

Village of Monroe Board of Trustees Meeting January 21, 2025

VILLAGE OF MONROE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025
(www.villageofmonroe.org)

The second of the bi-monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, New York. Mayor Neil Dwyer called the meeting to order and led in the pledge to the flag. Emergency exits were announced.

Present: Mayor Dwyer, Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl, and O'Connor

Also present: Clerk Zahra

Absent: Attorney Terhune



PUBLIC HEARING 1.21.25 – 7:00 PM
INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2024
“TO OVERRIDE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL
LAW, SECTION 3-C”

A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 in the boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, NY at 7:00 PM to review a proposed Local Law entitled, “To Override Tax Levy Limit Established by General Municipal Law, Section 3-c.” The purpose of this local law is to allow the Village of Monroe to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law, Section 3-c.

Present: Mayor Dwyer, Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl, and O'Connor

Also present: Clerk Zahra
Absent: Attorney Terhune

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O'Connor, and carried, the public hearing was opened at 7:00 PM.

There were 2 people from the public present for the public hearing. There was no written correspondence received. The public hearing was left open for 5 minutes.

With no further comments or questions, on a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee Ferraro and carried, the public hearing was closed at 7:05 PM.

MINUTE APPROVAL: JANUARY 7, 2025 BOARD MEETING:

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O'Connor, the Minutes of the January 7, 2025 Board Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O'Connor
Nays: None

BUDGETARY TRANSFERS / MODIFICATIONS:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Treasurer to make the following fund transfers / modifications to balance the budget:

From: A.1990.4900 Contingency
To: A.1989.1000 Gen Gov't Support PS
Amount: \$3,000.00 Increase Balance in Line RE: Winter Interns

On a motion by Trustee O'Connor, seconded by Trustee Behringer

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O'Connor
Nays: None

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2025 – TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, SECTION 3-C:

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Monroe, New York ("Village Board") duly noticed a public hearing held on January 21, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board solicited public comment during said public hearing on January 21, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Local Law is to authorize the Village Board to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Village and to further allow the Village Board to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing on June 1, 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the tax levy limit in accordance with General Municipal Law § 3-C.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The above "WHEREAS" paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Local Law Authorizing A Property Tax Levy In Excess of The Limit Established in General Municipal Law § 3-C as attached hereto as Schedule "A" be and hereby is adopted as Local Law No. 1 of 2025 of the Village of Monroe on January 21, 2025.
3. The Village Board hereby directs the Village Clerk to take all steps to process and file said Local Law.
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

A LOCAL LAW
TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY
GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, SECTION 3-C.

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this Local Law to allow the Village of Monroe to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2025, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law, Section 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law, Section 3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Monroe, County of Orange, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2025, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law, Section 3- c.

Section 4. Severability

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order or judgement shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Local Law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgement or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

On a motion by Trustee Ferraro, seconded by Trustee Karl

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O’Connor

Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN - 2025 INDEPENDENCE DAY – GARDEN STATE FIREWORKS:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approve a contract with Garden State Fireworks, P.O. Box 403, Millington, NJ 07946 for furnishing and conducting a firework display on Thursday, July 3, 2025 (rain date of Saturday, July 5th) in the amount \$21,000.00, 50% Deposit of \$10,500.00 due at signing of contract. \$10,500.00 due immediately following the display. It is further:

RESOLVED, Mayor Dwyer is authorized to sign the contract agreement with Garden State Fireworks.

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee Behringer

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O’Connor

Nays: None

WATER PENALTY WAIVER – TOWN CUSTOMER #10256:

Town water customer account #10256 requests to have the \$241.53 penalty fee waived from her water account due to the belief she had set up an automatic payment for her water payment.

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees denies the request of Town water customer #10256 for waiver of water penalties totaling \$241.53.

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O’Connor

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O’Connor
Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE – KONE INC – HACKER RESISTANT ADA ELEVATOR PHONE:

This has been tabled for further review.

WATER DEPARTMENT – INVENTORY SURPLUS / WATER METERS– REQUEST TO DISPOSE/ SCRAPPED:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees declares the following Water Department non-working water meters surplus and of no value and authorize its removal from inventory to be scrapped.

Meter # 1830733544	Serial # 36270771	Serial # 88807848	Serial # 30493751
Meter # 1481691992	Serial # 89374481	Serial # 42512735	Serial # 41471692
Meter # 1575828404	Serial # 85633460	Serial # 89430016	Serial # 43376819
Serial # 25613389	Serial # 51887443	Serial # 90086670	Serial # 81256077
Serial # 83714123	Serial # 85633594	Serial # 35868620	Serial # 91786063
Serial # 85633605	Serial # 82156052	Serial # 85633344	Serial # 87286824
Serial # 89429965	Serial # 38660231	Serial # 85633557	Serial # 91072425
Serial # 52794270	Serial # 41904517	Serial # 85633523	Serial # 42789749
Serial # 70325918	Serial # 73488418	Serial # 90086701	Serial # 88955476
Serial # 85433578	Serial # 85633443	Serial # 40654007	Serial # 85633402
Serial # 60034874	Serial # 69878635	Serial # 93301039	Serial # 30493746
Serial # 31450695	Serial # 32555194	Serial # 85633375	Serial # 40653989
Serial # 88714137	Serial # 85633391	Serial # 89430028	Serial # 90086704
Serial # 85633568	Serial # 29229956	Serial # 87286823	Serial # 87830288
Serial # 67094496	Serial # 37096213	Serial # 45851542	Serial # 87286820
Serial # 49807494	Serial # 85633483	Serial # 90110917	Serial # 87544622
Serial # 88714055	Serial # 88959952	Serial # 87544575	Serial # 43376861
Serial # 73488398			

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O’Connor

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O’Connor
Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE / TWO FULL-TIME LABORER POSITIONS:

RESOLVED, the Village Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for two (2) full-time Laborer positions for the Village of Monroe Public Works Department. Candidates must possess a valid driver’s license. The Orange County Application for Employment can be found on the Village’s website or in the Village Clerk’s Office.

**HELP WANTED
VILLAGE OF MONROE HIGHWAY DEPT.
F/T LABORER**

The Village of Monroe is seeking to fill the position of Full-Time Laborer, working with the Public Works Department.

All Candidates must possess a valid Driver's License and be capable of performing varied types of manual and unskilled laboring work. A CDL is a plus. The Orange County Application for Employment can be downloaded from the Village's website, www.villageofmonroe.org, or picked up in the Village Clerk's Office, 7 Stage Road Monroe, NY. Candidates will be subject to an appropriate background check. Send application, resume and cover letter to the attention of the Village Clerk, Village of Monroe, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, NY 10950.

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O'Connor

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O'Connor

Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION FOR DPW PURCHASE – 2024 FORD F-350 / SCHULTZ FORD LINCOLN, INC.:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village of Monroe Department of Public Works to purchase a 2024 Ford F-350, replacing Truck #6 / 2011 Ford F-350, from Shultz Ford Lincoln, Inc., 80 Route 304, Nanuet, NY 10954, off State Bid NYS OGS contract #PC69148, in the amount of \$56,500.00 to be allocated from budget line A.5110.2400, St. Maintenance Highway Equipment.

On a motion by Trustee O'Connor, seconded by Trustee Karl

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Ferraro, Karl and O'Connor

Nays: None

DISCUSSION – CRANE PARK:

A discussion was had about the use of the ponds for ice skating. Red and green flags used to be used to alert people to the safety of the ice. After speaking with the insurance agent, the Village was advised signs should be posted advising people that skating is at your own risk. Red and green flags are no longer used. On the books in 1965, any unorganized activity in the park on land, in or on the water or on the frozen surface of the water is not condoned nor sponsored by the Village. However, if individuals take it upon themselves to make use of the paved area or land for kite flying, jogging, walking, picnicking, etc., or to make use of the ice surface for skating, sledding or any winter activity, this action is on the part of the citizen and is done without Village knowledge. Individuals using the facility do so at their own risk and, by doing so, agree to hold the Village harmless for any accidents or injuries that occur.

DISCUSSION - AUTHORIZATION – INSTALLATION OF NEW UTILITY BODY – DPW – WATER:

This has been tabled for further review.

DISCUSSION - AUTHORIZATION – INSTALLATION OF NEW UTILITY BODY – DPW – HIGHWAY:

This has been tabled for further review.

MAYOR & TRUSTEE'S REPORT:

Trustee Karl inquired about the status of 99 Spring Street. The Clerk will contact Attorney

Cassidy for an update to share with the Board. He also asked if there has been any resolution with the parking at the senior housing at Monroe Commons. Mayor Dwyer said back in the day the Planning Board was the responsible party for the amount of parking spaces provided for Monroe Commons. The Village is looking into alternative parking for these residents.

Trustee Behringer reminded Village residents of the code for snow removal on Village sidewalks. Please keep your sidewalks free of ice and snow.

AS PER VILLAGE OF MONROE CODE:

Chapter 170. Streets and Sidewalks

Article I. Snow and Ice Removal

§ 170-1. Duty to keep sidewalk clear.

It shall be the duty of the owner and occupant, jointly and severally, of every parcel of real estate adjoining a public sidewalk, whether the parcel of real estate is occupied by a structure or not, to keep such sidewalks adjoining such property free from snow and ice and for the full paved width of such sidewalk.

§ 170-2. Time limit for removal.

Snow and ice shall be removed within 24 hours after the end of a snowfall. Sidewalks in front of commercial establishments and commercial parking lots shall be kept free of snow and ice at all times between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

§ 170-3. Severe icing.

In case snow and ice on any sidewalk shall be frozen so hard that it cannot be removed without injury to the sidewalk, it shall, within the time specified in § 170-2, be strewn and kept strewn with ashes, sand, sawdust or other suitable material so as to be no longer dangerous to life and limb. As soon as practical thereafter, the sidewalk shall be completely cleared of snow, ice and other materials strewn thereon, as provided in this chapter.

§ 170-4. Removal by Village.

Whenever the owner or occupant of every parcel of real estate adjoining a public sidewalk fails to remove the snow and ice from such sidewalk adjoining such property within the time specified in this chapter or within four (4) hours after notice by the Village Clerk of the Village of Monroe to remove same, the Department of Public Works Superintendent may remove said snow or ice from such sidewalk and notify the Village Clerk of the expense incurred by the amount of labor, equipment and materials used.

§ 170-5. Cost of removal.

The Village Clerk shall promptly present to the owner or occupant of each parcel a bill for the removal of snow and ice as certified by the Department of Public Works Superintendent. If not paid within 30 days, the cost thereof shall be assessed against the property and become a lien thereon, collectible in the same manner as delinquent Village taxes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

PRESENT 2

TIME: 7:40 PM

Avrohom Flohr, Village resident, wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked the

Village for keeping the Village safe and clean. Mr. Flohr commented that it is inhumane to have people standing outside the Village Hall during rainy and cold weather. He hopes the Village can come up with a solution to prevent this from being an issue.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee O'Connor and carried, no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Trustee Karl commented on the Water Department report, last year vs. this year, water consumption has increased by 111 thousand gallons per day.

On a motion by Trustee Behringer, seconded by Trustee Karl, with all in favor, the department monthly reports were accepted and filed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Zahra
Village Clerk

DECEMBER 2024 VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT SUBMITTED BY KIMBERLY ZAHRA, VILLAGE CLERK:

1. Minutes prepared, processed associated correspondence and Legal Notices completed for the December 3rd and December 17th Board of Trustee meeting.
2. Permits issued: Handicap Parking: 13 Garage Sale: 0 Solicitor/Peddling: 0
Road Opening: 1 Blasting Permit: 0 Liquor License: 0 Towing Permits: 0
3. Processed 0 Event Applications.
4. Public Hearings Held: 1 Due Process Hearing: 0
5. Bi-Weekly payroll worksheets completed and submitted.
6. Bi-Weekly payroll worksheets for Highway and Water Departments completed and submitted.
7. Collected November water rents.
8. Required paperwork filed with O.C. Department of Human Resources.
9. Processed FOIL requests.
10. Provided Notary Services.
11. Oversee updates and maintenance, of Village Website and Constant Contact. (27 sent)
12. Daily retrieval of messages left during the day and after hours. Forwarded messages and responded as required.
13. Vouchers completed as required. Transmittal of money collected completed and bank deposits done.
14. Scan and email pertinent information to Board and Attorney.
15. Scan documents into DOCUWARE.
16. Maintain calendar for Mayor Dwyer.
17. Closed out mailing machine for month 12/31/24.
18. Lawn Maintenance – Property Maintenance Violation processing.

DECEMBER 2024 JUSTICE COURT REPORT:

Total Fines: \$21,591.00 Total Surcharges: \$7,806.00 Total Parking: \$5,200.00

Total Civil Fees: \$2,405.00 Bail Poundage Collected: \$0.00

Total Bail Forfeited: \$0.00

Total for December: \$37,002.00

Vehicle & Traffic Tickets: 289 Disposed: 280

Criminal Cases: 37 Disposed: 23 Civil Cases: 4 Disposed: 4
Paid Parking Tickets: 124 Dismissed Traffic Tickets: 59

DECEMBER 2024 POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT SUBMITTED BY DARWIN GUZMAN, CHIEF:

CALLS FOR SERVICE

TOTAL CALLS – 1,941
CASES/CRIMINAL OFFENSE – 105
ARRESTS – 37

TRAFFIC REPORT

TRAFFIC TICKETS – 260
PARKING TICKETS – 230
GAS - \$2,642.99 / 1,161 GALLONS
MVA’S - 23

TRAINING

LT. YOUNG – NICHE
DET. PAYTON – NICHE
SGT. BERKE – SUPERVISOR SCHOOL
P.O. ROMER – TRU
P.O. BEACH – TRU
DET. FARNINGHAM – CIT TRAINING
DET. PAYTON – EMS

ALL DISPATCHERS: COMPLACENCY & CRITICAL THINKING AEP TRAINING

DECEMBER 2024 FILTRATION PLANT REPORT SUBMITTED BY WILL OSTROWSKI, WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR:

