costs, with the potential for up to 90% reimbursement during severe events such as Hurricane Sandy. Additional support could also come through FEMA for resilience and mitigation projects. However, the FEMA Act of 2025 would shift much of the disaster management and recovery responsibility to local governments. Trustee Foster said the legislation includes a strong incentive—what she described as “a carrot big enough to be a stick”—requiring municipalities to invest in risk mitigation policies and projects in order to qualify for full recovery funding.

Trustee Foster added that there could be significant value in the Village having its own updated risk and resilience documents. She explained that the act would likely modify the existing Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, which was first launched under the Trump administration. While there had been earlier uncertainty about the program’s continuation, the current plan appeared to transform it into a formula-based system rather than a competitive one. Trustee Foster said this shift was something many in the field had long advocated for, as it would allow funding to be allocated based on set formulas instead of through a competitive process. Under this structure, each county or municipality would identify and submit pre-approved mitigation projects in advance. When funding became available, those pre-approved projects would be eligible for immediate implementation. She noted that this change underscored the importance of having documents like the Climate Adaptation Plan and Climate Vulnerability Assessment ready, since they could position the Village to qualify for future funding under the new system.

Trustee McKnight asked whether the proposed FEMA funding structure would include eligibility for land acquisition projects such as area around watersheds.

Trustee Foster responded that watershed land acquisition projects would indeed qualify, describing them as classic examples of hazard mitigation. She said the Village faces ongoing risks such as flooding, drought, and water supply challenges, along with other evolving vulnerabilities that may not yet be fully understood. She also expressed concern

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about the broader impacts on the region's agricultural areas. Trustee Foster concluded by saying that if funding were available to support projects like these, she fully supported the Village pursuing them.

Trustee McKnight asked whether it was fair to say that completing the Climate Adaptation Plan and Climate Vulnerability Assessment—aside from the points they would earn under the Climate Smart Communities program—would position the Village to be better prepared for potential formula-based funding programs like those being discussed under the proposed FEMA Act.

Trustee Foster replied that she believed completing the reports would likely help prepare the Village for future funding opportunities, though she noted the FEMA Act of 2025 had not yet been passed. She said these types of grants already existed in various forms and that it was important for the Village to be thinking ahead and positioning itself for long-term resilience planning. Trustee Foster added that she wanted to provide broader context for the discussion and suggested that, if the Village eventually faced a deadline to act or risk losing the funding, the Board could then evaluate the status of the legislation and make a more informed decision.

Mr. Fletcher explained that the Climate Smart Communities grant had been awarded in December 2024 through the Department of Environmental Conservation. While he did not have the exact expiration date on hand, he confirmed that pursuing the project would strengthen the Village's position for future opportunities. He also noted that returning the \$25,000 grant to the state would reflect poorly on the Village, as it was generally considered bad form to forgo awarded funds.

Addressing in-kind contributions, Mr. Fletcher said his team was open to working with the Village to determine what would be reasonable. He suggested that administrative support from Village Hall staff, such as the Clerk's Office, and potential DPW work related to the identified properties could count toward the match based on staff hourly rates plus benefits. He added that while Board members could also contribute in-kind time, volunteer work is typically valued at a standardized rate of about \$15 per hour, which would make it difficult to reach the required match amount. He emphasized that understanding these limits was important when considering how much of the match could realistically be satisfied through in-kind contributions.

Trustee Foster explained that the Federal Highway Administration's approach to in-kind contributions differed somewhat from the state's, as it allowed donated expert services to be valued at their standard professional rate rather than a flat volunteer rate. She suggested that, if similar rules applied, this could help offset some of the Village's required match. Trustee Foster also proposed exploring the use of interns to support the

project, noting that college students with GIS (Geographic Information System) and environmental studies backgrounds, as well as local high school students studying weather and climate, could assist as part of a structured educational program. She added that while \$21,000 would not go very far in covering professional services, combining creative in-kind contributions with student involvement could help make the project more feasible.

Mr. Fletcher stated that the proposed budget included a BNL fee of \$46,900 and an in-kind contribution of \$3,100, bringing the total project cost to \$50,025, with \$25,000 covered by the DEC grant and the remainder serving as the Village's match. He reiterated that his team was willing to work with the Village to determine what combination of cash and in-kind contributions would make the most sense and ensure the project could move forward effectively.

Mr. Fletcher provided additional background on the Climate Smart Communities program, explaining how the point system determines certification levels. He said that achieving Bronze certification requires 120 points and Silver requires 300 points. The Village currently stands at 226 points, having already surpassed the Bronze level. He credited this progress to completed actions such as the municipal and community greenhouse gas inventory, the government climate action plan, and the Village's participation in the Climate Smart pledge, among other initiatives. Mr. Fletcher added that the program also plans to introduce a Gold certification level, though the exact criteria for that tier were still being finalized.

Mr. Fletcher outlined the scope of services for the Climate Smart Communities grant project, explaining that it followed a typical process designed to lead from study and planning to future implementation and funding opportunities. The project would begin with data collection and include some level of community outreach, depending on how involved the Village Board wished to be. A key component of the work would involve identifying vulnerable populations and assessing both current and future climate hazards such as winter weather, drought, heat stress, and flooding.

