

VILLAGE OF MONROE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025
(www.villageofmonroe.org)

The first of the bi-monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 6, 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: Attorney Terhune and Clerk Zahra

MINUTE APPROVAL – APRIL 15, 2025 BOARD MEETING:

On a motion by Trustee Karl seconded by Trustee Behringer, the Minutes of the April 15, 2025 Board Meeting were approved.

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

APPOINTMENT – VILLAGE HALL SEASONAL INTERN – J. CASTANA:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Jacob Castana, Monroe, New York, to the position of seasonal intern. Pre-approval has been received from the Orange County Department of Civil Service. Mr. Castana will be paid at an hourly rate of \$19.00/hour.

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

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

APPOINTMENT – VILLAGE HALL SEASONAL INTERN – J. BALESKA:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Jayleen Balseca, Monroe, New York, to the position of seasonal intern. Pre-approval has been received from the Orange County Department of Civil Service. Ms. Balesca will be paid at an hourly rate of \$19.00/hour.

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

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

APPOINTMENT – WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR – M. PASCULLO – WATER DEPARTMENT:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the appointment and reinstatement of Matthew Pascullo to the position of Water Treatment Plant Operator for the Water Department, with an effective date of May 7, 2025 and a salary of \$41.26 per hour as per the current IBEW contract on file. Mr. Pascullo previously held this title with another municipality before he began his career with the Village of Monroe Highway Department and is now accepting an opportunity with our Water Department.

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

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

UNPAID CHARGES LEVIED TO THE FY 2025/2026 TAX ROLL:

RESOLVED, per the requirement of Orange County Real Property Tax Service, the preparer of the June Village Tax Bills, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Clerk to forward the following amounts to be levied to fiscal year 2025/2026 June Village Tax:

Amount to be raised by taxes	\$7,920,358.00
Unpaid Water Charges (WR010)	\$476,103.87

Other Charges – Unpaid Fire Inspections (OC10)	\$400.00
Property Maintenance Charges (DM001)	\$11,882.96

The unpaid property maintenance charges (DM001) and unpaid fire inspections (OC10) listed pertain to the following properties:

OC10	201-3-1.11	\$ 25.00
OC10	201-3-2	\$ 25.00
OC10	203-2-5	\$ 75.00
OC10	207-1-14	\$ 150.00
OC10	212-5-3	\$ 50.00
OC10	220-4-7	\$ 25.00
OC10	220-5-17	\$ 25.00
OC10	222-1-3.1	\$ 25.00
DM001	201-3-4	\$ 658.66
DM001	201-3-8	\$ 313.29
DM001	202-2-7.2	\$ 215.97
DM001	203-5-1	\$ 525.66
DM001	203-5-4	\$ 336.33
DM001	204-2-11	\$ 523.66
DM001	207-1-17	\$ 217.97
DM001	209-1-15	\$ 660.66
DM001	212-2-2	\$1,481.86
DM001	212-7-10	\$1,195.17
DM001	214-1-45	\$1,718.75
DM001	225-1-17	\$ 461.25
DM001	228-3-7	\$ 525.66
DM001	228-3-8	\$ 525.66
DM001	232-1-9	\$1,770.20
DM001	235-2-1	\$ 339.61
DM001	235-4-9	\$ 412.60

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

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

WATER DEPARTMENT – INVENTORY SURPLUS– REQUEST TO DISPOSE:

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

- Turbidimeter- HF Instruments 000819
- Onalyzer Model601A – Orion Research 000212
- Hellige-Aqua Tester 000803
- Phosphate Machine- HACH 000210
- Triple Beam Balance- OHAUS
- Glass Beakers
- Microscope
- Turbidimeter- Hellige
- Turbidimeter- HACH

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

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

HUDSON VALLEY WATER WORKS CONFERENCE – WATER DEPARTMENT – J. PRINCE:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the attendance of Jaime Prince to the Hudson Valley Water Works Conference held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 from 8:00AM to 2:00PM at the Town of Wallkill Golf Club, 40 Sands Road, Middletown, New York. The \$75.00 cost will be allocated from budget line F.8330.4720, Purification Education. Water certificates and 4.0 Department of Health contact hours are awarded upon completion.

