

Village of Schoharie – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

November 19th, 2025

Presiding: Mayor Colleen M Henry

Present: Trustees Johnson, Medak, DeGroff and Palmer, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debby Byrne, H.B. Steadham from the Times Journal and Eric Dolen

Excused: N/A

Board Meeting

Meeting brought to order by Mayor Henry at 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Minutes

- a. The October 14th, 2025, Village Board Meeting Minutes and the October 22nd, 2025, Employee Meeting Minutes, were previously distributed to the Board for their review.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, seconded by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve the October 14th, 2025, Village Board Meeting Minutes and the October 22nd, 2025, Employee Meeting Minutes as written.

2. Bills and Bank Statements review and sign.

3. Abstracts and Bank Statements:

- a. General \$ 48,545.20 (October 15, 2025- November 19, 2025)
- b. Water \$ 22,857.45 (October 15, 2025- November 19, 2025)
- c. Sewer \$ 6,885.23 (October 15, 2025- November 19, 2025)
- d. Pool \$ 719.96 (October 15, 2025- November 19, 2025)
- e.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, seconded by Trustee Johnson, unanimously carried to approve payment of the invoices presented and the submitted Abstract amounts.

4. Incoming Correspondence:

- a. Schoharie County Youth Bureau will receive funds which will go to the Pool in the amount of \$2,436.00 which is Grant money received.

5. Outgoing Correspondence:

- a. N/A

6. New Business:

- a. Health Care Coverage
 - i. Medicare has gone from \$436.86 per person to \$510.11 per person. The Board would like to review this cost and discuss the employees paying part or all of this increase. Mayor Henry would like to review the Handbook and have a consultation with Civil Service before any decisions are made.
 - ii. Mayor Henry needs a Motion to sign the letter to approve the Medicare Program Advantage Plan.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, seconded by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve to the Mayor signing the Medicare Program Advantage Letter.

- b. Schoharie County project for a Farmer's Market has a newly formed Board. The press release is on both the County and Village websites. Right now, they are looking at a location on Bridge Street.
- c. NYCOM meeting on the NYS Budget was on Friday. A review of this meeting is:
 - i. Maintain or add \$50 million to Municipality Fund
 - ii. Include funding for Water/Sewer maintenance which would be similar to CHIPS money.
 - iii. There will be an increase in CHIPS money.
 - iv. They will be working on streamlining access to Grant Funding.
 - v. Cannabis Amendment – money is not being allocated correctly.
 - vi. Reimbursement for Fire Departments for EMS calls is in the works.
 - vii. Working on improving enforcement of Codes.
 - viii. Pushing for notifications to only be online – no publications in local newspapers.

Motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve to open the Public Meeting at 7:00 PM to discuss the 2026 Village Budget.

- a. Mayor Henry went over the highlights of the Budget. The Budget is online and available in the Village Office.
- b. Health insurance costs has significantly increased so there will be adjustments to employee health insurance. Sal is looking at the Silver level coverage.
- c. The Village has hired an outside bookkeeping firm, Evening Star Bookkeeping.
- d. LED Lighting, Village will start paying off loan.
- e. 20 Year EFC loan payments will start.
- f. There will be an increase in sewer structure and sewer rates. There will be a Public Hearing regarding the Sewer Rate increase.
- g. There will be no increase in Village Tax.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, seconded by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve closing the Public Meeting at 7:41 PM.

Motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve the 2026 Village Budget.

7. Old Business:

- a. New York State EFC Requisition, Project # 17787 for Draw down # 2. Motion needs to be made to approve paying Invoice # 1298-05 for R.B. Robinson Contracting in the amount of \$5,000.00 and Invoice # 63 from Lamont Engineering in the amount of \$693.50. Mike Harrington's Report is attached.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, seconded by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve paying invoice # 1298-05 for R.B. Robinson Contracting in the amount of \$5,000.00 and invoice #63 for Lamont Engineering in the amount of \$693.50.

- b. 326 Main Street: Court order issued on September 19, 2025, by Judge Marcelaa. Action completed on 11/17/2025.
- c. LED Lights closing documents need Mayor's signature closing the project. Four lights have been ordered for the back parking lot behind CBD to be installed by separate contract. \$280.00 which includes lights and node with shipping.

Motion made by Trustee Medak, seconded by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve to the Mayor signature to close the LED Lighting project.

- d. Motion to close Public Hearing on adding an alternate to Village Planning Board. Motion to change from five members to five members plus one alternate.
- e. Fulton County Waste contract will be sent to the Village by the end of the month. Mayor has the intent to sign the contract with the proposed increase to \$77.00/ton.

Motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to close the Public Hearing on the Village Planning Board request for an alternate Planning Board member at 8:16 PM

Motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Mayor Henry unanimously carried to approve adding an alternate member to the Planning Board committee.

8. Other

- a. Water/Sewer Meter readings need to be done.
- b. SCVOA Christmas Meeting – Hosted by the Village of Middleburgh. Need to know who will be attending.
- c. Change December Employee Meeting to December 11, 2025, at 7:00 PM
- d. Office will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th for the Thanksgiving holiday. Debby will be on vacation Monday through Wednesday, November 24th through November 26th, office will be closed.
- e. Debby will be attending the Annual Collector’s Meeting at the County office building on Monday, November 24th, 2025.
- f. There was a request to show the water/sewer rates on the water/sewer invoices. Debby will put a call in to our software company that provides the water/sewer program.
- g. The Board would like to make a Motion to purchase Time Clocks for the employees. There will be two purchased plus the package for the software.

Motion made by Trustee Medak seconded by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve the purchase of two time clock packages.

9. POF

- a. Eric Dolen, who owns the Valley Enterprises, LLC properties discussed the water/sewer rates and how they are calculated for apartment buildings. He is not complaining about the consumption or rates, just wants a better understanding as to how the formular works. He presented a FOIL request to Mayor Henry

10. Adjourn

Motion made by Trustee Palmer seconded by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve adjourning the Board Meeting at 8:37 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Debra Byrne
Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer