

Village of Valatie
Tentative Budget Hearing/Organizational Meeting
April 14, 2026
6:30 PM

Board of Trustees

Mayor Bevens

Trustee Larry Eleby

Trustee Patrick Rodgers

Trustee Matthew Carter

Trustee Amy Freinberg-Trufas

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

Rebecca Daley-Village Clerk

Mayor Bevens opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The mayor opened the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for discussion with the Trustees. He stated that he was able to keep the budget under the tax cap by \$386.00 and that we would meet again on April 27, 2026, for another budget meeting. The Board of Trustees thanked the mayor for all his hard work on the budget. With no questions from the Board, the mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 pm.

The Board moved forward with the Organizational meeting at 6:36 pm.

John Bryan would like to be reappointed as Chairman of the Planning Board.

Kevin Zelno would like to be considered for a seat on the Zoning Board.

Resolution #92- was made by Trustee Carter to approve John Bryan to the Planning Board and Kevin Zelno to the Zoning Board. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Mayor Bevens read off his 2026-2027 appointments. This copy will be on file in the clerk's office.

Resolution #93- was made by Trustee Eleby to approve all the appointments for the 2026-2027 calendar year. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Resolution #94- was made by Trustee Carter to approve the minutes of March 10, 2026, meeting of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

Resolution #95- was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the abstract of bills-**2025-2026-#487-539**. For a total of \$56,670.82. Off abstract of bills total \$20,746.78. Total bills are \$77,417.60. Trustee Freinberg-Trufas seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Jennifer Bluma Community Engagement Coordinator and Jade Goodman Reality Check Coordinator spoke on behalf of TFAC (Tobacco free action communities) on how to make our village tobacco free and resource sharing. They were very generous by giving the village 20 free signs to hang in the parks.

Public Comment-None

Parks- The first day for volunteer work in Pachaquack Park will be April 25th.

Climate Smart- Donna Welton thanked everyone for helping with the trees in Pachaquack park. Arthurs Point Nursery, located in Ghent NY, donated 100 trees to the Climate Smart committee to be planted in the park. Mayor Bevens thanked the committee for all their help.

Fire Department- The Fire Department is hosting an Open House and Firefighter Recruitment Day on Saturday April 18, 2026, from 10am to 2pm.

On April 7, 2026, Brandon Sherman was accepted as an active firefighter to the Valatie Fire Department.

Resolution #96- was made by Trustee Eleby to approve Brandon Sherman to be a member of the Valatie Fire Department. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Congratulations Brandon!!

The following officers were elected at the annual fire meeting on April 7, 2026:

Chief: Joseph H. Loeffler

1st Asst. Chief: Phil Martel

2nd Asst. Chief: Anthony Bashford

Captain: Josh Schuster

Lieutenant: Sam Becker

Congratulations to all!!

Fire calls and reports will be on file in the clerk's office.

Theater- A new roof was installed on the Theater. May 24th will be the Theaters 100th Anniversary. In honor of the anniversary the Theater will be holding a Gala on that day.

Highway- An agreement extending the Inter Municipal Agreement between the Village of Valatie, New York and the Town of Kinderhook, New York relative to street/roadway maintenance and repair in the Village of Valatie. This agreement shall follow the Village of Valatie's fiscal year commencing June 1, 2026, and ending on May 31, 2027. The Village hereby agrees to pay the Town a total of \$170,000 in two payments.

1. \$85,000 no later than June 30, 2026.

2. \$85,000 no later than December 31, 2026.

This agreement will be on file in the clerk's office.

Resolution #97- was made by Trustee Carter to approve the Municipal Agreement between the Village of Valatie and the Town of Kinderhook. Trustee Freinberg-Trufas seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

A new HVAC system was installed at the Martin H. Building. The Village of Valatie has agreed to Pay the Town of Kinderhook \$200,000 towards the HVAC system. The Village will pay \$20,000. per year.

Resolution #98-was made by Trustee Freinberg-Trufas to pay the Town of Kinderhook \$200,000 for the HVAC system. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

WWTP Report- Report on file

Building Department Report- Stephanie Cardine-Ruchel retired from the Village on March 18th, The Village thanks Stephanie for all her years of dedicated service. Congratulations!

The Village is currently looking for a Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer.

Clerk Report- April has been the second time the office has emailed water and sewer bills along with the newsletters. This has been a great success.

The sale of the River Street Mill is still moving forward.

MHG Applications & Callan Park- Rise against Hunger Packing Event has requested the gym on September 12th from 9am-9pm.

Resolution #99-was made by Trustee Carter to approve the use of the gym. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

An adult softball league has requested the use of Callen Park for their upcoming season.

Resolution #100- was made by Trustee Freinberg-Trufas to approve the use of Callen Park. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Trustee Freinberg-Trufas announced that a portion of the grant money that the senior center received will be going towards Art Activities and a gentle yoga class. Start date for the art activities will be Thursday April 23rd from 1-3pm. Start date for stretch, move and connect class will be Tuesday May 5th at 2pm. This class will be every Tuesday for the months of May and June. Sign up sheets will be at the senior center and the clerk's office.

Valatie Now has a lot of events scheduled for Main Street in 2026.

May 9th Mom Fest 11-3

June 13th Joan Fest 11-3

June 25th Food Trucks 5-8

July 23rd Food Trucks 5-8

August 15th Family Fun Day 11-4

September 19th Oktoberfest 11-4

September 24th Food Trucks 5-8

October 10th Fall Fest 11-3

December 12th Winter Walk 4-9

All these events are listed on the Village of Valatie's website.

The Village of Valatie has been asked to waive the open container law for these events.

Resolution #101- was made by Trustee Rodgers to approve that the Open Container Law be waived. Trustee Carter seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

May 16th will be the Village of Valatie clean up day.

The Village of Kinderhook accepted the trash contract this year. They only received one bid this year and that was from County Waste. The portion of the contract that the Village of Valatie is responsible for is \$108,204.

Resolution #102- was made by Trustee Freinberg-Trufas to approve the County Waste Contract. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Resolution #103- was made by Eleby to enter an executive session to discuss matters before the board at 7:27pm. Trustee Freinberg-Trufas seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Resolution #104- was made by Trustee Eleby to exit executive session at 8:02 pm. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Ronald Frering has applied for the Building Inspector/Code enforcement Officer position.

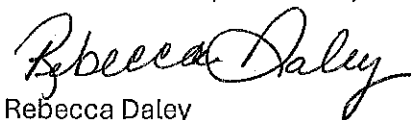
Resolution #105- was made by Trustee Carter to approve Ronald Frering for both positions. Trustee Rodgers seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Robert Meehan has applied for the ground's maintenance position. This position is temporary. Nathan Becker is out on medical leave.

Resolution #106- was made by Trustee Freinberg-Trufas to approve Robert for the ground's maintenance position. Trustee Carter seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried

With no further business to discuss.

Resolution #107- was made by Trustee Eleby to adjourn the meeting at 8.04pm. Trustee Freinberg-Trufas seconded, all in favor, none opposed, carried.



Rebecca Daley

Village Clerk