

**REGULAR MEETING -BOARD OF TRUSTEES- MARCH 17, 2026-6:15 P.M. – VILLAGE HALL- 662 HUDSON AVENUE, PRESENT: MAYOR – JUDY WOOD-ZENO, TRUSTEE DOROTHY DEMARCO - ABSENT, TRUSTEE PATRICK NELSON, TRUSTEE JEFF STEWART, TRUSTEE SUE CUNNINGHAM
 CLERK TREASURER: SHERISTIN TEDESCO
 DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: MATT RIFENBURGH
 BUILDING CODE OFFICER: JOHN MCBRIDE - ABSENT
 FIRE BUREAU CHIEF: LAURENCE CASE
 ATTORNEY: JAMES PELUSO
 FIRE CHIEF: TONY CONTI
 ENGINEER: ED HERNANDEZ - Absent**

Public Attendance – 2

Trustee DeMarco has phoned in to the meeting.

Mayor Wood Zeno presented James Peluso with a plaque stating a tree will be purchased in memory of his dad in Talmadge Park.

The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION to open the floor for the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 budget made by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Nelson
 Motion carried 3-0

2026-2027 BUDGET NOTES @ \$4.15 Tax Rate

	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,756,900	\$1,817,635	\$60,735
ASSESSED VALUATION	\$101,119,277	\$103,047,434	\$1,928,157
RAISED BY TAXES	\$419,645	\$427,646	\$8,001

MOTION to close the floor for the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 Budget made by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Nelson
 Motion carried 3-0

CORRESPONDENCE – The Library will host a Stillwater Summit for all local groups to share events on April 4 at 10:00 am.
 The duck derby for “Battle of the Businesses” will be held on 3/29/2026 in Mechanicville. There will be a trophy and bragging rights at stake.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF: (Report on file) There were 6 alarms and 4 training drills during the month. The emergency lights and a small leak will need to be fixed at the firehouse.

DPW – (Report on file) The small swing set has been removed from Major Dickinson park for repair. The bucket truck was sold for scrap and the money was given to the clerk to deposit (\$1,514.50). A leak at 3 Bunce Lane was repaired on 2/20/2026.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – (Report on file)

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES – (Report on file) The Pro-Housing application is almost complete. The State Annual Report will be worked on next. The golf cart will be fixed by Casey.

HISTORIAN – No report at this time.

MAYOR UPDATES – The sewer plant structure will need to be analyzed. The Fireman Retirement workshop will be at Village Hall on 3/23/2026. The telecommunication law will be prepared for April. There were three accidents in the Village that insurance claims are being worked on. (1) Stratton lane Fire Hydrant (\$4000), (2) Light post at Cannon Park (\$6500) and (3) Ballast on Major Dickinson/Montgomery Place (\$800). A one on one workshop will be set up with NYSEG at Global Foundries to assist customers with analyzing how to lower their bills.
 Garage Sale weekend will be May 2, 2026
 Town Cleanup will be May 9, 2026
 Newland Wood Car Show will be May 2, 2026
 Mayor Wood Zeno and Trustee Stewart met with Labella Assoc. to discuss grant opportunities.

New internet service has been installed at all the village locations. The monthly fee should be \$80 per month and get three free months.

There will be a meeting with the Town of Stillwater, Arvin Hart and the Village to discuss Fire Hydrants and accessibility.

We did not receive the Empire State Park Trails Grant that Drew (Flatley Read) submitted for the Village of Stillwater.

Emergency bars with alarms will be investigated for the clerk's office doors to make the Village Hall building compliant with all codes.

The ribbon cutting for Revolution Park will be in June.

The Hometown Hero banner program will be suspended. The current hardware does not fit around the new telephone poles that are being installed in the Village and the banner company is not providing the hardware any longer. This is making it extremely difficult for the Village DPW to hang and maintain the banners efficiently.

TRUSTEE NELSON – Climate Smart Community Task Force met with Drew Alberti to investigate grant opportunities for stormwater mgmt. for Village Hall. The grant would be a 50% matching grant, with a not to exceed cost of \$4,000 to Flatley Read. Stated he will draft a letter to legislators and the governor regarding electricity rates for the rest of the VB to review.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM – Is working on a "welcome Package" for new residents, along with 2 grants to be submitted to Global Foundries for the playground and winter fest.

**Voucher Totals by Account
3/17/2026**

"A" General Fund	\$ 55,113.39
"F" Water Fund	\$ 3,694.53
"G" Sewer Fund	<u>\$ 8,920.59</u>
 TOTAL	 \$ 67,728.51

Treasurer's Report – copy provided to all board members

Up to date Revenue and Expense Control Reports have been provided to all board members.

Cindy and I completed the Annual Sexual Harassment & Discrimination Training and the Annual Workplace Violence Prevention Training on 2/25/2026

The Village of Stillwater, once again, received the best designation scores for the Fiscal Stress and Environmental Stress reviews for 2025. (The best being "NO DESIGNATION").

Assisted/responded to (5) FOIL Requests

MOTION to approve the budget adjustments as presented to the Board made by Mayor Wood Zeno, seconded by Trustee Nelson
Motion carried 3-0

Increase A.9050.800 Unemployment Insurance by \$1500.00 to cover payroll taxes
Increase A.1910.400 Unallocated Insurance to cover the Newland Wood Fire Dept. annual insurance renewals
Increase A.3410.400 Fire Dept. Contractual by \$600.00 to cover the FD Spectrum bills
Increase A.5142.400 Snow Removal Contractual by \$3,000.00 to cover snow plow parts
Increase G.8130.415 Sewage Treat/Disposal Lab Testing by \$1500.00 to cover sewer testing

MOTION to Open the Floor to the Public and Press made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham
Motion carried 4-0

Tom Mahoney, The Express Newspaper, inquired to the tax rate for the new budget. The tax rate is unchanged at \$4.15 per thousand dollars of assessment.

MOTION to close the floor to the public and press made by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Nelson
Motion carried 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF STILLWATER
March 17, 2026
Adoption of Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Motion by: Trustee Stewart
Seconded by: Trustee Cunningham

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater, after due publication and notice, held a public hearing on March 17, 2026 on the Village’s tentative budget approved by the Board and filed with the Village Clerk for the fiscal year June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027, at which time all persons interested in the subject thereof were duly heard, and the matter of the budget for such fiscal year having been duly discussed and considered, it is

NOW, THEREFORE RESOLVED, that said tentative budget, with Schedule of Salaries and Wages, is hereby adopted and established as the annual budget for the Village’s fiscal year 2026-2027; and that the Village Clerk shall prepare and certify said budget and enter the same into the minutes.

VOTE:	YES	NO	ABSENT
Trustee Cunningham	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Trustee Nelson	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Trustee DeMarco	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Trustee Stewart	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Wood-Zeno	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

I, Sheristin Tedesco, Village Clerk, do hereby verify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York on March 17, 2026.

MOTION to amend the follow Resolution to change to the word “applauds” to “thanks” in paragraph 6, made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Stewart
Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTION
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF STILLWATER
March 17, 2026

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED AID TO MUNICIPALITIES AND
STRENGTHENING NEW YORK’S STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP**

WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years; and

WHEREAS, these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York’s strength begins in its cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services, infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve; and

WHEREAS, local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living; and

WHEREAS, NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State, testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted aid and a strengthened state-local partnership; and

WHEREAS, the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Stillwater thanks Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to strengthening New York’s cities and villages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Stillwater urges the New York State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted state budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Stillwater calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure long-term fiscal stability for New York’s local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State Legislature representing the Village of Stillwater.

VOTE:	YES	NO	ABSENT
Trustee Cunningham	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Trustee Nelson	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Trustee DeMarco	_____	_____	<u> X </u>
Trustee Stewart	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Mayor Wood-Zeno	<u> X </u>	_____	_____

I, Sheristin Tedesco, Village Clerk, do hereby verify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York on March 17, 2026.

MOTION to switch dental and vision coverage to AFLAC, for all eligible employees, effective 5/1/2026 made by Mayor Wood Zeno, seconded by Trustee Nelson
 Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

VILLAGE OF STILLWATER

March 17, 2026

Resolution Amending Employee Personnel Manual

Motion By: Trustee Stewart
 Seconded By: Trustee Nelson

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater has previously adopted an Employee Personnel Manual to establish uniform personnel policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is desirable to amend paragraphs 15.0, 19.0, 29.0, 34.0 and 36.0 of the Employee Personnel Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully considered and deliberated on the proposed amendments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater hereby approves the amendment of the Village of Stillwater Employee Personnel Manual paragraphs 15.0, 19.0, 29.0, 34.0 and 36.0 and adopts said amendment effective immediately, a copy of which is attached to this resolution.

The Village Board Members present were:

Voting:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Trustee Cunningham	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee DeMarco	_____	_____	_____	<u> X </u>
Trustee Nelson	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____

Trustee Stewart	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Wood-Zeno	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

I, Sheristin Tedesco, Village Clerk, do hereby verify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York on March 17, 2026

MOTION to approve the grant writing services of Flatley Read, not to exceed \$4,000.00, made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham
 Motion carried 3-0

OLD BUSINESS

It was questioned/discussed who would be in charge of organizing the checklist for any Planning Board presentations prior to the proposal coming in front of the Village Board.

MOTION to approve the audit claims for the month made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Stewart
 Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to approve the Treasurer’s Report made by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Nelson
 Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting dated 2/17/2026 made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham
 Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to adjourn to executive session at 7:15 PM for legal matters made by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Nelson
 Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to exit executive session at 7:56 PM for legal matters made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham
 Motion carried 3-0

MOTION for payroll raises of 3% was approved for all employees and Board members with the exception of the Mayor. The Mayor will receive an increase to 15K per year made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Voting:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Trustee Cunningham	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Trustee DeMarco	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Trustee Nelson	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Trustee Stewart	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Wood-Zeno	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Motion carried 3-0, 1 abstained, 1 absent

MOTION to adjourn at 7:59 PM made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham
 Motion carried 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Sheristin Tedesco
 Clerk/Treasurer