



VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

August 11, 2025
7:00PM

Mayor Aaron Davis
Deputy Val DiTommaso
Trustee Melanie Hirschman
Trustee Alexzander Detschner
Trustee Chloe Lee

Attendance

At 7:00pm meeting is called to order by Mayor Davis by administering the Pledge of Allegiance

- **Sales tax** received for July 2025 was \$21,067.35 an increase of \$3733.10 from July 2024
- **Approval of Minutes** for the monthly board meeting held July 14, 2025 and the Special Meeting minutes August 8, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING-

A Local Law Establishing a Moratorium on Utility-Scale Solar Energy System Installations and Utility-Scale Electrical Energy Storage Device Systems within the Village for a Period of Eight Months

Be it enacted by the Village Board of the Village of Barker as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Local Law is to amend the Code of the Village of Barker to establish a moratorium on the processing, permitting and/or construction of utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems within the Village for eight (8) months. A moratorium will allow the Village Board time to consider recent New York State legislation and expected regulations related to tax revenues which may be derived from such projects, as well as to examine, draft, review and adopt effective policy regarding the evolving technology and industry of utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems, and to ensure adequate restrictions and regulations are placed as may be necessary to promote and preserve the health, safety and welfare of the Village of Barker and its citizens.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

The Village of Barker Village Board does hereby find that without a temporary halt on the processing, permitting, and approvals for utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems there is the potential that such uses could be located in unsuitable areas within the Village, and/or developed on particular lots with inappropriate dimensional requirements, and/or developed in such a density as to alter the fabric of the community. Such uses could have materially adverse and irreversible impacts on the Village, and may threaten the health, safety or welfare of the Village's citizens.

The Village Board also finds that it is in need of additional time to perform the necessary analysis of the potential types of utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems that are appropriate to meet the needs of the community to provide for the planned orderly growth and development of the Village.

SECTION 3. MORATORIUM IMPOSED; APPLICABILITY.

For the period of eight (8) months, commencing on the effective date of this Local Law, or until such time as the Village of Barker passes a revised Local Law concerning utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems, whichever is sooner, there shall be a moratorium on the processing, permitting, and/or construction of utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems within the Village of Barker for all utility-scale solar energy systems and utility-scale electrical energy storage device systems which have not yet obtained a building permit for construction from the Village of Barker. This moratorium shall not affect any existing or proposed building-mounted, ground-mounted, rooftop-mounted or any other solar energy system or electrical energy storage device systems that are designed and intended to generate or store electricity solely for use on an individual lot.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence or part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity or any other part of this Local Law which shall be in effect.

SECTION 5. TERM.

This law shall take effect immediately, as provided by the law, upon filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of eight (8) months from its effective date.

The Niagara County Planning Board approved referral #6996 for the Local Law Establishing a Moratorium on Utility-Scale Solar Energy System Installations and Utility-Scale Electrical Energy Storage Device Systems within the Village for a Period of Eight Months at the July 21, 2025, meeting.

Destruction of Records Authorization dated July 30, 2025, according to the NYS Archives LGS-1 retention schedule

Approval of the Inter-Municipal agreement for the Town of Somerset to add the Village of Barker to MuniBilling Utility Billing Software, as well as acknowledge and accept the waiver of conflict due to dual representation of both entities

Establish Trick or Treat Hours for Friday, October 31, 2025 (Halloween) from 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Approval of Park Request from Friends of the Barker Library to have yoga in the park (Main Street/David Barker Park) on September 13th and September 27th, 2025 utilizing the grass between the Gazebo and Pavilion

Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports

- ✓ Annual Financial Report (AFR) 2025 has been submitted to the Office of the NYS Comptroller July 25, 2025 and the legal notice was published July 31, 2025
- ✓ Tax Collection remains open. Penalty is now 6% and unpaid tax notices will be mailed September 5, 2025. Any unpaid taxes outstanding as of October 31, 2025 will be turned over to Niagara County to be placed on the Town/County taxes for collection in January
- ✓ Labor Day Holiday is the day of the scheduled work session-the work session will be CANCELLED for Sept. 1st, 2025 and the Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer will be attending NYCOM Fall Training School the week of September 15-19, 2025. The Office will be CLOSED Monday, September 15 - Friday, September 19, 2025.
- ✓ Columbus Day Holiday is the date of the October meeting. The meeting will be moved to Monday, October 6th at 7:00pm in the Village Meeting Room, 8708 Main Street
- ✓ Modern trash collection issue was raised when a Main Street resident's cart remained uncollected. I advised them to call Modern customer service to report the issue. After no solution, the resident came to the Village Hall to report the problem. I sent an email to the VP of Collections to find out that he had retired, so the CEO answered the email. Modern's position was that because it wasn't a Village issued trash cart (but it was a Modern trash cart purchased before the Village's switch to cart-based collection) that they would no longer collect the receptacle. Modern was under the impression that the blue cart came from another municipality, but in fact it was one of Modern's carts. Modern has taken the position that they will only collect Village issued carts from now on, as stated in the contract. A change of leadership has brought about the change in position; this question was asked when the switch took place and Modern assured us that the residents that had purchased Modern carts would be collected. No notice was given to the Village Clerk or Mayor regarding the change. Once the information was received Clerk-Treasurer Detschner gathered a list and wrote a notice to tape inside the new cart explaining the changes and DPW Superintendent Remington delivered the carts. Last week no complaints were received about non-collection.

Public Works Report

Code Enforcement Report

Correspondence: Town of Somerset Planning Board- Public Hearing Notice- August 7, 2025 7:30pm
NC MUSIP 2nd QTR 2025 Plan Loss Run
Charter Communications- Upcoming Programming changes- August 5, 2025
NC Gallonage Report

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment: Abstract 003 Voucher #'s 59-97
General Fund-\$57,929.18 Water Fund-\$161.62 T&A Fund-\$6,500.00 TOTAL \$64,590.80

Budget Transfers: A1910.4 Insurance \$1,400.00 to A9040.8 Worker's Compensation
A1990.4 Contingency \$3,500.00 to A5110.4 Street Maintenance Contractual

Public Comment
Board Comment
Adjournment

Next work session will be Monday, September 1, 2025 is CANCELLED due to Labor Day Holiday
Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, September 8, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Village Meeting Room, 8708 Main Street