Mr. Fletcher explained the first phase—the Climate Vulnerability Assessment—would be followed by the Climate Adaptation Plan, which would contain specific recommendations for risk reduction. Public engagement could again be incorporated during this phase. The ultimate goal of the project was to produce informed, actionable strategies to reduce climate risk that could be used to pursue additional funding opportunities. These might include land acquisition for watershed protection, infrastructure resiliency and hardening projects, or new policy initiatives. Mr. Fletcher emphasized that the intent of the plan was to position the Village to leverage future

funding sources, such as FEMA’s BRIC program and other state-level grant opportunities.

Trustee McKnight said that, up to this point, he had mainly focused on two potential benefits of the project—pursuing land acquisition around the watershed and earning additional points that could position the Village for future NYSERDA grant opportunities if that funding became available again. However, he noted that both Mr. Fletcher and Trustee Foster appeared to have additional ideas and asked what other types of projects the proposed studies might help unlock, such as improvements related to the Village’s dams, Well No. 3, or other critical water infrastructure.

Mr. Fletcher responded that the project could support a wide range of initiatives related to the Village’s water infrastructure, including drinking water protection, flood mitigation, and stormwater management in both open and closed systems. He noted that the work would align well with the Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP2) program, which also allows for land acquisition to safeguard water sources. By coordinating the Climate Smart Communities work with programs like DWSP2 and other planning efforts, the Village could strengthen its position when pursuing future grant funding. Mr. Fletcher said this type of strategic “stacking” of plans and programs placed the Village in a strong position to secure additional resources. He added that the current federal administration was prioritizing resiliency and infrastructure hardening projects, and that completing the proposed studies would help identify the Village’s greatest areas of concern and opportunities to obtain implementation funding for the most impactful projects.

Trustee McKnight asked whether the two proposed studies—the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the Climate Adaptation Plan—were the right ones to best position the Village for earning additional grant funding in the future.

Mr. Fletcher responded that, based on the Village’s progress to date within the Climate Smart Communities program and the remaining actions needed to advance, these two studies were indeed the most appropriate next steps. He said they made strong strategic sense for positioning the Village to pursue future funding opportunities.

Trustee Foster agreed, explaining that while the two studies would not produce the level of detail needed to directly translate their recommendations into grant applications, they would serve as an important foundation. She compared the process to the Village’s Comprehensive Plan, which outlined broad goals that were later refined, prioritized, and implemented through specific projects. Similarly, the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plan would help identify key focus areas and guide future, more detailed planning and funding efforts.

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Trustee McKnight recalled that although the grant had been awarded in March, the timing made it difficult to proceed before the close of the previous budget year and the end of last year's Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) deadline. He said that if the Board chose to move forward with the project, his goal would be to have both studies completed in time to position the Village for the next CFA round, which he believed would conclude around July of the following year.

Mr. Fletcher confirmed that the CFA deadline typically falls at the end of July, usually on the fourth Friday of the month.

Trustee McKnight asked whether the project's timeline would present any concerns in meeting the next CFA deadline.

Mr. Fletcher said he was not concerned about the schedule and confirmed that the project could be completed in time to meet the next CFA deadline.

Trustee McKnight addressed the Board, noting that while the grant required a local match and there was no guaranteed funding beyond this project, it appeared to position the Village more favorably for future grant opportunities. He asked if the Board agreed that moving forward with the studies made sense.

Mayor Newhard added that completing the studies would also provide the Village with valuable information to guide future planning and decision-making.

Trustee McKnight concluded by thanking Mr. Fletcher for his support and Trustee Foster for her expertise and guidance. He said his goal was simply to present the information so the Board could have an open discussion and consider the available options moving forward.

Trustee Foster said she believed the studies could lead to additional initiatives beyond the scope of Barton & Loguidice's work. She explained that recent fires, both locally and in other regions, had prompted her to think about the Village's evacuation strategy—particularly for the 25–30% of residents who are elderly and live in key areas that might be vulnerable during an emergency. She said the reports could also help the Village better understand and plan for issues such as watershed protection and food security. Trustee Foster added that the studies would complement existing projects, such as the water tank project, by providing additional context and support for the Village's ongoing resilience efforts.

Trustee McKnight asked the Board if anyone had any further questions for Mr. Fletcher while he was present.

Mayor Newhard responded that he thought the proposal was well-prepared and solid.

Trustee Foster added that the Board could consider how to best utilize the expertise of an engineering firm like Barton & Loguidice, noting that their strengths were in technical analysis and planning rather than community outreach or engagement design. She suggested the Village might handle or partner separately on those aspects to ensure the most effective use of resources.

Trustee Cheney agreed, commenting that the Village already did a good job managing community outreach on its own.

Trustee Collura agreed, noting that the Village had a strong understanding of its demographics and effective local outreach methods. She mentioned that activities such as tabling at the Farmers Market and other community-based efforts had consistently proven successful for engaging residents.

Mayor Newhard added that the Village could partner with Sustainable Warwick on this initiative, noting that such collaboration would be particularly fitting for the project's goals.

Trustee Foster agreed that partnering with Sustainable Warwick would be very helpful. She said it would be worthwhile to speak with the group further, as they have knowledgeable members who could offer valuable expertise and support to the project.

Trustee Cheney asked Mr. Fletcher whether the scope of work and associated fees he presented took into account the resources already available through the County's hazard mitigation annex, which had been completed with the Village's participation. He wanted to know if the proposed work would build upon that existing material.

Mr. Fletcher confirmed that the proposed work would indeed build upon the County's existing hazard mitigation materials. He said he was fairly certain that his firm had prepared the most recent County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Trustee Cheney clarified that Mr. Fletcher's firm had completed the first County Hazard Mitigation Plan, but a subsequent update had been completed within the last six to ten months.

Trustee Cheney said he could not recall which firm had completed the most recent County Hazard Mitigation Plan, then shifted the discussion to future project opportunities. He noted that land acquisition around the watershed and the dual water storage tanks designed by Barton & Loguidice had already been mentioned as potential

projects, but he was also interested in how the studies might address other vulnerable infrastructure. Specifically, he referred to aging or undersized culverts that may be in poor condition and asked how such issues could be incorporated into the Village's long-term planning and funding efforts.

Trustee Foster added that she believed the most recent County Hazard Mitigation Plan, completed in 2025, had been prepared by IEM (Innovative Emergency Management).

Mr. Fletcher responded that identifying infrastructure vulnerabilities such as culvert improvements could be included in the project and might also provide an opportunity for in-kind match contributions. He suggested that the Highway Department could assist by reviewing and inventorying these areas, possibly with support from an intern. While the study would not include detailed engineering design work or specific culvert sizing analyses, it would take a broad approach to outline general improvement needs. Mr. Fletcher said this information would complement the County's hazard mitigation annex and emphasized that the goal was to produce a practical, actionable plan rather than one that would sit unused on a shelf. The intent, he said, was to ensure the data could help the Village pursue future grant funding.

Trustee Cheney said that projects like those discussed would ultimately qualify for larger funding opportunities. He noted that the Village had consistently taken a proactive approach to both addressing local needs and positioning itself to receive financial assistance from state and federal sources. He said the proposed studies aligned well with that ongoing strategy.

Mayor Newhard observed that there appeared to be a general consensus among the Board to move forward with the project and asked what the next steps in the process would be.

Trustee McKnight said the next step would be to determine what the Village could realistically contribute toward the in-kind match. He noted that this would partly depend on identifying the types of work that Village staff and DPW might be able to assist with. He added that the Board still needed a clearer understanding of the various ways staff contributions could count toward the match and looked to Mr. Fletcher for guidance on that.

Mr. Fletcher explained that the Village could contribute to the in-kind match in several ways. He said some of the work could be administrative, such as compiling necessary documents, while other portions could involve field assessments like site walks and gathering field data. He and Trustee McKnight had also discussed whether Village staff might assist in drafting sections of the report, though they recognized that time commitments and availability would need to be considered carefully. Mr. Fletcher added

that public engagement activities—such as outreach at the Farmers Market or through partnerships with Sustainable Warwick—would also qualify as in-kind contributions. He summarized that administrative support, field work, and public engagement were the most practical starting points for in-kind participation, but said his team could revisit other potential contributions as the report developed.

Trustee Foster suggested involving the Cornell Cooperative Extension as a potential partner in the project. She said one of the more compelling aspects of the hazard mitigation plan was its discussion of extreme winter weather, noting that while many generic plans assume winters are becoming milder, the reality has been more erratic due to phenomena like the polar vortex. She explained that such unpredictable conditions can affect the local food supply and agricultural systems. Trustee Foster said having deeper, informed discussions about these evolving risks would be valuable and suggested that engaging stakeholders such as the Cooperative Extension could help the Village better understand on-the-ground impacts and incorporate local expertise into the planning process.

Mayor Newhard said that outreach should specifically include the Village's senior and youth populations, as they are among the most vulnerable groups. He emphasized the importance of evaluating whether the Village's infrastructure, including its parks, adequately meets their needs. He suggested considering factors such as the availability of shade, water access, and other amenities that help ensure these spaces remain safe and comfortable for all residents, particularly during extreme weather conditions.

Trustee Foster added that anyone who had attended Applefest that weekend had likely experienced the effects of the urban heat island phenomenon, where large amounts of concrete and pavement absorb and radiate heat, increasing ambient temperatures in developed areas.

Trustee McKnight said that while he understood the intent of using in-kind contributions to reduce the Village's cash outlay, he wondered at what point relying too heavily on in-kind work might reduce the overall value or quality of the final report. He asked whether that concern made sense in terms of ensuring the end product best positioned the Village for future funding opportunities.

Trustee Foster agreed and said there were two key reasons to pursue in-kind contributions. The first was to reduce the Village's financial share, but the second—and equally important—was to enhance the overall value of the project by engaging more people in the process. She explained that broader community involvement would make the final report more meaningful and actionable. Trustee Foster compared it to the work done on the Comprehensive Plan, noting that the extensive local expertise and

participation in that process had significantly amplified the effectiveness of the consultants' work, creating what she described as a "force multiplier" effect.

Trustee McKnight asked at what point reducing the scope of work assigned to Barton & Loguidice in favor of in-kind contributions might begin to diminish the overall value or effectiveness of the final report.

Trustee Foster responded that she did not believe the scope of Barton & Loguidice's work could be reduced very much, explaining that a meaningful plan of this type typically required professional expertise and depth of analysis that went beyond what could realistically be provided through in-kind efforts alone.

Trustee Collura added that the project would likely overlap with other initiatives and could help guide the Village toward future related projects, creating a natural progression of planning and implementation efforts.