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee Behringer

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

Nays: None

EVENT APPLICATION – VILLAGE OF MONROE CHEESE FESTIVAL 2025:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the Special Events Permit Application submitted by Mayor Dwyer to host the Village of Monroe Cheese Festival on Sunday, September 14, 2025 from 11 AM to 7 PM. The festival will consist of vendors and music. Set-up for the event will begin at 7AM. The festival will be held throughout the downtown of the Village resulting in street closures in and around Lake Street and Millpond Parkway. This event has been reviewed and approved by the Building Department, DPW, and Police Department. Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Monroe Fire District and Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp will be notified.

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

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

Nays: None

TRI-COUNTY NYSBOC TRAINING – BUILDING / CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT – C. WATSON:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the attendance of Chris Watson to the Tri-County NYSBOC training class, to be held on Friday, May 16, 2025 at 9:00AM at the Orange County Fire Training Center, New Hampton, New York. This four-hour training class includes DBSC Division Update, Performing Plan Review and Inspections, and changes to the MHCSS aka “HUD Code.” The total \$20.00 cost will be allocated from budget line A.3620.4720, Bldg Inspector Education. A Village vehicle will be utilized for their transportation to the training.

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

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

Nays: None

WATER DEPARTMENT – REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE – MXI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the removal of hazardous waste through MXI Environmental Services, LLC for the Water Department in the amount of \$3,349.00 to be allocated from budget line F.8330.4330, Purification Chemicals.

On a motion by Trustee Karl, seconded by Trustee Ferraro

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

Nays: None

MAYOR & TRUSTEE'S REPORT:

Mayor Dwyer said the playground build continues and the play equipment should be done by Friday, then the finishing up will take place. He thanked the volunteers, Board, and Department of Public Works for their help.

Trustee Behringer commented that the weather has not cooperated for the Airplane Park rebuild and is very excited for the completion of the park.

Trustee Ferraro thanked the many local restaurants that have donated food for the workers and volunteers. They put the community in front of profit. Please be sure to support our local restaurants.

Trustee Karl said kudos to all the folks participated in Clean Sweep, they did a great job. Trustee Karl announced that vendor applications are now being accepted for the Independence Day Celebration, not-for-profits will be accepted first, then it is open for the for-profit organizations. He also commented on the sign status for Stage Road in respect to the speed and commercial traffic, when will they be put up. Trustee Karl also inquired if anything more had been discussed in regards to the parking lot at 1 Stage Road. He asked about the streetlights. Mayor Dwyer said there is a meeting scheduled for next week on this very topic. He would also like a letter to go out the Public Service Commission regarding the double poles in our Village, as per our Village Code they should be removed. Trustee Karl also inquired about

the 2026 Community Development Grant. Any ideas on what we could apply for. Mayor Dwyer said the grant is directed toward low-and-moderate- income map which currently includes the trailer park and Hidden Creek for the Village of Monroe. Trustee Karl would also like a letter written to the Town of Monroe Supervisor and Gedayle Szegedin, Village of Kiryas Joel, for an update on the Kiryas Joel Salt Shed located within the aquifer of Well #4 in Smith’s Clove Park, as the sodium chloride levels have been rising.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: **# PRESENT 2** **TIME: 7:20PM**

Nora Staffanell, Village resident spoke:

I am the initiator of Indivisible Monroe/Hands Off Hudson Valley.

We had a tremendous turnout of over 70 people at this past weekend’s pro-democracy event.

Monroe Republicans, Democrats, and Independents all came together as Americans to protest the un-American actions of the Trump regime.

We will be holding our next event on May 17th from 1 to 2 pm at the corner of Lake Street and 17M. I would like to invite everyone here to attend. Our events are held rain or shine.

People have different reasons for attending these events. I’d like to briefly share with you one reason that I heard from several residents of the Village of Monroe who attended this weekend’s demonstration and who are alarmed by the government’s treatment of immigrants.

I personally am alarmed to see the graffiti on the Heritage Trail, which has been painted over and reappeared several times. I would like to see the removal of these hateful words and the addition of a “Smile - You’re on camera” sign nearby, which is way cheaper than an actual camera.

Given the number of Monroe residents with an undefined legal status, I would like to encourage this Board and the Village Police Department to publicly commit to upholding the Constitution, and specifically the 5th and 14th Amendments of our Constitution, which hold that constitutional rights apply to both citizens and noncitizens in the United States.

Thank you for listening to the concerns shared with us by Village of Monroe residents. I have the utmost respect and gratitude for our men and women in the Village Police Department, as well as our elected officials. Thank you for your service to the public. And I hope to see you at the next event on Saturday, May 17th, at 1 pm over at the corner of Lake Street and 17M.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Behringer, seconded by Trustee Karl and carried, no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Zahra
Village Clerk