

VILLAGE OF WILSON

375 Lake Street
P.O. Box 596
Wilson, NY 14172-0596



Gregory Martin, Mayor
Carey L. O'Connor, Clerk-Treasurer
(716)751-6764
www.villageofwilson.org

Village of Wilson Board of Trustees Minutes – July 17, 2025

Village Representatives	Present	Absent	Village Representatives	Present	Absent
Mayor Greg Martin	X				
Deputy Mayor Joanne Seefeldt	X		CEO Travis Evans	X	
Trustee Ellen Hilbbard		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 from June 24, 2025. Motion was made by Trustee Joanne Seefeldt, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. Trustee Mayor Greg Martin stated that you can find a copy of these minutes in the Clerk's office or online. All in favor, motion passed.

MONTHLY BILLS

Mayor Greg Martin stated that you can find a copy of our monthly bills at the back of the room. Mayor Martin asked for a motion to approve the bills. Trustee Doug Kepner made a motion to approve all vouchers, seconded by Trustee Joanne Seefeldt. All in favor, motion passed.

General: \$91,063.20 Water: \$9,715.48 Sewer: \$5,932.69 Key2Business: \$12,182.74

BUSINESS

Mayor Martin introduced Keith Braun from Belmont Housing Resources for WNY. Keith spoke in regards to the program. The NYS Vacant Rental Program is intended to provide funding for the repair, rehabilitation, and conversion of existing buildings having no more than five residential units in total. Discussion ensued with questions answered.

NLC Service Line Warranty Program by HomeServe: Mayor Martin found out about this program through the Mayor of North Tonawanda and thought it was a great option to bring to the residents of the village. It is a secondary insurance that resident's could purchase to help with water and sewer repair costs.

Wilson Fire Co. #1 event request: Mayor Martin stated it has been reviewed by counsel. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt made the motion to approve event request, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, event request approved.

Celebrate Wilson! event request: Mayor Martin stated it has been reviewed by counsel. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt made the motion to approve event request, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, event request approved.

Announce Public Hearing for Thursday, August 21, 2025 for \$1.00 per thousand increase to water rents: Mayor Martin read the public hearing notice.

Record of Activity review for Board of Trustees: Clerk Carey O'Connor stated that every year after Board members come on to the board, NYSLRS requires them to complete a record of activities for 3 months. Joanne and Ellen are exempt and Doug has chosen not to submit his ROA. The board members that have submitted one is Mayor Martin and Trustee Hibbard. Requested approval to accept Mayor Martin's ROA of 6.61 days and Trustee Hibbard's at 3.03 days. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt approved the days, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, motion approved.

Budget Amendment (General Fund): \$10,000 from contingency (1990.4) to tourism (7630.4) for the sign payment made last month to Toth Sports in the amount of \$21,549. Mayor Martin stated that this was recommended by our auditor to make this amendment. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt approved the days, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, motion for budget amendment is approved.

Mayor Martin stated that as we've been trying to hire for the Village and the candidate that we were going to hire decided not to work for the Village. Stephen McCarthy is a village resident that works for the school district. He'd like the board to rush his hiring so he can help the guys by not doing the background check and the urine test since he has done this through the school. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt approved the days, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, motion passed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Greg Martin opened public participation.

Wade Wagner asked about the water increase. Mayor Martin stated that this raise is in regards to the status of our water fund. Mayor Martin went into details on the increases that have needed to be made. Mayor Martin stated that what we did worked for the Sewer fund, however, the water fund needed some additional help and this will hopefully do the trick. Discussion ensued.

Steve Smith had the BAA (Buffalo Astronomical Association) picnic and it was great. The next Star Search is on August 9th. Come on out at Krueger Park!

Wade Wagner asked about the WWTP REDI project and the money we were supposed to pay back. Mayor Martin stated that they accepted it as planning and since we paid the 5% (our portion of the payment) along the way, they considered it closed. Wade then asked where we were at for hiring a Superintendent. Mayor Martin stated that we are looking for someone to do the wastewater plant over a superintendent. We are currently speaking with someone but there's some hurdles that we need to work on before we will know if this person will work. Wade asked if we are under DEC violation for not having a licensed operator. Mayor Martin stated that we have Camden Group on retainer and they come down every week. They've been great and answer our calls and texts when needed. Wade also asked about tree stumps, and sidewalks. Mayor Martin stated that he just met with Treeman Tom yesterday. They looked and will get back to the village with our urgent needs. Our overall plan is to fix our sidewalks and take out the stumps with grant funds. If it's available, we'd like to bring that money back to our community. We are in the process of becoming a Tree City USA community and with that, we can apply for certain grants. We have a lot of trees and stumps in our village that need taken care of. Wade then asked about where we are at with the Trustee. Mayor Martin stated that as soon as some things at the ZBA level, level out, then we will have people throw their name in a hat and we will go from there.

Mayor Greg Martin closed public participation.

REPORTS

Mayor Greg Martin opened reports.

CEO Travis Evans reported that so far in 2025 he has issued 25 permits, 13 are open as of this month, 32 fire inspections completed. He has been working with Solar Liberty on an Ontario street home. He doesn't like anything that was submitted since it would effect neighbors. He will continue working with them. Autumnview apartments are at a standstill because of NYS Codes. There are a couple apartments that need to be handicap accessible. They're looking at getting a variance through the State. A couple house had permits on them but have lost contact with the owners, but hoping to reach out as they will need to file a Vacant building. He's dealing with owners that have a permit to avoid the registration but will not make them file one since they

haven't done anything with their permit. He has a home on the corner of Seminary and McChesney that is unsecured and he found kids in the home. He will continue trying to get ahold of the owner. He caught two contractors working without a permit. They obtained a permit. He has had 3 complaints that have been taken care of. He asked Jim Bowman about the storage units again, he stated they will be removed shortly. He also has a couple owners in the commercial district avoiding their fire inspections.

Trustee Joanne Seefeldt has nothing at this time.

Attorney Michael Dowd has nothing at this time.

Clerk Treasurer Carey O'Connor reported that the Clerk's office has continued collecting late water bills and Village tax bills. We attended a webinar on Current water/sewer billing software. It was a brief dive into their software and will be having an in depth webinar on Monday, July 21st at 1pm. Being that gWorks has purchased our current water/sewer billing software and are no longer supporting it, we need to look for a new one. We also scheduled webinars to look at Muni-Billing and Muni-Link next week as well. We filed the quarterly property taxes with the US Census Bureau, received year end journal entries from Auditor and sent her our final reports for them to file our AFR. I attended the Niagara County Clerks luncheon today. Phillip Gow from Senator Claudia Tenney's office briefed us on how her office can help.

Trustee Doug Kepner has nothing at this time.

Mayor Greg Martin wanted to report that he reached out to Phillip Gow at Tenney's office in regards to them not being able to help us with insurance on our local federal pier. Phil said that he's still working on it. Mayor Martin explained why the Board feels like the Village resident's should not be responsible for paying the insurance on a Federal Pier. He also reported:

- Engineering planning draft for the I&I should be complete. Waiting to speak with Mike Marino. Also needs to talk to Mike about the grant report for EPG grant for the WWTP.
- LWRP grant we've been working on - we have received for it and the RFP will be going out.
- Applied to be a Climate Smart Community. We did it in 4.5 months, the quickest they've seen completed.
- Sink hole at the parking lot by federal pier. Mayor Martin blocked it off until the guys could inspect it and repair it.
- He's been helping at the WWTP.
- Went out with Treeman Tom.
- We think we've been having water pressure issues in the Village. We're thinking of placing a camera on the gauge to see if we can see when it changes. The county is saying there is no issue but we know there is and we are working on it.
- Lewiston stated they can help us work on our issues by flow testing our meters.
- We've put out AARP surveys on Facebook and in our Clerk's office. It's data that we can use to help us with grants.

Mayor Greg Martin closed reports.

CLOSING

Mayor Greg Martin stated that our next Employee Meeting will be on Thursday, August 21st here at the Town Hall at 2:30pm, and our Board meeting will be that evening at 7:00pm. Mayor Greg Martin requested a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 7:50pm. Trustee Joanne Seefeldt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Doug Kepner. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carey L. O'Connor

Carey L. O'Connor
Village Clerk-Treasurer