

**Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on January 14th, 2026**

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

Approval of Bills

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

Approval of Minutes

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

Mayor

Grants

- NYSERDA PON 5737 Grant \$200,000... We have received notification that this grant has been awarded to the village. The award of this grant will greatly offset engineering cost pertaining to the electric substation project. In 2025 we received \$1.46 million in grants for our electric infrastructure upgrades.
- Labella Associates- Applied to the CFA on behalf of the village and town for grant funding of a joint comprehensive plan study/update. We have been informed that we did not receive this grant.
- 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 t (CDBG). This economic development grant will assist in financing our phase 2 wastewater infiltration and inflow project to increase the Villages WWTP capacity for new commercial development located in the Appletree Industrial Park and OXBO International. This CDBG grant would cover the village's matching grant requirement.
- Governor Hochul has announced opening of NY PLAYS Grant Opportunities to Expand Playgrounds across NYS. The village will be applying for this grant.

Miscellaneous

- Awaiting DOT correspondence for approval to install Hickory Way Street sign at the park
- I attended the Bergen Fire Department monthly meeting on Monday January 5th. During 2025 BFD responded to 96 calls in the village, 219 calls in the town along with other calls in Riga and many mutual aid alarms to assist other fire companies in the surrounding area. Thanks to the entire membership for your never-ending service to our community and thanks to the Bergen Business and

Civic Association for once again providing the membership with a recognition dinner prior to the meeting.

- Sealed bids for the electric substation site work were opened on January 12th at 2:00pm. These bids will be viewed by PLM engineering to ensure the bids meet all the specifications of the bid process. Upon advisement of PLM the board will discuss the bids and either elect to award or reject the bids.
- Sunday January 18th is the scheduled date to convert the remainder of the Appletree Corporate Park along with K2 Industries (Pavilion Gift Company) to the upgraded system electric voltage of 12,470V
- A meeting with Mark Masse and Chris Suozzi of the Genesee County Economic Development Center is scheduled for January 23rd to discuss topics of interest, including housing and how (GCEDC) may be able to assist as we look forward to the near future.

Administrator

Sewer Department

- I have been working with Jeff Smith of Municipal Solutions and Richard Sutherland of the Finger Lakes Regional Council on the \$1,000,000 Northern Borders Regional Commission we received to reduce ground water infiltration. All additional information has been added and revisions have been made. We are awaiting final award documentation.
- Mayor Chimino and I had a conference call with Empire State Development for the \$1.26 Million grant as well as \$190,000 grant from NYSERDA for engineering costs for the new substation.
- The plant handled the melting snow in the last few days, but the influent was twice the normal rate.

Department of Public Works

- The DPW did a wonderful job dealing with the snowstorm on New Year's Eve. They wrapped up about 10:30pm and were back at 4:00am.
- I received a quote from Suit-Kote for road work this summer, it is incorporated in the budget.
- Eric McGrain is operating the sewer plant while Chris Fay is out.
- I ordered the new Ford F-450 and F-150 from VanBortel Ford on state bid. The funds were budgeted for this fiscal year, but the vehicles will not come in before June so we will put the funds into the equipment reserve until the vehicles are delivered.
- Churchville kindly sweeps our streets multiple times a year. In return, we have an agreement that we will purchase new brushes for their machine. The cost will be approximately \$800.

Electric Department

- During the recent wind storms the electric infrastructure did extremely well. There were very few downed trees thanks to our yearly tree trimming. The Rod and Gun club did have a tree come down on their property, but it only affected their power. We also had a car hit a guy pole causing damage. Churchville provided mutual aid to replace it.
- One of our BEEP programs is using our infrared camera on homes. The linemen will be completing the service for those who have asked in the coming weeks.

Office

- All the issues on the PESH inspection have been taken care of. I am looking for a company that has all the necessary training videos the state requires to make yearly training easier.
- The final documents were filed for the Park Grant. However, the state wants specific maps for parcels around the park as well as deeds. We are trying to pull them together with help from the county and surveyors.

Miscellaneous

- HEAP benefits have been slow coming in for electric customers. We expect more will come in the next few weeks.
- The Village has a new tenant in the business space in the rear of the building; Community Clothesline is a 501c3 not for profit that collects clothing donations and distributes them to those in need.

Code Enforcement Officer

2025 Permits

- 33 Munger St – Addition
- 1 McCabe Court – Shed
- 50 South Lake – New Steps
- 42 Rochester Street – Half Wall
- 37 Canterbury Lane – Addition to Garage
- 29 Canterbury Lane – Prefab Shed
- 11 Buffalo Rd – Wood Fireplace

Number of new permits - 8

Approval of Officer Reports

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

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Fleming stated he had inquiries about the DPW picking up brush after the windstorms.

Trustee Cargill thanked the staff for the great job they are doing with snow removal.

Trustee Capurso also had questions about brush removal.

New Business

Resolution 1 of 2026

Board Resolution to Dedicate Hickory Park Pavilion to the Fire Department

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bergen recognizes the dedicated service of the Bergen Volunteer Fire Department, including exemplary firefighting, emergency response, and public safety partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to commemorate this partnership and honor the Fire Department by dedicating the new pavilion in Hickory Park, to the Fire Department in recognition of its ongoing service to the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

1. Dedication

The new pavilion at Hickory Park is hereby designated and dedicated to the Bergen Volunteer Fire Department in recognition of its service to the community.

2. Plaque and Signage

A commemorative plaque shall be installed at the pavilion and signage identifying the pavilion as dedicated to the Fire Department shall be installed in a location approved by the Board and the Fire Department.

3. Administration and Funds

The Treasurer is authorized to allocate funds for the cost of signage, plaque, installation, and related expenses and to provide a financial report at the next Board meeting.

4. Effective Date

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Cargill to approve Resolution 1 of 2026 dedicating the new Hickory Park Pavilion to the Bergen Volunteer Fire Department.

Resolution 2 of 2026

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POLLING PLACE AND HOURS
FOR THE 2026 VILLAGE ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the Village of Bergen will conduct its regular election in the year 2026 on March 18, 2026, for the offices of one (1) Mayor and two (2) Trustees, each to serve a four-year term ending March 31, 2030; and **WHEREAS**, the Village of Bergen constitutes a single election district; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the polling place for said election shall be the Village Hall, located in the Village Board Room at 11 North Lake Avenue, Bergen, New York; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the polls shall be open for voting from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on said date.

A motion was made by Trustee Capurso and seconded by Trustee Thompson to approve Resolution 2 of 2026 establishing polling place and hours of the 2026 election. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 3 of 2026

**Setting of Election Inspector Commissions
for March 2026 General Village Elections**

WHEREAS the Village will hold regular elections in the year 2026 on March 18th thereof for the positions of Mayor and two Trustees, all for a four-year term, each ending on March 31, 2030, and **WHEREAS** the Village has a single election district and requires four election inspectors, and **WHEREAS** the Village Board of Trustees has selected, Connie Fiedler, Louise Hilbert, Karen Manners, and Virginia Adams as election inspectors, with any certified Poll Worker as an alternate, and **WHEREAS** the Village Board of Trustees has selected Connie Fiedler as Chairperson, and **IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the election inspectors will be paid a fee of \$100.00.

A motion was made by Trustee Fleming and seconded by Trustee Thompson to approve Resolution 3 of 2026. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

BEEP Policy Exception

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Capurso to make an exception to the Bergen Energy Efficiency Program rebate limits and award Oxbo up to \$10,000 for installation of energy efficient lighting. The motion was passed unanimously.

Set Public Hearing Date for Tree City Local Law

The agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

Electric Substation Construction Bid

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Cargill to award Northline Utilities, LLC the bid for construction of the Gibson Place Substation in the amount of \$1,581,243. The motion was approved unanimously.

2026-2027 Budget Discussion

Mr. Gale presented the 2026-2027 General and Sewer Budgets to the Board. Much of the discussion was regarding the rising costs of sewer treatment.

Old Business**Security Cameras in Hickory Park**

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Capurso to approve the purchase of security cameras and recorder for Hickory Park from Bell Datacomm in the amount of \$6,580. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator