

VILLAGE OF BARKER BUDGET SESSION MINUTES



March 10, 2025

6:00pm @ Village Hall Meeting Room

Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis
Trustee Val Ditommaso
Trustee Melanie Hirschman
Trustee Alexzander Detschner

In **Attendance**: Clerk-Treasurer Detschner, Robert Wendler, Chloe Lee and all 5 members of the Board of Trustees. DPW Superintendent/CEO Mark Remington was absent from the meeting.

The budget session began at 6:09pm.

Budget session for FY 2025-2026 budget

General Fund appropriations were discussed:

Began by revisiting A1010.4 Board of Trustees Contractual by lowering it to \$1300 from \$2500. A1325.41 CT Contractual was lowered to \$3300 from \$7800, eliminating the new website revamp. The \$7200 for A1640.4 Garage Contractual was eliminated for the GIS. A3310.4 Signs & Signals was lowered to \$500 from \$1500. A3620.1 Building Inspector PS was lowered to \$7650 from \$8000. The \$24,000 for A5130.2 Machinery was eliminated. A5197.4 DPW Equipment Reserve was lowered to \$5000 from \$10,000. A5410.4 Sidewalks was increased to \$10,000 to focus on Main Street and Quaker Road to the school. A8694.4 Tree Maintenance was lowered to \$2000 from \$5000. Bringing the total appropriations to \$474,344 from \$520,594.

Water Fund expenditures and Revenues remained the same.

Public Comment was offered from:

Robert Wendler: Stated he likes the idea of sharing services with the Town of Somerset, especially the GIS and would like us to use the same water software that the Town of Somerset does because it's user friendly. He also stated that the additional roof racks for the new building should cost half of \$9000. The lowest quote received was \$9000.

The **budget session was adjourned at 6:53pm** on a motion from Trustee DiTommaso and seconded by Trustee Detschner.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC/RMC/CMFO
Clerk-Treasurer

VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



March 10, 2025

7:00PM

Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis
Trustee Val Ditommaso
Trustee Melanie Hirschman
Trustee Alexzander Detschner

In **Attendance**: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Laurel Cantella, Neal Gordon, Robert Wendler, Charlotte Clause, Chloe Lee, Lynette Hawley and the following BCS students: Rachel Samson, Owen Harris, Summer Duchow, Ayame Chrenshaw. DPW Superintendent/CEO was absent from the meeting.

At 7:00pm the meeting was called to order by Mayor Corwin-Bradley by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **Sales tax** received for February 2025 was \$16,801.80, a decrease of \$403.10 from February 2023. A year to date decrease in Sales Tax in the amount of \$1127.66.

The **Approval of Minutes** for the meetings held February 10, 2025 Monthly Board Meeting, February 24, 2025 CEO Hearing, February 24, 2025 Budget Session Minutes, March 3, 2025 Budget Session was motioned for approval by Trustee Detschner and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

March 10, 2025 MINUTES

A motion to set the **public hearing date and time for FY 2025-2026 Budget** for April 7, 2025 at 7:00pm was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee DiTommaso.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Resolution #9 -2025 Herbert W. Carr Post #425 Agreement

WHEREAS, the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 was formed in the Town of Somerset/Village of Barker to ensure the remembrance of veterans that have served the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 provides flags of Town/Village veterans to honor Somerset/Barker residents that have served the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker desires to assist the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 with the placement and removal of said flags on utility poles throughout the Village; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Herbert W. Carr Post #425 of the American Legion to assist the American Legion placing and removing veteran's flags on utility poles in consideration of publicity for Town/Village veterans.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #9-2025** was made by Trustee Detschner and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Resolution #10-2025 Support of Continued and Increased State Aid for Local Governments

Whereas, until 2024, cities, villages and towns had not received an increase in unrestricted state aid (AIM funding) in 15 years, significantly impacting their ability to provide essential services to their residents; and

Whereas, after a prolonged period without financial support, local governments finally received an increase of \$50 million in unrestricted state aid; and

Whereas, local officials express their gratitude for the \$50 million increase in unrestricted state aid, recognizing it as a positive step towards addressing long-standing funding challenges; and

Whereas, the State has referred to this new aid as Temporary Municipal Assistance, suggesting that such increase may not continue, jeopardizing the sustainability of crucial municipal programs and services; and

Whereas, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the programs and services their residents need; and

Whereas, increased and ongoing state aid for local governments is vital for maintaining infrastructure, public safety, housing and other municipal services; and

Whereas, the challenges of inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid only accentuate the need for consistent and predictable funding to effectively plan for the future and meet the growing needs of their residents;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Village of Barker calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to commit to continuing the additional \$50 million in unrestricted state aid in the 2025-26 State Budget and beyond, and

Be it further resolved, that the Village of Barker urges state officials to recognize the need for a long-term plan that ensures consistent and predictable increases in financial support for local governments that keep pace with inflation.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Robert Ort, Assemblymember Paul Bologna and the New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM).

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #10-2025** was made by Trustee DiTommaso and seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

The **Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports** were reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

- ✓ Any unpaid water accounts as of April 1, 2025 will be re-levied onto the Village tax roll for collection June. Final notices were mailed to each unpaid account on February 21, 2025
- ✓ Please begin to think about the Spring newsletter and any articles that you would like to submit. This newsletter must be kept to 4 pages because of the annual drinking water quality report, target date is April 15th
- ✓ Village Election will be held March 18th from Noon until 9:00pm at the Village Meeting Room, Village Hall

Problems continue to persist with gWorks water software. Penalty had to be entered by hand, weeks after it should have been applied due to the persistence of the Clerk-Treasurer. A person from Client Success is supposed to reach out to the Clerk-Treasurer in the next week to address the many issues that persist in the software for basic tasks. Every week more issues arise, causing the Clerk-Treasurer to have to persistently pursue answers that sometimes never come. Uncertainty remains as to how next quarter's billing will happen in April. New software is going to have to be explored.

The **Public Works Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

The **Code Enforcement Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.
permit issued: 1 remodel

Correspondence: NYSEG Natural Gas Safety Notice
Cornell University-NYS LTAP Center Educational Pamphlets
Charter Communications- Upcoming Programming Changes- February 28, 2025
Lalberge Group letter & Flyer of Services
NC Gallonage Report- February 2025

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment: Abstract 010 Voucher #'s 362-405
General Fund-\$23,479.96 Water Fund-\$1,112.13 T&A Fund-\$1,500.00 TOTAL \$26,092.09

A **motion to approve the above audited claims and bill payment by the entire Board of Trustees** was made by Trustee Detschner and seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Budget Transfer: A1320.4 Accountant \$1200.00 to A1325.42 VH Supplies
A7110.42 Parks Portable Toilet \$120.00 to A7110.41 Parks Electricity

A **motion to approve the above budget transfers** was made by Trustee DiTommaso and seconded by Trustee Detschner.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Public Comment was offered by:
Charlotte Clause: stated she will be opening a massage studio in the former ceramics shop at 8673 Church Street. She hopes to open in June.

Board Comment was offered by:
Trustee DiTommaso: Stated he was excited to see so many people attending this evenings meeting.
Mayor Corwin-Bradley: Thanked the Board of Trustees and Village Officials/Employees present for her time serving the Village, as this was her last meeting as Mayor.

A motion for **adjournment was made at 7:08pm** by Trustee Detschner and seconded by Trustee Hirschman.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Next Budget Session will be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room, 8708 Main Street, Barker.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be the Annual Organizational Meeting Monday, April 7, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room, 8708 Main Street, Barker.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC/RMC/CMFO
Clerk-Treasurer