

**Village of Wampsville
Minutes
October 7, 2025**

Mayor Seymour called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Mayor Gerald Seymour Jr., Trustees: Marcia Rafte, Douglas Bailey, Dawn Collins, Ellen Bowe. Others: Village Clerk/Treasurer Debbi Waxenfeld, Village Attorney Joseph Frateschi, Fire Chief Symon Sumner, Sue Brown, and Anthony Salay

Motion by Trustee Rafte, seconded by Trustee Collins, to approve the attached meeting minutes from the September 2, 2025, meeting. All in favor

Residents

No public comments were made.

Village Attorney

Attorney Frateschi spoke about a current Solar farm court hearing that is going on in another municipality. He indicated that the outcome could provide some guidance on how towns and villages can regulate solar farms in the future. He will keep us updated.

Financial Report/ Clerk's Concerns

Debbi Waxenfeld provided the board with the Operating Statements, Bank statements and the monthly bills which also included copies of the bills presented at the meeting held on September 23rd. Debbi also advised the board that the lease on the pickup truck has been paid in full. There was overpayment made due to the autopayment and the request for its return has been submitted. Mayor Seymour suggested that we continue to transfer the same amount of the truck payment monthly into the money market account as in a couple of years we will be paying on a new Fire Truck. Debbi also reviewed the following:

1. Website Concerns – As mentioned in the previous meeting, there are parts of the website that Debbi is unable to update, and we are trying to work with Patrick Fowler to gain access to allow us to update things as needed. We also need to update the website per the rules from NYS before the end of the year. We've had very little luck getting anything from Patrick, so we will look to contact Kyle Cashel and see if he can help us out.
2. Cybersecurity – we received a report that graded us with 2 Fs when it comes to our website. With the above-mentioned concerns, it is discussed that we should investigate getting a .gov website. Again, we will research a new IT person that might be more responsive to our needs.
3. Taxes to county – Debbi presented the spreadsheet of unpaid taxes to the board. The unpaid taxes and the list of taxes paid need to be sent to the county along with the form VT-1. After a roll call of all Yes, the board members and the mayor signed the form and Attorney Frateschi notarized the form. A motion was made by Trustee Collins and seconded by Trustee Bailey to send the tax information to the county.

Debbi Waxenfeld asked for a motion to pay the bills presented. Trustee Collins made a motion to pay the current bills in the amount of \$20,355.35 which included the bills from the end of

September that weren't originally included on the abstrat; Trustee Bailey seconds the motion. All in favor.

Event Committee

Debbi Waxenfeld let the board know that we've only had 15 trunks sign up for the upcoming Trunk or Treat on October 25th. Conversations have been had about perhaps not doing this event next year and instead having a Halloween party at the village or fire department. It is unclear why people have not been volunteering or participating in events. Canastota has also had to cancel events and numbers have been significantly lower for recent events. Perhaps it is the rising cost of things preventing those that normally participate to do so. Debbi Waxenfeld also let the board know about upcoming events in Canastota.

Fire Department

Chief Sumner reported that September was a very busy month. As part of his chief's report, he advised that there were 17 calls, including 2 structure fires. The car show that was held last month was very successful. It was the largest attended, both in visitors, vendors and cars in many years. The fireman ran out of food. There were two boot drives held that day and they raised a combined total of \$7,300. The fire company generously donated those funds towards the purchase of a new combi tool. The Chief also let the board know that he was able to sell the air bottles for 6,450 and decommissioned hoses. Those proceeds can also be used to offset the cost of the new tool. Once the new Combi tool is received and they are comfortable with using it, they will seek permission to sell the old one. There have been a few calls in the village for burning. With the burn ban, violations have been issued. The fire department will be sending a truck to the funeral for Sam Osborne on Saturday. Questions were asked regarding batteries and fires. Chief Sumner explained the dangers of not properly disposing of batteries and how to properly charge them.

Town of Lenox

No one from the Town of Lenox was present, however, Trustee Rafte attended the last meeting. The meeting was very long as they had discussions about properties that had code violations.

Infrastructure

1. Roof – The roof repairs were completed. All new bolts, nuts, boots and sheet metal were fixed. Also, the pedestrian door in the fire department roof was completed.

Mayor's Comments

1. NYCOM conference –Mayor Seymour let the board know that a lot of knowledge was gained at the conference. He was able to network and speak to several engineers as well.
2. Bill meeting – One of the things that was brought up during the training was that a second meeting to pay the bills makes sense. A lot of our invoices are received after our meeting, and our next meeting is after their due date. A motion was approved by Trustee Bailey to have a short meeting at 6:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Trustee Rafte seconded and all were in favor. This meeting will be before the Planning board meeting.
3. Septic – the mayor talked with engineers regarding the idea of having the pumping of septic tanks be part of our taxes. The engineer remarked how this could be a pilot program and there could possibly be funding available. Some studies need to be done.

Septic tanks are better environmentally than sewer systems, so it would be great to investigate this. More to come.

4. Mats – As previously mentioned, the mayor would like to use Cintas for a floor mat service. The cost is minimal, less than \$30/month. For safety during the winter all agreed that this would be good. A motion was made by Trustee Bowe to allow the mayor to sign a contract to have Cintas used for floor mats. Trustee Rafte seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
5. Shelter – We have now been approved as an emergency shelter by the Red Cross. A volunteer came and asked questions and looked around and approved of the building. Typically, during a disaster there is a 3 day average that individuals use the space.
6. Snowplow contract – A motion was made by Trustee Collins to allow the mayor to enter in the annual snowplowing contract with the City of Oneida in the amount of \$1,000 for the plowing of the end of Daniel's Drive. Trustee Bowe seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Trustee's Comments

Trustee Bowe wanted to point out that the Town of Lenox highway department did a wonderful job picking up her bags of leaves. Sue Brown also said they were wonderful at her house too.

Questions were brought up about what would happen to the stop signs that were placed on Court Street once winter came and the plows were out. Mayor Seymour had reached out to inquire about getting permanent signs but was told that it was a county road and they could not just make them a permanent thing. He continues to inquire about a possible study or what the next steps would be. There are concerns about the temporary signs being knocked over by the snowplows.

Correspondence

None to report.

A motion was made by Trustee Bowe at 7:24 to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Bailey seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Next meeting to pay any bills is October 21, 2025, at 6:00 pm and the next regularly scheduled meeting is November 4, 2025, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Waxenfeld

Debbi Waxenfeld
Clerk/Treasurer