

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Monday, June 1, 2026, in person at 2405 N. Triphammer Road and via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald; Trustees, Susan Ainslie, Patrick Gillespie, Kathleen Yen; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Attorney Natalie French; Public-1

Zoom: Mike Baker, Planning Board member

Absent: Mayor Ronny Hardaway

Deputy Mayor Greenwald called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:30pm. Greenwald opened the public comment period. There were no comments.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

Deputy Mayor Greenwald made a motion to close the public comment period. Trustee Gillespie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye	Trustee Pat Gillespie-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye

Approve Minutes

The next item on the agenda was to approve the draft minutes from May 14 & 18, 2026.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of May 14th & 18th, 2026

Gillespie moved that the draft meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Pat Gillespie-Aye	Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye

Letter of Commitment for the Use of NYSERDA Grants

Greenwald asked Yen to tell the Board about the resolutions. Yen stated that this will utilize two noncompetitive grants we received. The Greenway Committee and Taskforce have reviewed this. There is a letter of commitment and resolution that this money will be used as specified. There is no time deadline. Greenwald stated that the Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Committee looked at potential projects, surveyed the community for input and determinations were made to fund the proposed projects. Greenwald stated that we have already talked with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and these are appropriate uses for this grant funding. Yen stated that Lynn Leopold, Greenway Committee member, has also been in touch with CCE regarding doing a workshop for us. It could cost up to \$600 if they need to customize a presentation for us.

RESOLUTION #7308- To Authorize the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to sign a Letter of Commitment for the Use of Two \$5,000 Grant Awards from NYSERDA’S Clean Energy Communities Program Totaling \$10,000.

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing New York is grateful to the State of New York for assisting local governments to reduce their environmental impacts, save money, and demonstrate leadership in sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing New York is fully committed to providing a sustainable future for the community and clean energy, and is proud of its designation by New York State as a Clean Energy Community and Climate Smart Community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing New York (the “Village”) received two \$5,000 grant awards from NYSERDA’s Clean Energy Communities program totaling \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, the Village Clean Energy Communities (“CEC”)/Climate Smart Communities (“CSC”) Taskforce (the “Taskforce”), the Village Greenway Committee, and the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees have discussed potential projects, and surveyed the community for input, for the use of the awarded \$10,000, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees determined that the \$10,000 in grant funding shall be used for (i)pollinator and memorial shade tree plantings, (ii) installation of benches next to shade trees, and (iii) the purchase and installation of bike rack(s), all such plantings and installations to be on Village property (collectively referred to as the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, to support public education on sustainability, the Village Lansing will recruit and work with partner organizations and individuals to host a community educational presentation to discuss the benefits of pollinator and shade tree plantings, biking as an alternative means of transportation, decarbonization efforts, and other sustainability-related topics when the Project is unveiled; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village of Lansing New York Board of Trustees as follows:

1. That the Village Mayor or Deputy Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a Letter of Commitment for the use of the two \$5,000 Grant Awards from NYSERDA’S Clean Energy Communities Program totaling \$10,000 for (i)pollinator and memorial shade tree plantings, (ii)installation of benches next to shade trees, and (iii)for the purchase and installation of bike rack(s), all such plantings and installations to be on Village property, and
2. That the Village shall host a community educational presentation to discuss the benefits of pollinator and shade tree plantings, biking as an alternative means of transportation, decarbonization efforts, and other sustainability-related topics when the Project is unveiled, and
3. That the Village of Lansing New York Board of Trustees commits to implementing the Project outlined and using the funds as described.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Lansing New York Board of Trustees commits to implementing the project outlined and using the funds as described.

Trustee Yen moved this resolution. Trustee Greenwald seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Pat Gillespie-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye

Greenwald thanked Yen for her work on this.

Greenwald asked Yen to introduce the next resolution. Yen stated that the Cayuga-Seneca Canal connects the two lakes and is part of the water shed. Currently, the State currently does not recognize it as part of the watershed. The research does show connectivity. It raises awareness. It will also allow greater eligibility for funding.

Resolution #7309-Recognizing the Cayuga-Seneca Canal as Part of the Cayuga Lake Watershed

WHEREAS, the Cayuga Lake Watershed spans multiple municipalities and counties within the Finger Lakes region and includes tributaries and connected waterways that influence the hydrology and water quality of Cayuga Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga-Seneca Canal connects Cayuga Lake to Seneca Lake as well as the Seneca River to the Great Lakes and functions as a managed waterway within the regional hydrologic system; and

WHEREAS, the canal flows through and directly influences the water quality of Cayuga Lake impacting community character, recreation, and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, research conducted by the Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith has documented the hydrologic connectivity of the canal to Cayuga Lake and the role of canal infrastructure in influencing water movement and nutrient transport among connected water bodies; and

WHEREAS, nutrient transport within connected waterways can contribute to water quality challenges, including the occurrence of harmful algal blooms, which have occurred in Cayuga Lake and throughout the Finger Lakes region and pose concerns for drinking water, recreation, and ecosystem health; and

WHEREAS, Cayuga Lake and its connected waterways support significant regional tourism and recreation activities including boating, fishing, waterfront visitation, and other outdoor uses that contribute to the economy of Tompkins County and the Finger Lakes region; and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization has recognized the Cayuga-Seneca Canal as part of the Cayuga Lake Watershed as part of its regional watershed management framework; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing New York Board of Trustees reviewed and approved this resolution on June 1, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees hereby recognizes the Cayuga-Seneca Canal as a hydrologically connected component of the Cayuga Lake Watershed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports continued regional collaboration to protect Cayuga Lake water quality, protect the tourism and recreation economy of the region, and address watershed challenges including harmful algal blooms; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, New York State Senator Lea Webb, Thomas O'Mara, Pamela Helming, Rachel May, and New York State Assemblymembers Dr. Anna Kelles, Jeff Gallahan and Philip Palmesano.

Yen moved this resolution. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Pat Gillespie-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye

General Discussion

Gillespie stated that he reached out to the person he knows with Human Resource experience and she is not interested in helping us out, but she will reach out to some of her former colleagues.

Yen previously emailed the Trustees a report on the Tompkins County and Town of Lansing meetings she has attended.

Greenwald stated that the State has put a hold on all Community Source Aggregation projects. Yen stated that the supplemental projects have not.

Ainslie reported that TCOG met and the County administrator would like to be forward thinking in the next year about what the county is able to support. The County Administrator feels the big increases are fringe benefits, payroll and the cost of health care. It's all on the County website.

Greenwald stated that the Greenway Committee will now be meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. The Village of Lansing Commercial Area Advisory Committee (CAAC) will be meeting on the third Thursday of each month. June 18th will be the first CAAC meeting. The first meeting will be a general introduction and finding out what people are hoping to achieve. Creating a vision statement will probably not be done until the 2nd meeting.

Adjournment

Motion- To Adjourn

Deputy Mayor Greenwald motioned to adjourn. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Pat Gillespie-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

The following is the meeting coverage schedule for the next year for the Planning Board and Town of Lansing Meetings:

Susan Ainslie- Planning Board and Town meetings in June, July and August

Carolyn Greenwald

- Planning Board meetings September, October & November
- Town Meetings December, January & February

Patrick Gillespie

- Planning Board Meetings December, January & February
- Town Meetings September, October & November

Kathleen Yen- Planning Board and Town meetings March, April & May

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer