

May 27, 2025- Village of Cape Vincent Board of Trustees

Mayor Jerry Golden opened the meeting at 5:30 PM with Trustees Christine Stark, Robert Ewing, Pamela Youngs and Michael Chavoustie present. Mayor Golden welcomed the attendees and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the May 13, 2025 regular Board meeting and Trustee Ewing made the motion to accept them as written with Trustee Chavoustie seconding the motion and all voting yes.

The Board then reviewed Abstract 13 as follows:

General:	\$ 2,159.28	Vouchers 5156-5161
Water:	\$ 297.93	Vouchers 2516-2517
Sewer:	\$ 297.93	Vouchers 2515-2517

Upon review of the abstract, Trustee Chavoustie made the motion to approve the payments of all vouchers with Trustee Stark seconding the motion and all voting yes. Mayor Golden then signed Abstract 13 and ordered the Clerk/Treasurer to pay the Abstract.

Dustin Cooley, DPW Superintendent, then gave his report as follows:

- Dustin and Dan Radley attended the conference for water and sewer and learned that there will be many new regulations in the near future for testing both water and sewer.
- The crew would like to express their wish for the Board to evaluate their 10-hr per day work week for the summer month proposal. Mayor Golden stated that the Board would review.
- A tree in front of the Catholic church rectory is being taken down by Nelson's tree service, as a sub-contractor for National Grid, as woodpeckers have caused some major damage. The tree will just be brought down and our crew will clean up the site.
- All the docks were cleaned and all the signage is out on the pedestals for the registration and online payments.
- The speed trailer was moved to the liquor store area heading towards Clayton.
- Have one quote from Paladino Mechanicals for the spring/summer PM's on the A/C units at Village sites. Dustin will work on getting 1-2 more quotes.
- Still waiting for a response from Kehoe about the cleats and the sectional plates for the wave attenuator at East End Park.
 - Trustee Chavoustie inquired if the pest control was completed for the docks yet with the dock cleaning. Dustin stated that the pest control is behind schedule due to the weather. The crew will clean again if needed before the pest control.

Shaun Cuddeback, OIC, gave the police department report as follows:

- No new information to report, but thanked everyone responsible for getting the police garage grant secured.

Mayor Golden then addressed the "old" business as follows:

- Lot on James St: No new report. Mayor Golden will reach out to Mr. Gebo for update.
- Chamber/French Fest: Trustee Stark stated that the Chamber had 10 applicants for the office manager position and they have held interviews and have 2 applicants to choose from at their next meeting. For the French Festival, the next meeting is on June 4th and all the plans are moving forward very well. She then updated that the CVIL has been working on the flowers at the Village dock and the pots. Those will be placed soon.
- Zoning: Trustee Chavoustie had no new report.
- CVLDC: Trustee Youngs stated that the kick-off meeting for the final design for the current LWRP current phase will be held tomorrow. The CVLDC has received four applications for the grant writer position, and they will be reviewing them at the end of the week. The NYForward small projects are on schedule and moving forward. Trustee Youngs did inquire if the Board had any ideas of possible grants they would like to pursue this upcoming year. No response at this time.
- Fire Dept./Youth Commission: Trustee Ewing stated that they are both doing well with no concern.
- REDI documents: The documents have still not been submitted to the Village from Scott Burto, Mayor Golden will reach out to him again. Mayor Golden also updated the Board that the recent news about potential funding that Clayton received for REDI, which had an error in the reporting. Mayor Golden did call upon Mike Alteri, BC&A, to look into the funding potential for the Village.
- Horne's Ferry: There is no new update on the ferry status. Mayor Golden has heard that the Canadian customs and border patrol are being difficult with the Wolfe Island landing. Mayor Golden will reach out for an update. Trustee Chavoustie stated that he has heard that some individuals would have money to help, if needed, to keep the service.
- NYForward: Trustee Stark updated that the contracts were all sent to the State on Friday.
- Docks/Clapp: Dustin stated that he spoke with Mr. Clapp and he is going to try to get them removed, but is fine to pay storage fees, if needed.

Mayor Golden then addressed the "new" business as follows:

- Procurement policy: The Board reviewed the current policy. After a brief discussion, the Board will review and address the policy and any changes at the next meeting.
- Budget/reserves: Clerk/Treasurer presented the transfers as follows:
 - **Sewer Fund:**
 - Move \$12,500.00 from account 7345(Sewer Savings) to account 9813 (Sewer Repair Reserve) as per budget
 - **Water Fund:**
 - Move \$1767.00 from account 9377(Water savings) to account 10016038 – as per water grant agreement and budget

Trustee Stark made the motion to approve the transfers with Trustee Youngs seconding the motion and all voting yes.

- Engagement letter: The Board reviewed the engagement letter from Bowers & Co for the Village's AUP work for a rate of \$12,500.00. Trustee Ewing made the motion to approve the Mayor to sign the letter with Trustee Chavoustie seconding the motion and all voting yes.
 - Trustee Ewing thanked everyone who attended the Memorial Day ceremony.

At 6:00pm, Trustee Stark made a motion to open the public hearing with Trustee Youngs seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Mayor Golden began by giving a briefing of the proposal of the seasonal closure of a portion of James Street to create a pedestrian safe zone. He stated that the closure would be done as a study for the NYForward streetscape project that is coming soon and would be done temporarily. He stated that there have been safety concerns about that intersection of James/Broadway. This effort would re-direct traffic to different businesses in the Village and would create a safe area. A summary of the attendees and comments is as follows:

Joseph Gould: would make traffic worse in other areas of the Village and no accidents have occurred to his recollection.

Sarah Dayton: would have a positive impact to businesses, which need critical support

Alicia Johnson: very supportive, feels that intersection and street are dangerous, has full confidence in Board decision

Jacob Cashel: would funnel traffic, more noise, would create a "party area", been a usable street for 200 years, doesn't care about grant funding or test

Kirk Grant: would be inconvenient, just use speed bumps, he dislikes speed bumps at the Rec Park area

Bill Gould: as fire chief, water supply concern, thinks Village should be more focused on infrastructure concerns.

Cindy Edsall: safety concerns about using sidewalk at Brewery and the line that forms at the ice cream store

Richard Edsall: issues with tables, dogs at the brewery, crosswalk concerns, insurance and what would the Village do if all businesses wanted to same

Trustee Stark then stated that the closure is not proposed to support a single business or two and it would have a positive impact on all the businesses in the area

Mary Jordan: supportive of the closure, would promote businesses

Susan Farricker: wondered about liability to the Village from the liquor authority. Mayor Golden explained the no open container law and the Village doesn't have one and the establishment would be heavily permitted.

Roland Sherman, Brewery owner: there would be no liability to the Village, they have all the permits needed, does see the safety issues at that intersection

Ruth Robinson: wondered why not just using Village Green, Mayor explained that is privately owned.

Colleen Knuth: see both sides but does experience safety concerns at that intersection

Nicole Paratore: as James St. resident feels it is a good step towards safety as it is a dangerous street

Jacob Cashel then again stated he didn't think it would be heavily used.

Gary Hall: expressed fire dept concerns for hoses if a fire happened and proposed maybe no large truck traffic on James.

At 6:48pm, Trustee Stark made the motion to close the public hearing with Trustee Ewing seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Mayor Golden then spoke about the proposal for clearing and leveling the Eveleigh property being done by a contractor. Mayor Godlen has spoken to the attorney and the attorney has sent a draft resolution for review. The bidding would be done under procurement policy requirements. After a brief discussion, it was tabled.

At 6:57pm, Trustee Stark made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss an employee salary issue with Trustee Chavoustie seconding the motion and all voting yes.

At 7:05p, , Trustee Chavoustie made the motion to exit the executive session with Trustee Stark seconding the motion and all voting yes.

At 7:10pm, Trustee Youngs made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Trustee Stark seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Rupp, Clerk/Treasurer