

VILLAGE OF WILSON

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



Arthur Lawson, Mayor
Carey L. O'Connor, Clerk-Treasurer
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Village of Wilson Board of Trustees Minutes - February 20, 2025

Village Representatives	Present	Absent	Village Representatives	Present	Absent
Mayor Arthur Lawson	X		WWTP/DPW Supt. Shawn Galyen	X	
Deputy Mayor/Trustee Greg Martin	X		CEO Travis Evans	X	
Trustee Ellen Hibbard	X		Attorney Michael J. Dowd	X	
Trustee Joanne Seefeldt		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 Art Lawson called the Village Board meeting to order at 7:00pm. We then proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Art Lawson gave Robert Morgan his Oath of Office to be a Zoning Board of Appeals member.

MINUTES

Mayor Art Lawson reminded everyone that you can find a copy of our previous minutes on our Village website and in the Village office. Mayor Art Lawson asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from January 16, 2025. Motion was made by Trustee Ellen Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Greg Martin. Mayor Art Lawson stated that you can find a copy of these minutes in the Clerk's office or online. All in favor, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

Mayor Art Lawson asked for a motion to approve payment of all vouchers, on all abstracts, located with the agenda at the back of the room (attached). Motion was made by Trustee Greg Martin seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. All in favor, motion to pay all monthly bills has passed.

General Fund: \$72,439.27 Water Fund: \$510.97 Sewer Fund: \$12,382.84 Key2Business: \$10,706.70

BUSINESS

Resolution 6-2025 - Climate Smart Community Pledge: Mayor Art Lawson read the attached resolution. Motion was made by Trustee Greg Martin, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. Trustee Greg Martin stated that going through the action list, the Village does a lot of these already and we are using some forward thinking to become a climate smart community. Mayor Art Lawson asked Clerk O'Connor to take roll call. Trustee Ellen Hibbard, yes; Trustee Greg Martin, yes; Mayor Arthur Lawson, yes; Trustee Joanne Seefeldt is absent. Resolution passed.

Resolution 7-2025 - Appointment of a Climate Smart Communities Task Force and Coordinator: Mayor Art Lawson read the attached resolution. Mayor Lawson asked Clerk O'Connor to take roll call. Trustee Ellen Hibbard, yes; Trustee Greg Martin, yes; Mayor Arthur Lawson, yes; Trustee Joanne Seefeldt is absent. Resolution passed.

Resolution 8-2025 - Wilson ZEV Grant Resolution: Mayor Art Lawson read the attached resolution. Trustee Greg Martin stated this opportunity was the first time he sat with Mayor Art Lawson and Mike Marino and is happy to see this coming back around. Mayor Lawson asked Clerk O'Connor to take roll call. Trustee Ellen Hibbard, yes; Trustee Greg Martin, yes; Mayor Arthur Lawson, yes; Trustee Joanne Seefeldt is absent. Resolution passed.

Resolution 9-2025 - AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities' Resolution: Mayor Art Lawson read the attached resolution. Trustee Greg Martin stated that Janet Hoffman will be the community contact for this and will help deliver surveys to our older community members to see what their needs and wants are. Motion to accept resolution made by Trustee Ellen Hibbard seconded by Trustee Greg Martin. Mayor Lawson asked Clerk O'Connor to take roll call. Trustee Ellen Hibbard, yes; Trustee Greg Martin, yes; Mayor Arthur Lawson, yes; Trustee Joanne Seefeldt is absent. Resolution passed. Mayor Lawson read the Membership Application letter from the Village Board of Trustees to the AARP Network. Trustee Martin reiterated that Janet Hoffman will be our community contact for our community with surveys and what they need. Mayor Lawson thanks Trustee Martin for all he has done with this.

Application for Use of Facilities - Pipers on the Pier: Mayor Art Lawson reviewed the application and it has been reviewed by Village counsel. The tentative schedule for their performance is June 7, June 21, June 28, July 5, July 19, July 26, August 16, and September 20th. Motion to approve application made by Trustee Greg Martin, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. Trustee Greg Martin stated when speaking with Tom Moje he was very happy with how it went last year and was happy to come back. He was able to get the application in on time to be added to the community event calendar. Motion to approve application has passed.

REPORTS

Mayor Art Lawson opened reports.

Legislator David Godfrey sent an email to the Clerk's office in regards to the Wilson Burt Road bridge being closed effective Monday, February 24th through August 1st. The funds have opened and they're getting it fixed. Last night he had the extreme honor to celebrate Mr. Zimmerman's birthday. He turned 104 years old. He worked primarily at Fort Niagara. He received a citation from the County and a birthday cake. He is the second individual in our county to turn 104. He asked if anyone has any questions. Trustee Greg Martin asked if the governor has said anything officially about the corrections officers. Legislator Godfrey stated he spoke with Mike Hill down at Attica, but he's not seeing any settlement right now. In closing, Legislator Godfrey stated that he has some discretionary funds, just send him a request!

Engineer Mike Marino reported that they will get the grant submitted for the charge station and because of our MHI, we will not need a match. They will be turning in an engineering planning grant for the WWTP, he has been working with Shawn to get that together. This will help with grants and funds we could apply for to get that done.

CEO Travis Evans, reported that he has issued four new building permits. 12 open permits, 13 inspections completed. One business occupancy. Working with Ag's & Markets on Lakeside. Back and forth with Harbor Project with the energy code and cannot issue a permit as of yet because of these issues. Chestnut Acres / Wilson Villa Apartments, they need to comply with the handicap side of things, handicap apartments. Got it straightened out and issued a permit yesterday. Been working diligently with Mike Dowd and the investigators over the fire at Lakeside.

Superintendent Shawn Galyen stated they've been working a lot with all the snow we've gotten. We haven't seen snow like this in a very long time. Working on ditching behind Autumnview, north. It was originally dug in 2001 and Joe has been working on that and hopefully is will be done before Spring with the Spring thaw. Waiting on Rob's Grade D water license interview, hopefully next week. Working on 168-175 unknown customer service lines from curb stop to home. Rob has been working on that. We have 3 years to finish but want to get it done now than later. Any concerns, please reach out to him.

Trustee Ellen Hibbard has nothing at this time.

Attorney Michael Dowd has nothing at this time.

Clerk Treasurer Carey O'Connor has nothing at this time.

Deputy Mayor Greg Martin reported that he is working on the Climate Smart initiative with people Duffy Johnston introduced him to at UB. Beginning of March, he has a phone call with Greg Stevens to work on the feasibility of the bike path and building upon things we've already done. Working on the Complete streets resolution. Speaking with the District 5 DOT in regards to Complete Streets. Working on the budget as well.

Mayor Arthur Lawson has nothing at this time.

Mayor Art Lawson closed reports.

RECESS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Art Lawson opened recess for public input.

Alexandria McKenzie, Can you tell us what the status is on the grocery store? Attorney, Mike Dowd, stated that we spent a lot of time by gaining access to the building. We can only speak to the structural stability of the building, but any other information we cannot comment. We are actively making sure the building is safe. Ultimately something will happen with that building and hopefully will have a grocery store again some day in the future. Alexandria asked if it's the owner's responsibility to rebuild or demolish the building? Attorney Dowd stated yes. Trustee Greg Martin stated that they will fall under the vacant building registry law. Hopefully it will pressure them to turn it back into something. He has spoken to the County and hopefully gives us some avenues to help them rebuild, if we're declared a food desert. We are doing as much as possible to help the situation.

Jill Rohring asked what was being surveyed. Shawn Galyen stated that it was the State surveying to repair their handicap ramps and sidewalks. If sidewalks are not 5 feet wide, there has to be a pad every 200 feet to allow for wheelchairs to stop and pass each other. It's the State and they're only doing the state sidewalk. Trustee Martin has asked Shawn to look into our sidewalks and Shawn stated that he is working on that. Jill also stated that during sidewalk inventory to look at bringing the sidewalk from Lutheran church to post office.

Doug Kepner asked Travis Evans if Lakeside IGA is buildable or does it have to be torn down. Travis stated that some of it may have to be demolished, some of it is re-buildable. Leg. David Godfrey wanted to add a comment to Lakeside, he did get an update to the County Fire Investigation team that their report has not been finished yet. Once it's completed, they will file it with the insurance companies. There is a process before the decisions can be made. At the end of the day, it is private property. There are options available but is up to the owner of the property. Doug stated that if the owners get a pay out and walk away, what recourse do we have as a Village to take care of it? Attorney Dowd stated it potentially could be on the village but there's no way to predict what they'll do.

Carol Sattelberg - She stated to Trustee Martin that when he spoke about being a food desert, it should be tied into the AARP as well. Trustee Greg Martin stated that was a good idea and our elderly population depends on it. She asked Attorney Dowd if there are more than one insurance companies involved with Lakeside? Attorney Dowd stated that they possible could. She asked CEO Evans that he had some businesses pushing back on fire inspections - was this one of them? CEO Evans stated no, that it had to be inspected before it sold to the new owners.

Public Input closed by Mayor Art Lawson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Art Lawson asked for motion to go into executive session at 7:54pm, motion made by Trustee Greg Martin, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard.

CLOSING

Mayor Art Lawson stated that our next employee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 here at the Town Hall at 2:30pm, and our Board meeting will be on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00pm. Mayor Art Lawson requested a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:46 pm. Deputy Mayor Greg Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Ellen Hibbard. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carey L. O'Connor

Carey L. O'Connor
Village Clerk-Treasurer