

**Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on September 9th, 2026 at the Sage Pavilion**

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

Trustee Robert Capurso
Trustee Todd Cargill
Trustee Joesph Chimino
Trustee Bernadette Thompson

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale, Wayne Hill, John Schuck, Camryn Brookhart, Nancy Holland, Carolyn Smith, Mark Hafner, Tim Yaeger, Karen Ely, Ernie Haywood, Carlos Figueroa, Norman Pawlak, Krista Lewis, Gary Patnode, Kelly Hallenbeck, Joseph VanDerBosch, and Kevin Russell.

Privilege of the Floor

Nortera Foods – Wayne Hill, US Health & Safety Regional Manager

Mr. Hill gave information about the ammonia leak at the Nortera Plant and answered questions from residents and board members.

Genesee County Emergency Management – Tim Yaeger, Director

Mr. Yaeger discussed the county's response to the ammonia leak at Nortera Foods as well as their communication. He answered questions from the residents and village board. They will be testing a new system to notify residents of emergencies in October.

Approval of Bills

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 18th, 2026 was made by Trustee Capurso and seconded by Trustee Cargill. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor

Grants

- NYSERDA PON 5737 Grant \$200,000... Awarded and is currently being administered.
- Village and Town are jointly resubmitting an application to the CFA for grant funding of a joint comprehensive plan study. The cost to resubmit this grant application is \$1500.00 and will be split between the Village and Town.

- The Fast New York Grant, that was awarded to the village in the amount of 1.26 million dollars for electric infrastructure, continues to be administered to assure grant compliance.
- Northern Border Regional Council (NBRC) Following the \$1,000,000 federal grant that the Village received we are still pursuing a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
- Governor Hochul has announced opening of NY PLAYS Grant Opportunities to Expand Playgrounds across NYS. The village has used funding from the county to have Labella Associates submit a park grant on our behalf.

Miscellaneous

- PLM continues to oversee our substation replacement project. Sitework will be scheduled as equipment arrives. Northline LLC is the contractor who was awarded the bid for this portion of the project.
- We are pleased to have representatives from Nortera at our monthly board meeting on 9/9/26. In addition, we have representatives from Genesee County Office of Emergency Management and the Town of Bergen.
- Our last board meeting was a joint meeting between the Town and Village of Bergen. Thank you to Bergen Town Supervisor, Ernie Haywood and the Town Board for hosting. Thank you to the Bergen Fire Department and County Legislator, Christian Yunker for presentations.
- Our Summer Concert series is now concluded. We had a wonderful concert this year. Thank you to all our vendors, bands, and volunteers who helped make this a huge success.
- We are almost done with our Famers Market season. Special thanks to Rene/Barb/Cortney and the Park Committee for all the planning, coordination, and hard work putting this into action.
- I would like to remind Village homeowners to maintain the properties along the sidewalk areas. Please keep trees, bushes, and branches trimmed and out of walkways. In addition, please pick up after your dogs when walking.
- Thank you to the Village office staff for the efficient and hard work ensuring that all our village residents needs and concerns are addressed in a professional and timely manner. Thank you to all our Village crew for the upkeep and maintenance of our parks, sidewalks, roadways and electric needs.

Administrator

Sewer Department

- During the storm on September 3rd, the plant once again experienced a spike in influent flow. There was also a small leak in the office area, which Chris Fay repaired.
- Chris is working on a compost pile consisting of sludge from the plant mixed with wood chips. Once the composting process is complete, the material will result in usable topsoil.
- Monthly reports have been submitted to DEC.
- The Ford F-150 and sweeper attachment are currently up for auction on the Auctions International website.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

- The chip seal stone on the subdivision roads has been swept. After being delayed due to rain, the DPW, Sage Pavilion, and Sewer Plant driveways were chip sealed today. Thank you to the Village of Churchville and the Town of Bergen for their assistance.
- Some work was completed at Carpenter Park, including temporarily moving the benches and the brick underneath them. We will be removing the River Birch tree in front of the park and will try to transplant it elsewhere.
- We ordered four Sugar Maple trees to be planted as part of our Tree City requirements.
- Staff will need to repair an area of Emily Court where the road and shoulder are sinking due to a damaged drainage pipe.

