

**Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on October 8th, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Chimino at 6:30pm with the following present:

Trustee Robert Capurso
Trustee Todd Cargill
Trustee Michael Fleming
Trustee Bernadette Thompson

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale, Renee Keaton, Dana Keaton, Carrie Flucker, Kris Winter, Gary Cecere.

Approval of Bills

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Cargill and seconded by Trustee Fleming. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 10th, 2025, was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Capurso. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor

Grants

- The Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Awarded Park Grant. - Site work has taken place with the concrete footers having been poured which support the main upright 6X6 columns for the pavilion. We are expecting late October-early November for the delivery of the materials to construct the pavilion.
- NYSERDA PON 5737 Grant \$200,000. For electric infrastructure upgrades. Awaiting notification.
- Labella Associates was hired to apply to the CFA on behalf of the village and town for grant funding of a joint comprehensive plan study/update which was submitted. We await notification.
- The Fast New York Grant, that was awarded to the village for electric infrastructure, continues being administered by Municipal Solutions with assistance from PLM engineering and Cortney Gale.
- Northern Border Regional Council (NBRC) Grant- The grant in the amount of \$1,000,000, is being pursued with many letters of support from government officials as well as many of the businesses located in the Appletree Industrial Park. This grant deals with funding to eliminate infiltration of the wastewater system. Along with this grant, the village is interested in applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) economic development grant assistance to assist in financing our phase 2 wastewater infiltration and inflow project to increase the Village's WWTP capacity for new commercial development located in the Appletree Industrial Park and OXBO International employees. This CDBG grant would cover the village's matching grant requirement. .

Miscellaneous

- NYSDOT-Street sign template with necessary information has been forwarded to DOT for approval at the park entrance now known as Hickory Way. We await the DOT study results before a permit to install the street sign can take place.

- We purchased trees through the NYPA tree program. Buy one, get one free These will be planted in various locations in the village. Our office, prior to the December 01 deadline, will file the necessary paperwork to keep us Tree City compliant.
- The last Bergen Harvest Market of the season took place on September 30th. A year end wrap up is planned with the vendors to receive feedback on the market.
- Tree and Park committee met on October 01. Topics discussed were the farmers market, the back pavilion at Hickory Park and upgrades to Ward Park for 2026.
- Bergen Fire Department 2026 budget was presented to the board by representatives of the BFD. at the September 10th meeting. Discussion took place with copies of the proposed budget distributed to all board members for review. Voting on this budget will take place at the October 8th board meeting.
- I attended the Semi-Annual New York Municipal Power Agency and the annual Municipal Electric Utilities Association on October 01-3rd. On the NYMPA side, we were informed that our electric rate for supplemental power which is the power we use over our hydro allocation from NYPA would be increasing from 4.9 to 6.7 which was effective October 01. On the MEUA side, the New York Power Authority and MEUA and NYAPP have reached a tentative agreement on a multi-year plan that will establish new rates for NYPA's Niagara facility beginning in April of 2026. The NYPA Board of Trustees reviewed the plan and will vote to authorize a public comment period. PLM engineering will be furnishing rate data to all member systems outlining the impact of the rate increases. All municipals will have to sign new contracts with NYPA reflecting the new rate structure.
- We are still awaiting the delivery of substation equipment for our upgrade. This equipment is now more than 6 months overdue. The last scheduled shipping date for the main transformer is the week of October 6th.
- Engineering is still looking into cause of Church Street substation malfunction affecting NORTERA

Administrator

Sewer

- Sewer tank pumping should be completed by the end of next week.
- I am working on the annual permit to take sludge from the sewer plant to Monroe County's facility. We do not use the facility often now that we have the screw press.
- Chris is performing monthly tests and building compost piles for the sludge.
- We are still waiting to close out the sewer improvement and infiltration project. Clark Patterson Lee is working with the contractor on a final bill amount, once we pay the final bill we can begin to close out the project.

DPW

- The paving project for the back parking lot, Hickory Way, and Sage Pavilion went very well. Thanks to the Town of Bergen, Town of Byron, Village of Churchville, and Village of Leroy for their help.
- Construction on the rear pavilion is progressing. The piers and stone base were completed last week, and the slab will be formed and poured soon. Delivery of the structure is anticipated in early November.
- The DPW will be preparing equipment for winter in the next couple weeks. Hopefully we will not need it anytime soon.

Electric

- The Linemen will be working on moving the pole line where DOT is replacing and widening a bridge on route 19. We will be reimbursed for this work.
- Matt and Nick provided mutual aid to Castile on September 8th.

Office

- Tax bills were due June 30th. Any bills received after that date will have a late charge. We will receive bills until October 31st after which unpaid taxes will be sent to the County to collect. To date we have received \$420,372.73 or 99% with \$6,153.60 left to collect.

- I'm putting documents together for the PARK Grant now that it is underway. We may have to pass a SEQR at the next board meeting. I am also working with Municipal Solutions on the FAST-NY grant, as well as the Statewide Community Regrant application for our concert series, and OCFS grant for the summer recreation program.
- The contract with the Genesee County Sheriff's Department for additional patrols was signed and awaits approval by the county legislature.
- The Village's contribution to the NYS Retirement Plan is projected to increase by \$30,960 over last year.

Miscellaneous

- We received notice that we received approval to apply for the second round of the Northern Borders Regional Council (NBRC) grant in the amount of \$1,000,000. The funds would be used to further reduce infiltration into the sewer system. We are working on the application for the Community Development Block (CDBG) Grant that would cover the Village's matching fund requirement for the NBRC grant.
- I spoke to Mr. Gropp and we are working on a date with the Byron-Bergen Central School for a Fall Community Action Day in late October or early November depending on the leaves falling.
- Through our membership in NYCOM we are now able to receive a free business account with Amazon. I transferred our current account to the new plan which includes "pay by invoice", this will reduce the amount of transactions on the credit card and make it easier to track.

Code Enforcement Officer

2025 Permits

- 33 Munger St – Addition
 - 15-17 North Lake Ave – Remodel
 - 1 McCabe Court – Shed
 - 20 Canterbury Lane – Shed
 - 42 Rochester Street – Half Wall
- Number of new permits - 5

Approval of Officer Reports

A motion was made by Trustee Capurso and seconded by Trustee Cargill to approve the officer's reports. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Privilege of the Floor

Brad Fluker addressed the Board voicing his displeasure regarding the Village Code Enforcement Officer coming onto his property, without his permission, to check a concrete slab that was going to be installed.

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Thompson noted that State Police were checking speed on Buffalo Road.

Trustee Fleming stated that the newly paved municipal parking lot looks great and wondered if a fence could be put up between the parking lot and train tracks.

Trustee Capurso wondered if adding concrete slabs to the zoning law to prevent residents from putting them over sewer or electric infrastructure would be prudent.

New Business

Bergen Fire Department Budget Approval

A motion was made by Trustee Fleming and seconded by Trustee Thompson to approve the 2026 Bergen Fire Department Budget. The motion was carried unanimously.

Designation of Surplus – Pavilion Metal Roofing

A motion was made by Trustee Fleming and seconded by Trustee Capurso to designate the roofing metal that was removed from the back pavilion as surplus and to sell it at auction. The motion carried unanimously.

Standard Workday Resolution

A motion was made by Trustee Capurso and seconded by Trustee Thompson to pass the Standard Workday Resolution which is used by NYS Retirement to record hours worked by employees who are members of the retirement system, including Trustee Fleming. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Trustee Fleming – abstain

Trustee Capurso – aye

Trustee Cargill – aye

Trustee Thompson - aye

Resolution 9 of 2025 – NBRC Grant Project

A Resolution authorizing that Cortney Gale, who is Village Clerk/Treasurer, is empowered to act on behalf of the Village of Bergen as the Authorized Official.

Resolved by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Bergen as follows:

WHEREAS, the Northern Border Regional Commission requires the Village Board of Trustees to designate an authorized official to apply for grant assistance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Cortney Gale, Village Clerk/Treasurer, is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Village of Bergen to apply for, accept, and expend grant funds from the Northern Borders Regional Commission. The named authorized official has permission to sign all NBRC application and investment documents that bind the Village.

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Fleming to pass resolution 9 of 2025 authorizing Cortney Gale to accept and expend Northern Borders Regional Council grant funds. The motion was carried unanimously.

Appointment of Hearing Officer – Bergen Fire Department

Mayor Chimino appointed Mark Swanson as Hearing Officer for the Bergen Fire Department public hearing scheduled for October 20th at 7pm at the Fire Department Hall. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

Noise Ordinance

Trustee Capurso discussed the difficulties of adding decibels to a noise ordinance to enforce no use of jake breaks by tractor trailers.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Fleming to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator