

VILLAGE OF WILSON

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Gregory Martin, Mayor
Carey L. O'Connor, Clerk-Treasurer
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Village of Wilson Board of Trustees Minutes – September 18, 2025

Village Representatives	Present	Absent	Village Representatives	Present	Absent
Mayor Greg Martin	X		Superintendent Keith Lepine	X	
Deputy Mayor Joanne Seefeldt	X		CEO Travis Evans	X	
Trustee Ellen Hibbard	X		Attorney Michael J. Dowd	X	
Trustee Doug Kepner	X		Engineer Mike Marino		X
Clerk-Treasurer Carey L. O'Connor	X		Legislator David Godfrey	X	
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Nicole Martin		X			

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Greg Martin called the Village Board meeting to order at 7:00pm. We then proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Greg Martin asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for the August 21st and August 25th board meetings. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner.

MONTHLY BILLS

Mayor Greg Martin asked for a motion to approve payment of all vouchers. Trustee Ellen Hibbard made a motion to approve all payments, seconded by Trustee Joanne Seefeldt. All in favor, motion approved.

BUSINESS

This is not on our agenda, but we have invited Thomas Moje from Piper on the Pier. Mayor Martin presented him with a recognition of Pipers on the Pier and bringing their tradition to our community to enjoy. Mayor Martin presented him with a certificate and hope to have them back next year.

25-2025 Resolution in Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) and in Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans: Mayor Martin read the resolution (attached). Mayor Martin asked Clerk O'Connor to take roll call. Clerk O'Connor – Mayor Martin, yes; Trustee Hibbard, yes; Trustee Seefeldt, yes; and Trustee Kepner, yes. Resolution passed unanimously.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation MWBE & SDVOB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy: Statement was read by Mayor Martin. Mayor Martin stated that this is needed for our ZEV Grant. Mayor Martin asked for a motion to accept this Policy Statement. Trustee Doug Kepner made a motion to accept this policy, seconded by Trustee Joanne Seefeldt. All in favor, policy statement approved.

Event request from Wilson First Baptist Church for their Chili Fall Festival: Mayor Martin read request, the event is to be held on Saturday, September 20th from 3:00 pm to 5:30pm. Attorney Michael Dowd has reviewed request and insurance is in order. Mayor Martin asked for a motion to approve event request. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. All in favor, event request approved.

Mayor Martin announced Local Law 3 of 2025 – amending Local Law No. 9–2024 to Extend the Moratorium on Large–Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems. (Chapter 178 – Battery Moratorium): Mayor Martin stated that the public hearing for this will be at the Board meeting on October 21, 2025 at 7:00pm, here at the Town Hall during our rescheduled monthly board meeting. Mayor Martin read the new local law. Attorney Michael Dowd stated that we will hold the public hearing and this will have to be taken to the Niagara County Planning Board on October 20th.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Greg Martin opened public participation.

Resident Wade Wagner asked our new Superintendent, Keith Lepine with Winter fast approaching, what are his plans on preparing for snow this winter. Superintendent Keith Lepine stated that he would review the current plan with Mayor Martin and the current employees.

Thomas Moje submitted his tentative schedule for Pipers on the Pier for 2026. He stated that there is a Facebook page for Pipers on the Pier and has invited everyone for the last session at the Wilson Harbor Park. It will be from 6:30pm to 7:00pm. Mayor Martin thanked him again.

Mayor Greg Martin closed public participation.

REPORTS

Mayor Greg Martin opened reports.

Superintendent Keith Lepine reported that he loves our little Village and loves being on the water, that it's beautiful. His report is attached.

Legislator David Godfrey reported that they passed the same resolution from Congressman Nick Langworthy this past Tuesday night. He thanked the Board for passing it here tonight, it's important to respond to important topics as this. He'd like to comment on our Battery Storage law, he wanted to remind us that we have contact with Dawn Timm and NYSOC. Our Governor has decided to expand our wetlands and he has brought maps. The Village of Wilson, that did not have any wetlands, now has 12.1 acres of wetlands. The Town of Wilson had an increase of 338%. Mr. Godfrey will email the slides from the meeting on the regulations. (Attached)

CEO Travis Evans reported he has issued 37 building permits, closed out 6 this month with 14 open. 36 fire inspections completed for the year with 1 pending at Dollar General. 8 vacant building registrations paid up for 2025, and with the new letter he has some teeth and can move quicker on them. He is wanting to get our vacant buildings owners to do something, he will continue to work with them. He had one court appearance and it went well. The only issue he has right now is the penalties in our Code Book, it will cost the Village more money to have them comply than what the penalties are. This is something that needs to be looked in to to at least cover costs. Right now, he has two vacant properties wanting to build. Mayor Martin stated that it is a concern that it costs more to have people comply due to our penalties and the board will be working on it soon.

Joanne Seefeldt stated that she had the pleasure to interview our candidates for the laborer position with Keith Lepine. We are excited to have Kevin Peck working here in the Village. Mayor Martin stated we had over 20 resumes, we called 6. Five scheduled interviews and three showed. We hired Kevin and we hope he's here for a very long time.

Ellen Hibbard was gone for most of the summer however when she got back, she worked on the AARP sidewalk survey. Mayor Martin stated her sidewalk map has already come in handy for the LWRP. Ellen also stated that we are now looking for a Crossing Guard if anyone knows of anyone.

Attorney Michael Dowd has nothing to report.

Clerk Treasurer Carey O'Connor reported that she has continued to do the day to day tasks and she worked on the amendment for the Battery Moratorium with Greg and Mike.

Trustee Doug Kepner reported that he's happy to see our DPW coming together and Go Bills!

Mayor Greg Martin reported that we had three firms reach out to come visit the Village in regards to the LWRP RFP's. With the LWRP we can use the updated wetlands to help the LWRP to have an opportunity to strengthen our projects for economic revitalization. The LWRP protects the waterways by regulating land use around it. It can boost projects and the economy. He is hoping to take this negative and use it as a positive. The CDBG kicked off and should be finished by January '26. We worked on the water valve replacement in front of the Town Hall. He'd like to thank the Town's of Wilson, Porter, the Village DPW, and Niagara County for assisting. Hoping that we will not have to shut down the entire village when we have an issue. The Village water comes in at 3 places. It balances out at a meter at the DPW and we've made some adjustments to balance out the pressure. Dave Branch with the County helped us with that and he can't thank everyone enough. We are going to work with RCap, they're a not for profit and will be helping with an income survey. We ask everyone to please complete it and send it back as they're very important. Mike Marino put us in touch with Syracuse Universities technical assistance on the EFC grant administration to plan to get further aligned and competitive for water funding. It starts with applying for CDBG for project engineering report due October 31st. Worked on the Battery Moratorium and taking that and the solar law to the county planning board.

Mayor Greg Martin closed reports.

CLOSING

Mayor Greg Martin stated that our next Employee and Board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 2:30pm and 7:00pm here at the Town Hall. Mayor Martin asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Motion made by Trustee Joanne Seefeldt, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carey L. O'Connor

Carey L. O'Connor
Village Clerk-Treasurer