Production: Lake Mombasha:	32,156,841	27,486,895 Gallons LY 2023
Well #4:	4,218,020	5,429,330 Gallons LY 2023

Consumption: 36,374,861 Gallons / 32,916,225 Gallons LY 2023
Water Samples / Testing: Passed
Rainfall: 4.78”
Reservoir: -8.5

Miscellaneous:

Mark Outs
2 Reservoir Inspections
Final Water Reads
Daily Equipment Maintenance at Plant and Well
Weekly and Monthly Water Testing to Lab, All Results Good
Installed New Duty Pump and Serviced all Check Valves at Van Keuren Pump Station
Water Main Break Rye Hill Road
CLA-VAL at Gilbert Street and High Street Serviced
Water Main Break Holland Road
New Heater installed in Vault between the Water Plant
New Valve Installed at Pine Tree Pump Station

DECEMBER 2024 DPW SUBMITTED BY ALDO CHIAPPETTA, WORKING LEADER:

Repaired Basins along Village roads
Completed leaf removal throughout Village streets
Sweeping Village streets
Maintain Village equipment

Check and clean basins
Picked garbage throughout Crane Park
Installed salters and plows for snow season
Maintain Lake View property
Work on ms4 report
Maintain all Village owned property
Assisted with dredging project
Change out garbage cans around park area
Cleaned and removed flowers throughout park
Backfilled Smithfield project (full restoration spring time)
Assisted with 2 water main repairs
3 snow/ice events
Blacktop repairs
Cleaned piles of brush along streets
Helped out with Village Hall renovation

DECEMBER 2024 BUILDING DEPARTMENT SUBMITTED BY BUILDING DEPARTMENT JIM COCKS, BUILDING INSPECTOR:

Building Permits Issued:	22
Title Searches Completed:	19
Building Permit Inspections Performed:	40
C.O’s Issued:	16
Open, active building permits:	459
FOIL Requests:	3
Building Permit Fees:	\$ 3,712.50
Title Search Fees:	2,250.00
Total Collected Fees:	\$ 5,962.50

Monthly Assessor’s Report
Daily cash deposits to Clerk
Bi Monthly mailing for expired permits

DECEMBER 2024 CODE ENFORCEMENT SUBMITTED BY CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT RON SVRCHEK, ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR:

Rental Inspections Completed: 53
Rental Permits Issued: 2

Complaint Inspections: 52

Fire Inspections: 12

Property Maintenance Inspections: 97

Total Violations Issued: 92

Rental Permit Fees: \$1,000.00
Fire Inspections Fees: \$ 125.00

Total Fees Collected: \$1,125.00

DECEMBER 2024 TREASURER’S REPORT SUBMITTED BY ANTHONY FELIZ:

Treasurer's Report Village of Monroe December 2024		
<u>SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY (REVENUES)</u>		
Util Gross Receipts Tax		26,884
Int & Earnings General		\$28,950
Fines and Forfeited Bail		\$23,833
Grants FM Local Gov		\$460,688
Mortgage Tax		\$100,411
Int & Penalty Water Rents		29,076
 <u>SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY (EXPENDITURES)</u>		
Law Contractual		13,657
Law Contractual Other		\$29,667
VH Contractual		\$13,840
VH Renovations		\$31,552
PD Grant Expense		\$12,778
PD Contractual		\$13,536
On Street Parking Equipment	\$	8,869
St Maint. Asphalt		\$10,697
St. Maint Equipment Maint		\$10,471
Street Lighting Street		\$9,398
Parks Crane Park Improvement		\$96,223
Parks Contractual		\$196,616
Celebrations General Exp	\$	5,731
Planning Board Engineer Contractual		\$5,092
State Retirement (General Fund)	\$	281,974
Police Retirement		\$663,697
Purification Chemicals		\$18,716
Purification Building Maint.		32,285
Distribution Equipment Maint.		5,619
State Retirement (Water Fund)		35,246
Distribution Contractual		7,369
Health Insurance - General Fund		189,509
- Water Fund		13,831
		<hr/> 203,341
Workers Comp. - General Fund		3,996
- Water Fund		2,831
		<hr/> 6,827
Liability Insurance - General Fund		41,426
- Water Fund		11,643
		<hr/> 53,068
<u>STATUS OF FY2024 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNTS</u>		CURRENT BALANCE
General Fund Appropriation -budgeted	\$200,000	200,000
Water Fund Appropriation -budgeted	\$51,500	51,500
 <u>COMMENTS:</u>		

We have completed 7 months of the fiscal year and expenses should be at 58.3%. The expenses are at 79.4% for the General Fund and 34.3% for the Water Fund inclusive of budget adjustments to be approved by the board.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony Feliz
Treasurer