

**Village of Afton**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY**  
**April 13, 2026**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held April 13, 2026, in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm, by Mayor Humphrey.

**Present:** Mayor Humphrey, Trustee Lawrence, Trustee Schnorr, Trustee Cordner, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier and DPW Supervisor DeBetta.

**Absent:** Trustee Shaffer, Officer in Charge Frank Ventura.

**Visitors:** Ina Marvin, Maryann Palmetier, Linda Matthews, Alicia Schnorr, Dale Dewey, April Leggett, Joyce Humphrey, Joseph Snel, Julie Sutton, Judy Hinman, Jennifer Cordner, Angelia Echevarria.

- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers. Seconded by Trustee Schnorr. All in favor motion passed.

**General Fund Vouchers # 224 - 254, Totaling \$18,999.41.**

**Water Fund Vouchers # 103 – 111, Totaling \$5,106.45.**

- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections made by Trustee Lawrence. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.
- Motion made by Trustee Cordner to Open Public Hearing at 7:05 pm for the purpose of, informing the public of the tentative water and general budgets for 2026-2027. Seconded by Trustee Schnorr.

**Monthly Report:**

- DPW/ Water: Verbal report given, DPW Supervisor DeBetta, stated that the department has been working with T & K Harrington, LLC, with the installation of the water meters, finding the curb boxes. That NYSEG has been taking some unsafe trees within the village. They have removed the plows and salter from the trucks, cleaning up from winter. They are picking up brush and debris.
- Police Department. No report.
- Code Enforcement: No report, as Mr. Holdrege is on medical leave, due to surgery.
- Planning Board: Report distributed. Planning Board Chair, April Leggett read her report aloud. She also addressed the following:
  - ✓ She is working on a Mitigation Plan for the next four years, possibly obtaining generators for the DPW, the School, the Fire Department, if received she needs to know if the village would like a fixed or a portable generator. The village would prefer a fixed generator.

- ✓ Update on Len Carson from DC Marketing, about the LED sign, she indicated that Mr. Carson is now dancing around the original agreement.
- Finance/Insurance: Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier inform the Village Board of Trustees that Mayor Humphrey will be meeting with the insurance agent to go over the yearly insurance policies. The village received the unpaid 2025 village taxes from the County along with the unpaid water rents.
- Parade Committee: No representative.
- 4 Towns Forward: Visitor Judy Hinman informed the Village Board of Trustees of the following events: April 25, 2026 is the 4 Towns Community wide yard sales; April 26, 2026 is The Guildford Fire Department UVT, ride event. July 4, 2026 will be the Music Festival at the Sidney Airport.
- Visitor Linda Matthews said that a warm up band tryouts was, held in Unadilla, they had a huge turnout. There is a homeless meeting tomorrow at 8:30 am located in the back of Bob's Diner.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.
- Dog Control Officer: - No report.

#### **Old Business:**

- Progress on the 2 Yellow Houses. – Mayor Humphrey stated that this remains the same, until grants are available.

#### **New Business:**

- Discussions – Defibrillator – Mayor Humphrey stated that considering the turn of events that took place at a town board meeting it is important that the village obtain an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to be, placed in the foyer of this building to be available for everyone's use. Daron Schultes indicated that he would be looking at ways to obtain a few devices for the community. Mayor Humphrey stated that the, village needs to obtain one, as it is an important tool for the community.
- Discussions – Jake Brake Regulations. Mayor Humphrey stated that he had received a complaint in regards to this happening within the village limits; he spoke with the suspected persons, and asked that they un-muffle. He said that there is a 90 disable state law requirement, perhaps we need to placed signs, as a reminder when entering into the village.
- A letter received from The Greater Afton Area Chamber of Commerce- Outlining events for Memorial Day Community Celebrations, asking for waiver of events.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to waive the vending fees for The Greater Afton Area Chamber of Commerce for the events taking place on Memorial Day, May 25, 2026 for a Community Celebration. Seconded by Trustee Corder. All in favor, motion passed.
- Discussions on speeding – Mayor Humphrey asked DPW Supervisor DeBetta to look into a replacement solar speed sign for the East Side, along with two extras, as the village has been reimburse by the insurance company of the person who hit the previous solar sign.

- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to remove previous Mayor Patrick Dedman from all village bank accounts and add newly elected Mayor Robert Humphrey Jr. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to conduct an organizational meeting during our May 2026 regular scheduled meeting. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to appoint Angelina Echevarria, as a Planning Board Member. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Cordner to close the village office on June 11, 2026 through June 18, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Schnorr. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to move \$1,752.50, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 00028 - to Lamont Engineers for engineering services as follows: (F8397.20 - Contractual -Lamont Engineers – for \$1,752.50). Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor motion passed.
- Public Comments on Tentative Budgets. Mayor Humphrey asked the attending public if there were any question on the proposed tentative water and general budgets for 2026-2025.
  - ✓ Visitor Ina Marvin said she heard that the water meter project is short by \$10,000.00. Mayor Humphrey asked her where she had heard this, she stated Henry’s Drive Inn. Mayor Humphrey stated that this is not true, as they village has obtained funding for this project.
  - ✓ Visitor April Leggett stated that she heard that the water line pipes are old, causing issues with the water meter installations. DPW Supervisor DeBetta stated that the pipes are old, there, has been some issues, but nothing that they did not expect, or that they are concerned over going into this project.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to close the public hearing on the tentative water and general budgets for 2026-2027, at 7:25 pm. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to accept the tentative water and general budgets for 2026- 2027 as the village of Afton operating budgets. Seconded by Trustee Schnorr. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Recognition of Visitors:**

- Visitor Joseph Snel gave an update on the Afton VFW War Memorial Proposal, outlining the intentions of the VFW Post 3529 for placement of a war memorial at Foster Park. They met with the contractor who is working on an estimate for the placement of seven benches around the existing memorial. They have modified the proposal for placement to be, centered on the opening of the gazebo, allowing for a placement of a handicap ramp. They will be placing lights for the flagpoles, in hopes to have 6 service flags placed; they are looking for donation for such. The plan is to begin the project in June, with a target date for the completion of this project for Veterans Day of 2026. The VFW has raised a total of \$9,000.00 so far, with each bench costing \$2, 500.00 each. They are looking for volunteers, to help with the invitation dedication, media coverage, for anyone wanting to help.
- Visitor Linda Matthews expressed that as last month’s meeting Mr. James Delaney, expressed his frustration about the three large electric transforms, that NYSEG installed that constant humming. She

said that her husband has walked around the block, he too can hear the humming, and they are loud. Trustee Lawrence said that NYSEG sent a letter to the homeowner 6 months before the project started, that was the time to make a complaint. The period has since passed, this is a 1.2 million project for NYSEG, more than likely they will not move the transformers now, it would cost too much.

- Visitor Maryann Palmetier stated that our Fire Department is in trouble, there seems to be an internal problem, nine of our volunteers have resigned. As of right now, we have no local EMS and no one is available to drive the trucks if there happens to be a fire. There is a Commissioners Meeting, on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Fire Station.
- Visitor Julie Sutton expressed now that the weather is getting nice she has noticed trash lying around Leggett Park. There were many discussions on placements of trashcans by the village; in the past, the village has done this, only have residents use them as their own personal trashcans. There were discussion of cameras, placed on trashcans that are set out to catch anyone misusing them. Mayor Humphrey stated that as a municipality that is not feasible. There were discussion on having a complete village wide trash pickup. However, this too would not be feasible, as it would require an increase to resident's village taxes to offset the cost associated with trash pickup and removal. It was decided that the village would attempt to place trashcans out; however, if it is found that residents are misusing this service the trashcan's will be removed.
- Visitor Ina Marvin stated that the village parks should have a curfew. DPW Supervisor DeBetta said that we already do, there are signs the parks are open from dawn to dusk.
- Visitor Linda Matthews said that there was a discussion at the Town Board Meeting about kids vandalizing parts of the community, she said that they know who is doing it. The parents should be informed, they should be, made to do community service and go in front of a judge.
- Visitor Dale Dewy asked if there was any new information on the proposed community gardens on the East side of the Village. Mayor Humphrey stated that he has spoken with DPW Supervisor DeBetta about the placement. Winsor Arce's has agreed to disk the soil as a courtesy.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to adjourn our regular meeting at 7:45 pm. Seconded by Trustee Cordner. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Palmatier,  
Clerk / Treasurer