

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY, held
September 8, 2025**

Present: Mayor Rossi, Trustee Price-Bush, Trustee Baskin, Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, Village Clerk O'Connor, Village Administrator Moskowitz, Attorney Buettner

Absent: Trustee Raymond

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Price-Bush that the minutes of the 8/25/25 meeting be approved.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes

Trustee Price-Bush-yes

Trustee Baskin-no

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Passed

4) Presentations (None)

5) Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes per Speaker)

6) Consent Agenda Items for Consideration

Lisa Speidel of 106 Prospect Street questioned why a tree is being removed.

John Cromie, 132 Bath Street would like the Board to consider a Master Plan Committee.

Jared Iacolucci of 24 Chapman Street feels the east side of the Village should be included in the R1B District and also feels that for density purposes, we should allow 2 family dwellings with a special permit.

Mr. Iacolucci supports the Good Cause Eviction Law.

Liz Kormos, 89 Hyde Blvd. also supports the Good Cause Eviction Law.

Regarding Zoning, Ms. Kormos wants it clearly stated in the next draft that PDD's are not allowed.

Marilyn Stephenson of 45 West High Street and said if any Trustees have questions regarding the draft code, any ZAC member can help and said she agrees with Mr. Iacolucci's comments.

Karen Avenarius, 10 Church Avenue asked how safety was going to be handled for the OktoberFest.

Christin Iacolucci of 24 Chapman Street asked about communication between shared municipal services.

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Price-Bush to approve the items on the following Consent Agenda:

i) Motion authorizing the Events Task Force to conduct the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on 9/11 closing Front Street from Bath Street to Science Street from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

ii) Motion approving The Speckled Pig to hold an OktoberFest on 9/20 from 12 Noon to 9:00pm and to close Washinton Street between Milton Avenue and King Street. Proof of Liability Insurance has been provided.

Ayes All

7) Motions/Resolutions for Consideration/Vote

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Price-Bush that the DPW be authorized to expend the amount of \$4,700.00 for tree removal.

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, that Slic Fiber be authorized to solicit door to door from 9/9/25 through 10/31/25 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-no

Trustee Price-Bush-yes

Trustee Baskin-yes

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Passed

c) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, that the attached Asset, Vehicle, and Equipment paperwork for a 2007 Ford Ranger be declared as surplus equipment. This motion further authorizes the Mayor to execute paperwork necessary to place these items for sale via Auctions International.

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, approving the in Village sewer connection for 105 Fairground Avenue. The connection has been approved by Labella Engineering and the Village Water Department.

Ayes All

8) Mayor's Announcements

a) Mayor Rossi gave a detailed explanation regarding the situation with the fox.

9) Treasurer's Report

10) Liaison Reports

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez announced that the "The Way We Were" car show is scheduled for Columbus Day weekend. Volunteers are needed; anyone interested should email Dana@ballston.org.

The Farmers' Market will hold a Fall Festival on 10/4.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez commended the Village Police Dept and the Sheriff's Dept. for their professional work and compassion during a recent incident.

Trustee Price-Bush reported that the Library will be hosting an adult "Downton Abbey tea party on 9/13 at 1:00pm.

On 9/11, there will be a remembrance ceremony in front of Village Hall at 7:00pm.

Trustee Price-Bush noted that open gym is back at BACC every Friday from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call 518-885-3261 for info.

Trustee Baskin stated that the Park and Tree Board wanted to thank all who participated in BSpa in Bloom and all who worked to beautify the Village.

Anyone who wishes to plant a tree can reach out to the Park and Tree Board for guidance.

The Committee on the Arts Sounds of Summer had a good turnout. Also, the committee is seeking a new member.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez shared that there are vegetable planters in Kelley Park, all are welcome to pick some.

Mayor Rossi noted that among other duties, the DPW repaired a sewer main break on Rowland Street, assisted with a valve repair at the County Jail, and winterized the pool among other duties.

11) Old Business

a) Zoning

Trustee Baskin suggested having a common document for the Board to discuss zoning and would also like to schedule another special meeting.

b) Fire Contract

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez stated that the Town of Milton proposed a five-year contract at 5%, and that Chief Krogh is confident that will cover all of their needs.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez said Chief Krogh would like to postpone LOSAP.

Mayor Rossi stated the Town of Milton funds Rock City Falls and a portion of Harmony Corners Fire Departments, but they are not currently willing to fund one for the Village.

Mayor Rossi feels our fire department deserves LOSAP and stated he struggles with the inequity.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez interjected, saying that we are at an impasse and that is the concern about not accepting the 5% with LOSAP funding.

Mayor Rossi stated it shouldn't be an either/or situation and made a plea to the Town of Milton to stop treating our fire department inequitably.

Trustee Baskin thinks we should sign the agreement as is but agrees our firefighters should be covered by LOSAP.

12) New Business

a) Good Cause Eviction Laws

Trustee Baskin explained the law and feels the Village should opt in by adopting a law, as it protects both renters and landlords.

Trustee Baskin will provide the Board with more details.

13) Public Comment on Any Issue (3 Minutes)

Ms. Speidel expressed her concern regarding the fox incident.

Liz Biddle of 113 Fairground Avenue shared an experience she and her family encountered with a skunk in their yard during the daytime that was acting weird. Ms. Biddle said the DEC Officers that were at the fair refused to help. Ms. Biddle was able to get help from a Sheriff Deputy who was also at the fair.

Regarding animal concerns, Ms. Kormos thinks it's wrong for the County to only do rabies testing on an animal that has bitten someone.

Ms. Avenarius would like to hear more about Good Cause Eviction.

Rory O'Connor, 199 Milton Avenue spoke about the difficulty of being a landlord, urging the Board to take a good look at the proposed law.

Anna Stanko of 32 Kent Street asked that garbage cans not be left out between pick-ups and asked that the Code Enforcement Officer handle the situation.

Ms. Stanko agrees with Mr. O'Connor regarding the proposed law.

Victoria Rasanan, 795 County Route 68, shared information about wild animal issues.

Paula Sheridan of 881 Alden Avenue in Warrensburg also offered information on wild animals.

Ms. Iacolucci, feels Mayor Rossi should apologize for his Facebook behavior.

14) Other Business (Including, but Not Limited to Board Response to Public Comment)

Regarding the fox incident, Trustee Price-Bush noted that the Police did what they had to do at the time.

Mayor Rossi stated he will never apologize for looking out for the health, safety, and welfare of our residents.

15) Executive Session (None)

16) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Price-Bush, that the Vouchers be audited, and the meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

General Fund	\$ 159,234.78
Sewer Relevy	225.20
Library Fund	1,653.20
Trust & Agency	<u>611.93</u>
Total	\$ 161,725.11

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O’Connor
Village Clerk