Trustee McKnight said that ideally, the Village would develop resources and data that could be reused for many future projects. He then asked how the Board could determine which specific tasks or contributions to pursue in order to most effectively reduce the Village's in-kind match requirement while still maintaining project quality.

Trustee Foster suggested that the next step would be to speak with the Village Treasurer to determine what the Village could realistically contribute toward the match. She said that would be an important part of the process. In the meantime, she proposed assembling a list of potential ways the Village could contribute—both to reduce costs and to serve as a "force multiplier" by supporting and enhancing the overall value of the project.

Trustee McKnight agreed, saying that approach made perfect sense. He added that as long as the Village's contributions added value to the work being done by Mr. Fletcher and his team, it would strengthen the overall project outcome.

Trustee Cheney agreed and said the Board should focus on identifying which tasks were within the Village's capabilities to handle effectively in support of the overall project, with the remaining work left to the professionals. He emphasized the importance of balancing in-kind contributions with efficiency, noting that the Village was already working within a defined timeline to have the studies completed by next July. Trustee Cheney added that the Village should only take on tasks it could perform confidently and promptly to avoid delaying the project's progress.

Mayor Newhard agreed, noting that the Village's efforts should run in parallel with the professional work being done to keep the project on track.

Trustee McKnight asked Mr. Fletcher to explain his process for determining how the Village's proposed in-kind contributions could be incorporated into the project to offset part of the overall fee. He said he assumed there was a defined procedure for evaluating and applying those contributions.

Mr. Fletcher explained that his team could adjust the project budget as the Village identified its in-kind contributions. He said the process would involve estimating the value of the Village's contributions for specific tasks and then revising the breakdown between the in-kind amount and the Barton & Loguidice fee to maintain the overall \$50,000 total. He emphasized that it was more important to begin the work than to overanalyze the numbers upfront, suggesting that if the Village initially estimated \$8,000 in in-kind contributions instead of the \$3,100 originally proposed, they could start with that figure. Mr. Fletcher added that any adjustments during the project could easily be documented with a simple letter to the Village, ensuring flexibility without delaying the schedule.

Trustee McKnight thanked Mr. Fletcher for his flexibility and said the next step would be to speak with the Village Treasurer to establish financial parameters for the Village's contribution. He mentioned that he had already discussed the matter with her, and she indicated that the match requirement was feasible, though their earlier conversation had been preliminary.

Trustee Foster asked Mr. Fletcher to identify the project manager and primary points of contact the Village would work with for the studies, noting that this information was not included in the materials.

Mr. Fletcher replied that the project manager would be Charmaine John, who serves as Barton & Loguidice's Climate Action Specialist. He acknowledged that her name had not been included in the written materials but said he would add it. He noted that Ms. John was not present at the meeting but would be the primary contact for the project.

Trustee McKnight explained that within the Climate Smart Communities program, the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plan are classified as high-impact actions, each worth different maximum point values—one up to 16 points and the other up to 15. He said the goal would be to ensure the reports are written in alignment with the program's standards to achieve the full available points. With the Village currently at 225 points, completing these two actions would raise the total to approximately 254 points, and with a few additional initiatives he was working on, the Village would be significantly closer to reaching the 300 points required for Silver certification.

Mr. Fletcher noted that based on their previous discussions, completing the proposed actions would bring the Village's Climate Smart Communities score to approximately 280 points.

Trustee McKnight agreed, saying that reaching around 280 points would put the Village within striking distance of Silver certification. He added that if NYSERDA reopened its grant funding pool, he wanted the Village to be among the first applicants ready to apply.

Trustee McKnight said there appeared to be strong agreement that completing these studies would position the Village for a wide range of future projects. He noted that many of the initiatives already under discussion were closely tied to critical infrastructure, making this work a natural foundation for continued progress.

Trustee Foster asked whether the grant included any procurement requirements that might prevent the Village from proceeding with Barton & Loguidice under a sole-source arrangement.

Mr. Fletcher explained that, based on his understanding, state grants of \$25,000 or less leave procurement decisions entirely to the discretion of the local jurisdiction. Therefore, the Village would have full authority to select a consultant without additional state procurement requirements.

Trustee Foster asked whether the project would meet the Village's own procurement requirements, noting that the total cost would be close to \$50,000.

Trustee Cheney agreed and said the Village should review its procurement requirements to ensure compliance given the project's cost.

Trustee McKnight clarified that only \$25,000 of the total project cost would come from the grant funding.

Trustee Cheney noted that the selection could be based on qualifications rather than a full competitive bidding process, meaning the Village would not be required to go through an extensive procurement procedure for this type of professional service.

Trustee McKnight thanked Mr. Fletcher for his time, expertise, and partnership on the project.

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

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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.

Gail Hoffer-Loibl requested and was provided with Mr. Fletcher's full name.

John Peruso stated that he wanted to attend the meeting in person to speak about the letter he had submitted.

Mr. Peruso explained that he had submitted a request for the Village to consider converting the municipal lot located at the end of Wheeler Avenue and the corner of Cherry Street into leased, full-time parking spaces. He said the request was fairly straightforward but offered to provide additional details if the Board had any questions.

Mayor Newhard asked if the reason for Mr. Peruso's request was that he owned a two-family residence.

Mr. Peruso confirmed that he owned a two-family residence and explained that he would soon be moving to another home in Warwick. Because the property would be rented out, he wished to secure an additional leased parking space to provide off-street parking for one of his tenants.

Mayor Newhard asked if there was not enough on-site parking available at the property.

Mr. Peruso explained that while the property technically met parking requirements on paper, the layout of the home created practical limitations. Because the garage was located at the front of the house, Village Code only permitted one designated parking space there, even though two vehicles could physically fit in the driveway. He said that rather than expanding the driveway around the property, he preferred to lease an additional municipal space. Mr. Peruso noted that he had already applied to lease a space in the South Street parking lot and had also received permission from a local business to use a few spaces close to the home. However, he expressed concern that tenants would be unlikely to use parking located that far away. He said leasing a space in the municipal lot at the end of Wheeler Avenue would make it far more likely that his tenants would park off the street, helping to reduce congestion in the area.

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Mayor Newhard said the Board was not prepared to make a decision on the request that evening but could begin considering it and plan to discuss the matter further at the next meeting. He then asked Mr. Peruso whether he had explored the possibility of using the Cherry Street Apartments parking lot, which is adjacent to his property on Wheeler Avenue and connected by a sidewalk that provides direct access between the two locations.

Mr. Peruso replied that he had not considered the Cherry Street Apartments parking lot but thought it was a good suggestion. He added that he did not expect the Board to make a decision that evening and simply felt it was appropriate to attend in person after submitting his request.

Mr. Peruso said he was happy to return for the next meeting when the matter would be discussed further. He mentioned that he had also spoken with a nearby business owner who allowed parking behind their building, which was roughly the same distance away. However, he believed the Wheeler Avenue municipal lot made the most sense since many residents already parked there. He added that allowing leased parking in that lot would not only meet his needs but could also generate additional income for the Village.

Mayor Newhard asked whether the apartments in Mr. Peruso's two-family residence were single-bedroom units.

Mr. Peruso replied that one of the apartments was a single-bedroom unit and the other had three bedrooms. He said he needed to create one additional parking space on the property to meet requirements and noted that while there was technically room to do so, he felt it would be simpler to lease a space instead. He added that he could lease a spot from one of the other nearby locations but preferred to do so from the Wheeler Avenue municipal lot.

Mayor Newhard acknowledged that the Chase Bank parking lot, one of the potential alternatives mentioned, was quite far from the property.

Trustee Foster noted that the Cherry Street Apartments appeared to have ample parking available.

Mr. Peruso said the Chase Bank parking lot was about 850 feet, or roughly two and a half blocks, from the property, and while he could use that or another nearby option, his preference was to lease a space in the Wheeler Avenue lot. He explained that there was room to create another parking space along the side of his property and that there had once been a driveway there, but he had chosen not to make physical changes to the property when converting it to a two-family home. His intention, he said, was to preserve the existing appearance and layout of the property, and leasing a space from the nearby municipal lot would accomplish that while minimizing disruption.

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Trustee Cheney said the Board would need to review the site plan for the Cherry Street Apartments to determine the number of parking spaces required for that property and whether any excess spaces existed that could potentially be used.

Mayor Newhard added that the Board would also need to consider the overall parking demand within the neighborhood and the broader demand for municipal parking throughout the Village before making any decision.

Trustee Foster noted that the Village would soon be releasing a survey to better understand parking needs for both local businesses and residents, which would help inform future planning decisions. She said that because this planning process was just beginning, the Board's response to Mr. Peruso's request to lease a space in the Wheeler Avenue lot might need to be delayed until after the survey results were reviewed.

Mr. Peruso said that since he already had alternative parking arrangements, including an agreement with a nearby business, the request was not a necessity but rather a long-term preference. His hope was that if the Village eventually allowed leased parking in the Wheeler Avenue lot, he could transition to that option for a more permanent solution. He added that, having lived in the area for several years, he had observed increased parking demand due to the growing number of multi-family homes and local businesses. Mr. Peruso said he wanted to help reduce that congestion by ensuring his tenants had adequate off-street parking. He mentioned that he personally owned several vehicles and a trailer but kept them elsewhere to avoid contributing to parking strain and wanted to establish a proper, sustainable parking arrangement for the property moving forward.

Mayor Newhard noted that the Wheeler Avenue municipal lot contained only about 10 or 11 parking spaces in total.

Mr. Peruso agreed on the number of spaces and acknowledged that other residents might also request to lease there. He said he was unsure whether that acknowledgment might weaken his position.

Trustee Collura asked how the leasing process would be managed if the Village chose to allow it, questioning whether it would operate on a first-come, first-served basis, be limited to specific spaces, or perhaps be determined through a lottery system.

Mayor Newhard responded that it would likely follow the same approach as the Chase Bank parking lot, where spaces are leased on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Trustee McKnight remarked that people often park wherever they choose regardless of restrictions, noting that even the electric vehicle–reserved spaces are sometimes used by non-electric vehicles, which then becomes an enforcement issue. Referring to Mr. Peruso’s property, he said he understood the area along the side of the house had previously been used for parking but also observed that it now served as the only remaining green space in front of the home, which would be unfortunate to lose.

Mr. Peruso explained that he later discovered there had originally been a driveway along the side of his property. When he purchased the home, only the area in front of the garage was paved, with gravel sections to the left and side that had become overgrown. He said he repaved only the front portion, unaware that the side area had once been used as a driveway. After speaking with the previous owner, he learned that the family had paved only in front of the garage after the household needs changed. Mr. Peruso said that had he known this earlier, he might have restored the side driveway at that time. However, since it no longer existed, he would now need Village permission before reinstalling it. He added that, interestingly, the old driveway could still be seen in historical Google Street View images.

Mr. Peruso said that using Google Maps’ Street View feature, he was able to look back at older images and confirm that the side driveway had previously existed, providing visual evidence to support his explanation.

Mr. Peruso said that his intention would be to reestablish the former driveway on the side of the property.

Mayor Newhard thanked Mr. Peruso for attending the meeting and explaining his situation. He said the Board would review the matter further.

Mr. Peruso stated that the property currently had enough parking to function as intended, but his goal was to make it fully compliant with Village requirements. He said that was the reason he was requesting to lease an additional parking space.

Mayor Newhard noted that one of the broader challenges the Village faced was the increasing number of vehicles per household. Using Mr. Peruso’s example of owning five vehicles, he said that many families were no longer single-car households, which created a ripple effect that the Village needed to carefully consider when evaluating parking and planning decisions.

Mr. Peruso confirmed that the property currently had three parking spaces and that he planned to request permission to reestablish the former side driveway as a backup option. He noted that, in practice, a two-family home typically housed two adults or couples per unit, which could easily result in four vehicles, though he acknowledged it was difficult to predict how many cars tenants might actually have.

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Mayor Newhard added that it was important to preserve as much green space around the property as possible. He noted that if the home were to have tenants, there could be children living there, and it was not desirable to have cars occupying every available area of the lot.

Mr. Peruso agreed, saying he did not want to eliminate the property's backyard to create more parking, even though the code would technically allow it. He explained that he preferred to maintain that green space, noting that "just because I can doesn't mean I should." He said he had installed a privacy fence to better define the area and hoped to find a solution that balanced compliance with practicality. Mr. Peruso thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Mayor Newhard thanked Mr. Peruso for attending and for bringing the matter to the Board's attention.

There were no more public comments.

Maple Avenue Water Booster Station Project - Change Order No. 1, TAM Enterprises, Inc

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to authorize the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 1 with TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the Maple Avenue Water Booster Station Project, for the addition of two (2) 8" insertion valves for the pressure reducing valve at a cost of \$35,276.37. This cost will be covered by the field order allowance, resulting in no change to the overall contract amount, as recommended by Barton & Loguidice.

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

Joseph Warren Electrical, Payment #2 - Well #3 Treatment Plant Project

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to approve payment #2 in the amount of \$15,580.00 to Joseph Warren Electrical 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

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Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Payment Application #11 – TAM Enterprises, Well #3 Treatment Plant Project

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to approve payment #11 in the amount of \$115,501.45 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

Streetlight Project – Authorization to Sign Grant Disbursement Agreement

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to authorize Mayor Newhard and Village Attorney, Benjamin Gailey, to sign the DASNY Grant Disbursement Agreement for the ‘Purchase and Installation of Streetlights Throughout the Village’ Project, with a grant amount of \$100,000 funded through the Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology Program (CREST).

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 of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick
Authorizing the Submission of the NY Forward Grant Application**

WHEREAS, the Village of Warwick is committed to enhancing the quality of life for its residents and improving the community; and

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WHEREAS, the NY Forward Grant program provides an opportunity for municipalities to secure funding for projects that promote economic development, community revitalization, and overall sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Warwick Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of this grant and supports the application process; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick hereby supports the application for the NY Forward Grant and authorizes Mayor Newhard to submit the application on behalf of the Village.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and/or Village Clerk are hereby authorized to take any necessary actions to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

Trustee Foster 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 Aye

Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting Aye

Mary Collura, Trustee, voting Aye

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting Aye

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Seasonal Recreation Staff – FY 2025-26 Halloween, Christmas Eve, Easter

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to hire special event staff at a rate of \$15.00 per hour for the following events: 10-12 staff members for the Halloween Parade, 8-10 staff members for the Christmas Eve Service, and 10-12 staff members for the Easter Egg Hunt per the recommendation of Village of Warwick Recreation Director, Ron Introini.

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 - Veterans Day Parade

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to grant permission to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4662 to hold a Veterans Day Parade on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, as per their facility use application and parade map received September 30, 2025. The parade lineup will take place on High Street at 10:30 a.m. with step-off beginning at 11:11 a.m. The parade will culminate with a ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park at approximately 12:00 p.m. The parade route has been approved by the Town of Warwick Police Department. Completed park permit has been received. Approval pending security deposit and proof of insurance.

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

Mayor Newhard announced that the Board had received an invitation from the VFW to participate in the upcoming Veterans Day Parade.

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Road Closures – High Street, Veteran’s Day Parade

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to close High Street on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. for the Veteran’s Day Parade lineup.

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

Halloween Parade 2025

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to grant permission to the Village of Warwick Recreation Department to hold a Halloween Parade on Friday, October 31, 2025. The lineup will be at 4:30 p.m. on High Street. The parade will start at 5:00 p.m. and proceed down Main Street to Railroad Avenue, ending on Railroad Green for a Costume Contest. The Warwick Police have been notified and will assist with the event.

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

Road Closures – Halloween 2025

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to close Oakland Court, Welling Avenue, Orchard Street, and Linden Place on Friday, October 31, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and to close High Street from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2025, for the Halloween parade lineup.

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

During discussion of the Halloween parade road closures, Trustee Foster asked for clarification regarding traffic control near Orchard Street. She noted that while the parade concluded on Railroad Avenue, in past police had stopped traffic on Oakland Avenue up to Orchard to ensure safety. Trustee Collura stated that people often assembled along Orchard Street prior to the parade. Trustee Cheney explained that police typically directed traffic in that area to assist pedestrians but did not formally close the roadway.

Halloween Curfew 2025

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to impose a Halloween curfew for all persons under the age of 18 unless accompanied by a parent or guardian on all Village streets and parks and other public areas in the Village of Warwick between the hours of 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2025, to 6:00 a.m., Friday, October 31, 2025, and again on Friday, October 31, 2025, from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., Saturday, November 1, 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

Agreement for Repayment of Water & Sewer Charges – 26 Oakland Avenue

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to authorize the Mayor to enter into an Agreement for Repayment of Water and Sewer Charges with the property owner at 26 Oakland Avenue, Warwick NY in the amount of \$4,000 to be paid in twelve quarterly installments of \$333.33 and authorize the Mayor to sign the same.

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

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Garage Sale Refund – 148 South Street Extension

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura and carried to refund Lou Sorgenti of 148 South Street Extension in the amount of \$15 for garage sale permit # 1855-25 due to cancellation of the event scheduled for September 26 – 28, 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

Vacation Carryover – Sadie Andryshak

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to grant permission to Village of Warwick Employee, Sadie Andryshak, to carry over 4 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

Budget Modification

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to approve the attached budget modification request as per the Village Treasurer's memo dated September 24, 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

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Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick
Authorizing the Application for a Grant through the
NYS Unified Court System Justice Court Assistance Program

WHEREAS, the Village of Warwick recognizes the importance of maintaining an efficient and effective justice system; and

WHEREAS, the NYS Unified Court System offers the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) to provide financial support to local justice courts for improvements and enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Warwick Court seeks to enhance its operations and services to better serve the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has identified potential projects and improvements that could be funded through the JCAP grant; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-26 grant cycle presents an opportunity for the Village of Warwick Court to secure funding to support these initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick authorizes the Village of Warwick Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2025-26 grant cycle up to \$30,000.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Justice Court is hereby authorized to execute any necessary documents related to this application and to take any actions necessary to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

Trustee McKnight 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

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Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting Aye

Special Use Permit, AT&T - St. Anthony Community Hospital, Escrow

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to acknowledge receipt of the Special Use Permit Renewal Application for a Wireless Communication Facility from AT&T for the existing wireless facility located on the rooftop of St. Anthony Community Hospital, to set an escrow for processing of the application at \$2,000, and to refer the application to the Village Attorney and the Village's Engineering Consultant for review and comment.

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

The Board discussed the Special Use Permit and escrow requirements for AT&T's wireless communications facility at St. Anthony Community Hospital. Trustee McKnight asked about the status of other carriers on the site, and Trustee Cheney confirmed that T-Mobile was also located there but had submitted a new application after its previous permit expired. He added that there might be another carrier involved that the Village was still confirming. Discussion then turned to the associated escrow and application fees. Trustee Cheney explained that while the escrow amount did not appear in the Village's schedule of fees, it was established under Section 145-120.1 of the zoning code, which sets a \$7,500 fee for new applications and \$2,500 for renewals. The escrow, he said, was used to cover consultant, attorney, and engineering costs and was replenished as funds were spent.

Mayor Newhard noted that the escrow amount is typically determined in consultation with the Village Engineer and counsel, depending on the complexity of the application. The Board agreed it would be helpful in the future to consolidate all relevant fees and escrow requirements into the schedule of fees for easier reference. Trustee Cheney added that he had reviewed the permit timeline and found that AT&T's current permit expires on November 16, 2025. If a renewal application were still under review at that time, the Building Inspector could issue a temporary certificate of occupancy to allow continued operation until the process was complete.

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Multi-Use Trail Strategic Planning and Feasibility Study Consultant Services - Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney and carried to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment No. 1 to the Service Agreement dated September 6, 2024 with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for the Village and Town of Warwick Transportation Planning Consultant Services for the Multi-Use Trail Strategic Planning and Feasibility Study project as part of the 2023 Empire State Development Strategic Planning and Feasibility Study Funding Program, increasing the scope of services and compensation by a cost not to exceed \$26,440. Funds are appropriated in budget code A1440.4000.

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

Public Comment – *Non-Agenda Items*

No comments.

Final Comments from the Board

Trustee Collura announced that the Warwick Skate Park Initiative would host the grand opening of the new skate park on Saturday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m. The state-of-the-art concrete park features both a bowl and street section and will provide a long-term recreational space for skateboarders, BMX riders, and families. She thanked the Kosuga Foundation, along with all supporters, donors, and volunteers, and noted that Mayor Newhard would speak and officially open the park during the ceremony. Those wishing to attend were invited to RSVP to warwickskatepark@gmail.com. Trustee Collura added that the Warwick Valley Chamber of Commerce would hold an official ribbon-cutting the day before, on Friday, October 17, at 4:00 p.m. She also reminded the public to be respectful and refrain from using the skate park until the grand opening, explaining that while the concrete had set, the site remained an active work area with landscaping, signage, and other finishing work still in progress.

