Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on November 10th, 2026

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

Trustee Todd Cargill
Trustee Joesph Chimino
Trustee Bernadette Thompson

Trustee Robert Capurso was absent

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale and Camryn Brookhart.

Approval of Bills

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 14th, 2026 was made by Trustee Chimino 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 t (CDBG).

Miscellaneous

- PLM continues to oversee our substation replacement project. Sitework will be scheduled as equipment arrives. Changes to the timeline of work being done are being discussed due to delays. Northline LLC is the contractor who was awarded the bid for this portion of the project.
- The Farmer's Market has concluded. Thank you to all the volunteers, helpers, vendors, and employees for making this year very successful.
- New Poles have been put in place by the walking trail near Sage.
- 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 address 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

- Chris has reported issues with the Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs). We are currently obtaining quotes to replace the control panel and VFDs. The lack of existing wiring schematics complicates the replacement process. The pumps and drives are nearly 20 years old.
- Chemicals from Slack Chemical have been received at a lower cost than our previous supplier. However, Slack Chemical does require a deposit on the chemical totes.
- Septic tank pumping has been completed for the year.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

- Boxwood shrubs and two new maple trees were planted around the gazebo in Ward Park. Local children helped plant the trees as part of our Arbor Day/Tree City celebration.
- The River Birch tree was removed from Carpenter Park to improve visibility into the park. The tree was successfully relocated near the Welcome to Bergen sign at Appletree Avenue and Route 33.
- Equipment is being prepared for winter operations. The Western Star, F-550, and sidewalk equipment are expected to be ready by the end of the week.
- The Ford F-450 ordered in January is currently at Tenco for installation of the truck body. Due to the upcoming holidays, delivery is now anticipated in January or February.

Electric Department

- National Grid and Northline were on-site last Wednesday to test the new reclosers for the substation project. Testing was successful, and preparations will continue for construction in the spring.
- The linemen took their rubber protective equipment to Syracuse on Monday, November 2nd, for required safety testing. This testing verifies the equipment's electrical insulating properties, checks for physical deterioration, and ensures compliance with applicable safety standards.
- Following recent tree trimming and removal, Birchcrest, the lowest bidder, was contracted to remove 18 tree stumps.

Office

- The State has accepted the additional documentation submitted for the pavilion grant. We anticipate receiving the grant funds soon.
- Staff continues to work on closing out the previous fiscal year and completing all required reports.
- Winter electric shutoff procedures are now in effect and will remain in place through April 15th.

Miscellaneous

- I requested a quote from Lamont Awards for the plaque but have not yet received a response. They are awaiting pricing from the foundry that manufactures the plaque.
- On November 2nd, I was notified that a new picnic table in the rear pavilion had been vandalized. The recently installed park security cameras allowed us to quickly identify two young individuals involved. I contacted law enforcement and provided a statement to the New York State Police.
- We also shared information about the incident on the Village's Facebook page to remind residents that high-definition security cameras are in use throughout the park. The post received more views than any of our previous posts. Hopefully, the increased security measures and involvement of law enforcement will help discourage future vandalism and protect our park facilities.

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
- 60 South Lake – Temporary Storage
- 36 Rochester St – Driveway
- 38 Munger St – Generac Generator
- 33 Clinton St – Barn/Garage

Certificates of Compliance – 2
Certificates of Occupancy – 2
Number of Inspections - 18

Approval of Officer Reports

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

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Cargil stated that the DPW is doing a wonderful job and that the village looks great.

Trustee Thompson likes the dog waste station that was added to Zuber Park and complements staff on how good the village looks.

New Business

Local Law #2 of 2026 – Flood Damage Prevention

The approval from Department of Environmental Conservation was not yet received. A meeting on November 24th at 6:30pm was scheduled to pass the Local Law.

Farm Market Recap

Rene' Vurraro gave the Board a recap of how well the Bergen Harvest Market did this year. She was commended by all for her hard work and how well the market is doing.

Unpaid Taxes to County

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Cargill to send unpaid taxes to the County for collection. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Bergen Fire Department Members

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Chimino to approve Brayden Sherlock and Colton Erion as members of the Bergen Fire Department. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Emergency Management Test

Mayor Fleming discussed the pending test of the iPause system. A meeting with the County and Town is set for November 20th at 2pm.

Privilege of the Floor

none

Executive Session

Mayor Fleming requested the Board enter executive session to discuss employee matters.

A motion was made by Trustee Chimino and seconded by Trustee Cargill to enter executive session at 7:07pm. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Trustee Thompson and seconded by Trustee Cargill to exit executive session at 7:44pm. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Fleming announced that Village Administrator Cortney Gale submitted his resignation during executive session after 16 years of service to accept a new position with the New York State Veterans Home in Batavia. The Board also discussed during executive session the future structure of the Village Administrator and DPW Supervisor positions, both of which are currently held by Mr. Gale. Further discussion regarding these positions will take place at the next Board meeting.

Mayor Fleming and the Board expressed their sadness over Mr. Gale's departure and thanked him for his 16 years of dedicated service to the Village. They acknowledged his hard work, commitment, and the many contributions he has made to the Village over the years. The Mayor and Board expressed their appreciation for all he has done and wished him the very best as he begins this new chapter in his career.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator