

**Village Board Meeting  
January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 7:00pm  
Village Municipal Center**

Attendance: Village Board: Mayor Paul Labas, Deputy Mayor Dean Hyatt, Trustees Denise Davies, Heather Leaman, and Paul Garrone

Village Key Staff: Fire Chief Michael Zinn, Local Ordinance Officer Curtis Pedone, Village Attorney Michael Martin, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Dee Scarlotta, and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: None

Others: Mr. Matthew Rollwagen

Mayor Labas led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the Meeting to Order at 7:00pm.

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Deputy Mayor Hyatt moved ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 1<sup>st</sup> as posted to the Village website. Trustee Leaman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: Mayor Labas reviewed the following monthly reports with the Board of Trustees: Village Court, Police Dept., Fire Dept., Local Ordinance Officer, and Water Dept. (3 samples processed, all satisfactory). Trustee Garrone moved acceptance of the reports as read. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Appropriations: The following claims were presented to the Board for review and in consideration of authorization for payment:

General Fund:	\$42,638.66
Water Fund:	\$15,510.52
Sewer Fund:	\$29,243.19
Senior Shuttle:	\$1,413.08
Unaudited Vouchers:	<u>\$12,083.36</u>

Total Claims: \$100,888.81

The Board audited the claims and Trustee Leaman moved their authorization for payment. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Coin Drop Requests: Mayor Labas reviewed three (3) written requests for coin drops in 2026:

- 1) Granville Central School: The Granville School District has requested a coin drop on behalf of the After Prom Party and Trap Club with a date of April 11, 2026. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Hyatt moved approval of the request as submitted. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 2) Granville Youth League: The Granville Youth League (formerly the Granville Little League) has requested a coin drop for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Following a brief discussion, Deputy Mayor Hyatt moved approval of the request as submitted. Trustee Leaman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 3) VFW Post 1653 (Auxiliary): The VFW Auxiliary has requested a coin drop for Memorial Day or Veterans Day weekend. Following a period of discussion, Trustee Garrone moved approval of the request for Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Leaman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Final Reports—Holiday Events: The Mayor advised that he had requested final reports relating to the Holiday Events sponsored by the Village in December.

- A) Tree Lighting: The Village Clerk advised that the Tree Lighting had been conducted in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce in the Park on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. While the weather was unseasonably cold, there was a reasonable turnout, numbering 700-900 patrons. Some 194 children visited with Santa, and many parents and families utilized the Horse/Wagon rides, hat & mitten giveaway tent, food booths (cookies, brownies, cider donuts, hot chocolate, etc.) and/or visited the Pember Library and Slate Valley Museum. Special heating equipment was procured by the Mayor to keep staff & children warm on stage, and while things wound down a little earlier than usual, those who came/participated seemed to genuinely enjoy themselves. The Clerk thanked the Village DPW, Rescue Squad, and Police Department for their efforts in managing public safety that evening, and the Deputy Clerk for all of her efforts to procure supplies and coordinate logistics. He also thanked the Great Meadow Credit Union for their title sponsorship and monetary support. Finally, he thanked the Chamber of Commerce for their role in supplying gifts for the children, staffing the event, and continuing a longstanding tradition of promoting a festive and fun holiday atmosphere in Granville.
- B) Tractor Parade: The 8<sup>th</sup> Granville Lighted Tractor Parade was conducted on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> with some 57 entries participating. The evening was cool, but not quite as cold as the evening seen for the Tree Lighting. Attendance was estimated at 5,000-6,000 for the event. Trustee Garrone thanked the various agencies that provide logistical and operational assistance for the event, including the Granville Fire Department, Village DPW, North Granville Fire Company, NY State Police, Washington County Sheriff's Dept., Telescope Casual Furniture, and the Village Clerk's Office. Trustee Garrone feels that the event was relatively smooth from an operational standpoint, and once again, it brought many families together and the greater community a measure of joy and pride. He noted that the Tractor Parade is a fun-filled, wholesome family event, and one of the larger events seen in Washington County around the Holidays.

Mayor's Reports: Mayor Labas updated the Board in the following matters:

- A. Village Budget Process: The Mayor advised that the 2026-27 Budget process was underway and that the following schedule would apply:

\*January: Budget Officer will meet with Mayor, Dept. Heads to discuss staffing, equipment, and contractual expense needs

\*February: Board will receive working copy of the 2026-27 Village Budget

- \*Mid-February: Board convenes Budget Workshop(s) to fine-tune, edit Budget
- \*March: At the March Board of Trustees Meeting, the Mayor will publish the 2026-27 Tentative Budget—the budget will then remain static for a period of thirty days
- \*April: At the April Village Board Meeting, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing to take input concerning the Tentative Budget. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Board will then decide whether any changes are required or whether the Tentative Budget is adopted as written or as amended.

The Mayor noted that while this was a tough budget cycle, his goal was to keep the tax increase to around 3% and any water/sewer increases to the range of \$10-\$15 per Household, consistent with inflation.

- B. Pickleball Court Usage: Mayor Labas noted that the Pickleball courts in the Mettowiee Park have been seeing steady use, even into mid-December, with sunny days producing full courts, while others wait in their vehicles for their turn to play. He feels that the courts are well-constructed, and a great source of recreation for both Village residents, and those in surrounding communities.

Mayor Labas opened the Meeting to public comment at 7:20pm.

Trustee Hyatt commented that he felt that the trailers/equipment parked at the corner of Bulkeley Avenue and Quaker Street have become something of a traffic/safety concern. The Mayor advised that this had been discussed with and addressed by the Police Dept. The Local Ordinance Officer also indicated that he had spoken with the owners there and attempted to facilitate a constructive solution to the problem. The Mayor advised that he would follow up on this with the Police Dept. in the future in hopes of finalizing things at this location.

There was no further public comment.

At 7:25pm, Trustee Garrone moved that the Board convene an Executive Matter relating to a matter involving the CSEA contract/collective bargaining agreement. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. *The Village Attorney accompanied the Board for the entirety of the Executive session.*

At 7:40pm, Trustee Garrone moved that the Board return to regular session. Trustee Leaman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Labas then read a letter of resignation from DPW Laborer Matthew Bushman. Mr. Bushman is resigning his position effective January 29<sup>th</sup>. Following a brief discussion, Deputy Mayor Hyatt moved acceptance of the resignation as read. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no other business, Trustee Leaman moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:45pm. Trustee Garrone seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,



Richard H. Roberts  
Village Clerk-Treasurer