Mayor Newhard emphasized that the skate park was still a construction site and that the Department of Public Works had been working to ensure safety by removing nails,

debris, and leftover materials from the forms used during construction. He said the goal was to have most of the site work completed by the grand opening. Trustee Foster lightheartedly added that the park would be safe for use as long as skaters wore helmets and elbow pads. Mayor Newhard noted that rules and regulations would be posted, similar to those at the previous skate park, and encouraged parents to supervise young children. He praised the strong sense of camaraderie within the skating community, where older skaters often help and teach younger ones. He described the park as an extraordinary addition to the Village and said the ribbon-cutting and grand opening festivities would mark a soft opening, with a larger celebration planned for the following spring.

Mayor Newhard announced that the Village had passed a resolution to apply once again for the New York Forward grant, a Department of State program focused on downtown revitalization. He explained that the grant seeks to fund transformational projects that significantly impact communities, whether through visual improvements, infrastructure upgrades, or enhancements to public spaces such as parks. The Village has applied for this grant in the past and came close to receiving funding, and Mayor Newhard expressed optimism that this could be their year.

He said the process would involve extensive community outreach to gather input and ideas. A survey would be distributed to building and property owners throughout the central business district, and outreach tables would be set up at the Warwick Farmers Market on the upcoming Sunday and again two weeks later. Additional efforts would include targeted engagement with specific groups, such as youth, seniors, and the Latino community, to better understand their needs and perspectives on improving quality of life in the Village. Mayor Newhard also highlighted a planned “walkabout” with local architects, where participants would take a fresh look at the downtown area to envision creative improvements. He said these collaborative exercises often inspire new ideas for reimagining familiar spaces and concluded by noting that the Village’s outreach and planning efforts would be key to developing a compelling and inclusive application.

Trustee Cheney announced that the New York State Department of Transportation would begin work that evening on long-awaited stormwater infrastructure improvements at the intersection of Main Street and West Street. He explained that the project would involve nighttime construction from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and was expected to take approximately one week. Trustee Cheney said the work might temporarily impact nearby residents but emphasized that the repairs were necessary given the poor condition of the existing infrastructure. He also reminded drivers to exercise caution and remain attentive when traveling through active construction zones to ensure the safety of workers operating close to traffic.

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Trustee Foster provided an update on several community initiatives. She reported that the Village held the opening for the new pump track over the weekend, with photos now available on the Village website. She also noted that the committee reviewing the Village's chicken ordinance, had been meeting regularly and that a dedicated webpage was now live for both the Board and the public to follow the process. Trustee Foster commended Raina and the Village staff for organizing the page, which outlines the committee's discussions and progress. She explained that she and Trustee Cheney serve on the committee along with three residents who bring a range of perspectives to the topic. Two meetings had been held so far, and full summaries of those meetings were posted online. Trustee Foster added that the committee was developing a survey that would soon be distributed to all Village residents to gather feedback on the issue.

Mayor Newhard commended the committee's work, describing it as very thorough and well-organized. He then asked if Trustee Foster and the group had also met with Congressman Ryan.

Trustee Collura and Trustee Foster confirmed that they had met with Congressman Ryan and said it was a very productive and positive meeting.

Trustee Collura explained that Congressman Ryan had visited the Village and met with them at the new Tourism Center, where they gave him a tour of the facility. They then brought him to Well No. 3 to meet with staff and provide an update on the ongoing work there. She said the visit was very informative and worthwhile.

Mayor Newhard added that the project at Well No. 3 had been funded in large part through Congressman Ryan's support.

Trustee Collura added that she and Trustee Foster were intentional about the route they took with Congressman Ryan, driving along Forester Avenue so Trustee Foster could point out pedestrian safety and speeding concerns in that area.

Trustee Collura said they also took Congressman Ryan along Galloway Avenue to discuss related infrastructure and safety matters. They then drove past Stanley-Deming Park and visited the new skate park, arriving just a few hours after construction had been completed while workers were still on site. Former Trustee Bill Lindberg met them there, and Trustee Collura described the visit as very informative and a pleasant, productive meeting overall.

Trustee Foster added that they had also brought Congressman Ryan to see the new pump track during his visit. She said their conversation focused on the importance of local government, emphasizing how engaged the Warwick community was in caring for itself

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through volunteerism and collaboration on projects like these. Trustee Foster noted that Congressman Ryan shared their concern about challenges some municipalities have faced in getting state approval to lower speed limits, an issue he expressed interest in helping to address. They also discussed the Village's Dial-a-Bus initiative and recent grant submission, as Congressman Ryan was supportive of efforts to expand regional public transportation. Trustee Foster said they identified three key areas for potential collaboration with the congressman: extending sidewalks and improving walkability along Galloway, addressing the state's speed limit policies, and strengthening public transit options.

Trustee Foster concluded by saying that Congressman Ryan was very engaged, genuinely kind, and showed clear interest and care for the Warwick community.

Mayor Newhard closed the meeting by noting that there was a full supermoon that evening. He encouraged everyone to step outside and take a moment to enjoy it, saying it was expected to be an incredible sight.

Adjournment

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster and carried to adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 9:10 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

Jennifer Mante, Deputy Village Clerk