Electric Department

- The Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for the substation was issued on August 27th.
- Birch Crest Tree Service has been working in the Village trimming and removing trees that our crews are unable to handle. Our usual tree-trimming event, with assistance from other municipalities, is planned for early October.
- Our linemen provided mutual aid to the Town of Bergen on August 25th by using our mini-excavator to dig a trench for them.

Office

- I once again submitted additional documentation to the State to verify Village ownership of Hickory Park before the grant funds can be released. I am hopeful that they now have everything they need and will release the grant funds soon.
- The Office for the Aging will be at the Village Office again on October 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- We continue to work on closing out the last fiscal year and completing the required reports.

Miscellaneous

- We are working on the FEMA Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) requirements for the Village. I have submitted a request to the DEC for the Village to be designated as Lead Agency, which I expect will be approved quickly. At the next meeting, we will accept Lead Agency status and make the required Type I SEQR determination, followed by adoption of the Local Law. Completing this process is necessary to maintain residents' eligibility for flood insurance and access to certain FEMA funding.
- I submitted the necessary documentation to the County to receive funding for next year's Summer Recreation Program.
- The three reports required annually by the Public Service Commission for our energy efficiency program have been submitted.
- I have been working with Laurie Fox from MRB and Winnie Shen from NYS Homes and Community Renewal to finalize the Village's Pro-Housing designation.

Code Enforcement Officer

2025 Permits

- 33 Munger St – Addition
- 11 Buffalo Rd – Wood Fireplace

2026 Permits

- 14 Winterbury Lane - Demo/Remodel
- 16 Church St – Driveway
- 17 Hunter St – Driveway
- 10 Hunter St – Internal Office Space
- 78 Rochester St – Roof
- 60 South Lake – Temporary Storage
- 43 South Lake Ave – Demo Permit
- 36 Rochester St – Driveway
- 13 Canterbury Court – Roof
- 38 Munger St – Generac Generator

3 certificate of completion, 0 certificate of occupancy, 17 total inspections

Approval of Officer Reports

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Chimino to approve the officer reports. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Cargill asked about law enforcement presence in the village to deter speeding.

Trustee Capurso has concerns about e-bikes going through his property and ripping down signs he put up.

Trustee Chimino stated there is a pot hole on route 19 in front of the village office.

Trustee Thompson enjoys the speed signs on village streets and asked for an update on the closed bridge on route 19.

New Business

Students Against Drunk Driving, Red Ribbon Request

The board discussed the request and granted it with the idea that future requests will be reviewed by the board on a case by case basis.

Resolution 13 of 2026 – NYMPA Semi-Annual Delegate

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bergen, New York, is a municipal member of the New York Municipal Power Agency, and

WHEREAS, the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Agency will be held on September 28, 2026, in Skaneateles, NY, and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the bylaws of New York Municipal Power Agency, each municipal member may cast one vote on each transaction properly brought before this meeting,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Matthew Sluberski be and is hereby designated as the accredited delegate of the Village of Bergen, New York.

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Capurso to approve Resolution 13 of 2026 designating Matthew Sluberski as delegate to the NYMPA Semi-Annual meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution 14 of 2026 – MEUA Annual Delegate

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bergen, New York, is a municipal member of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Conference of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association has been called to be held on September 28-30, 2026, at Allyn Lodge, Skaneateles, NY, and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the bylaws of Municipal Electric Utilities Association, each municipal member may cast one vote on each transaction properly brought before this meeting,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Matthew Sluberski be and is hereby designated as the accredited delegate of the Village of Bergen, New York.

A motion was made by Trustee Chimino and seconded by Trustee Cargill to approve Resolution 14 of 2026 designating Matthew Sluberski as delegate to the MEUA Annual meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Schedule Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Public Hearing

A motion was made by Trustee Capurso and seconded by Trustee Thompson to schedule a public hearing for the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance on October 14th at 6:15pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Pavilion Dedication Plaque

The board discussed options and will discuss them when they have more information.

Privilege of the Floor

Carolyn Smith asked about the Village's property code and if there was any chance of additional housing being built in or around the village.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator