

**VILLAGE OF COXSACKIE
BOARD MINUTES
October 13, 2025**

Mayor Mark Evans called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Trustee Christopher Hanse, Trustee Rodney Levine, and Trustee Deidre Meier. Trustee Katlyn Irwin was present via Zoom Video Conference.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2025 Workshop Meeting was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. Trustee Levine abstained. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2025 Local Law #3 of 2025 Public Hearing was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Hanse. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2025 Local Law #4 of 2025 Public Hearing was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Meier. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2025 Board Meeting was made by Trustee Levine and seconded by Trustee Meier. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

Correspondence Received

A letter was received from Ari Ilan, of 62 Ely Street, asking for his penalties in the amount of \$864.88 to be removed from his water/sewer account, due to the water/sewer bills not being received, and being sent to the wrong address.

A letter was received from Al Preville, resigning from his position as Water Superintendent.

A letter was received from Rose Carman, of 51 Warren Avenue, asking for consideration of the additional extraordinary charges of \$1,971.30 on her water/sewer account, due to a water line break in her house.

A letter was received from Joan Tailleur, Esq., asking the Village Board to consider a change to the proposed occupancy tax law.

Correspondence Sent

A letter was sent to NYS DOT updating them that handicapped ramps have been installed on the sidewalks at the intersection of Bailey Street and Whitbeck Street, and that the Village is re-requesting a crosswalk at this location.

Liaisons & Board Reports

Mayor Evans stated that the Village Board will dispense with the reading of the monthly department head reports, but that all monthly reports are on file with the Village Clerk.

Motions & Resolutions

A motion to approve closing both the Local Law #3 of 2025 and Local Law #4 of 2025 Public

Hearings from September 8, 2025 was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve removing ½ of the penalties in the amount of \$432.44, from Ari Ilan, of 62 Ely Street's, water/sewer account, as well as approving a 6 month, penalty free, payment plan, in order to pay down the remaining balance of \$1,615.29, due to the water/sewer bills not being received, and being sent to the wrong address was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request received from Rose Carman, of 51 Warren Avenue, for a 6 month, penalty free, payment plan, in order to pay down her water/sewer balance in the amount of \$1,971.30, due to a water line break in her house was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request from Kelli Chamberlin, on behalf of Raymond Cary, Jr. of 321 Mansion Street, asking for penalties in the amount of \$145.18 to be removed from his water/sewer account was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve Local Law #3 of 2025-A Local Law to Create Chapter 135, Article IX of the Village Code of Coxsackie-Hotel Room and Short-Term Rental Occupancy Tax was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve switching the official depository from the National Bank of Coxsackie to the Bank of Greene County, effective 12/1/2025 was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. Mayor Evans abstained. The motion carried.

A motion to approve authorizing the Village to take over 400 feet of Mark Misuraca, Sr.'s private sewer line on Riverside Avenue was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve hiring Labella Associates as a pre-qualified third-party engineer to assist Code Enforcement on projects as needed was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve accepting the resignation letter received from Al Preville, resigning from the Water Superintendent position was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request received for use of the Riverside Park, Pavilion, & Gazebo, for a wedding on August 22, 2026 for an extended period of time was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve purchasing fireworks from Young Explosives for the Riverside Festival for

next year, in order to receive a discounted price of 10% was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the proposal received from Marshall & Sterling for commercial insurance renewal was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve hiring Zachary Leary as a Police Officer was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution No. 112025-Bond Resolution for Purchase of Police Vehicle. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The resolution passed.

A motion to approve the September 2025 monthly Treasurer's Report was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the bills on General Fund Abstract #5, vouchers 225-310 totaling \$161,191.74; Water Fund Abstract #5, vouchers 108-148 totaling \$185,241.45; Sewer Fund Abstract #5, vouchers 102-137 totaling \$72,122.26; Capital Projects Fund Abstract #5, voucher 6 totaling \$13,327.50; Heroes Banner Fund Abstract #5, vouchers 35-36 totaling \$400.00; and Owl Project Fund Abstract #5, vouchers 64-71 totaling \$2,668.12 was made by Trustee Levine and seconded by Trustee Irwin. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

General Fund Abstract #4, voucher 197, changed from \$9,885.05 to \$9,806.10

Mayor Evans swore in new Police Officer Zachary Leary.

Mayor Evans stated that there is one more item that he would like to add to tonight's agenda. It is a Resolution in support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) and in opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas bans. He said that generally the Village does not get involved in things at the State level unless it is a specific issue related to the Village, but he has a concern over this issue, because the State is limiting the choices that residents have. For instance, he has an oil fired furnace in his house that is around 16 years old. He will need to replace it in the next 10 years, and he has natural gas, but if he is not allowed to hook up to oil or natural gas, that only leaves the option of electric, which is what the State is driving everybody towards. He knows that personally, it would be incredibly expensive for him to convert his house from two potential heating sources, to an electric service. He thinks that that is also probably true for a good portion of the houses in the village that are older. He doesn't think that people would have the money to be able to do that. Without getting into the whole debate about whether natural gas or oil is good or bad for you, he just thinks that it is a very bad policy to be taking away options that people have, to replace the heating systems that they have. He would like to see the Board pass the Resolution. He doesn't think that it will have a massive effect, but he thinks that it sends a message that the Village thinks that the options should be retained.

Trustee Levine stated that he agrees with Mayor Evans. He doesn't think that the State should be limiting resident's choices when it comes to being able to heat their home.

Trustee Meier stated that she agrees with Mayor Evans as well. Especially when you get out to

rural areas as well. What would happen for someone that lives halfway up the mountain, and they lose their electricity in the middle of winter? How are they going to heat their house? The State wants to get rid of wood burning, also. It is just not reasonable. She thinks that people should have the choice. They shouldn't be forced to convert.

Trustee Hanse stated that his general thoughts tend to be in agreement with everything the other Board Members discussed. He thinks that his concerns with this particular Resolution, and the bill itself, is the way that they are written on the federal level. This bill is restrictive in that it is basically a two-line bill. The bill itself simply prohibits any State or Local Government from making any sort of determination related to home energy and heating. With just the way the bill is written right now, it is not going to accomplish what the bill's sponsor wants to do.

Trustee Irwin stated that she agrees with Trustee Hanse.

Trustee Hanse stated that if the Village wants to make a statement about this topic, it should be addressed to the Governor herself. He doesn't think that this is something that should be handled at the State level. He doesn't think it should be going to a Federal Representative, and having the Federal Representative try to impose something on the State. That's his grounds to the opposition to this specific Resolution. That is just his thoughts.

Trustee Levine stated that he thinks that the simpler the bill is, the better it is, because it's straight to the point. How do you want to address a situation that would allow the Governor to look at it and say that these Local Governments are really onto something, and think about following their ideas?

Trustee Hanse stated that the Village is most certainly onto something. He agrees with that.

Trustee Levine stated that he doesn't think that that is going to be the State's train of thought in any way, shape, or form. They have already made up their minds. Whoever came up with this idea that they should push everyone into going on to an electric heating source, clearly is not really thinking that through properly, because if you put everyone on the grid, it is going to be strained. Why would they make this decision without first improving the grid? So, then again, if you are for the people, why wouldn't you allow better choices?

Trustee Hanse stated that he doesn't disagree with what is being said, but the question is what does this do to allow for that?

Trustee Levine stated that clearly in this point in time, he doesn't think that any one Village or County would be able to convince the Governor that she needs to step back from that decision that she's backing. So, the only solution at this point, that he can see right now, is passing this. At least they have someone saying that this bill isn't right, and the State shouldn't be doing this, and it's straight to the point.

Trustee Hanse stated that he understands. He just doesn't see it as the right approach, and he doesn't see it as the way to accomplish.

Trustee Levine asked Trustee Hanse what he feels the right approach is.

Trustee Hanse stated that he thinks that all of this energy should be geared towards the State Representatives, as well as the Public Service Commission. Those are the ones who are the regulatory authority over these things. He thinks that Local Governments should be going to them and emphasizing the importance of natural gas withing our energy system.

Mayor Evans stated that the Governor appoints those people.

Trustee Levine stated that they have to go back to the Governor to get their marching orders. She tells them what to do. So, at the end of the day, they are answering to the Governor.

Trustee Hanse stated that he would hope that those people are acting independently.

Trustee Levine stated that there is no way they can act independently when they're hired by the Governor to do their job.

Trustee Hanse stated that if this bill gets signed into law, passes both houses on the Federal level, then what? It's going to immediately go to the courts, and the current State law that it's trying to reverse was already upheld in Federal courts this year alone. So, what is the path to this actually coming to fruition? That's his question.

Mayor Evans stated that he thinks sometimes you have to take a stand when you think something is wrong for your constituents. That is all he is talking about, is the people of Coxsackie. Limiting their choices is a bad idea. The Governor is not listening, and the Legislature is not listening. So, it may just be sending a message, but he thinks that it's an important message to send. The whole energy policy of the State has issues. The State's policy is bad, and he is all for clean energy, and something in the future, but we're not there, in his opinion. Since we're not there, then you cannot limit choices of how people heat their house. He thinks that it starts with a grassroots effort like this to say that the State's policy is really bad, and until they have a better energy plan overall, this should not be enforced.

Trustee Hanse stated that he just wanted to speak his piece, and give his thoughts about this specific piece of legislation.

Mayor Evans stated that he hears Trustee Hanse completely, and he has many good points, but personally, he would support the Resolution, and he thinks that it is an important enough statement to make.

Trustee Hanse stated that on a separate note, he would gladly sponsor a Resolution condemning the State for shutting down Indian Point Nuclear. He thinks that that was one of the biggest mistakes in our energy grid in the past decade.

Trustee Irwin stated that she agrees with Trustee Hanse.

Trustee Hanse completely agrees that the grid as it exists right now, is completely unsustainable.

Trustee Levine stated that if this Resolution is going to slow the adaptation of the State's terrible policy, then he is all for it. It's straight to the point.

Trustee Meier stated that it also allows the Village to represent that they don't think it's a good idea for their residents. They are not writing the bill, they are just saying that this bill that is currently represented is too far, and too soon. They don't have a backup, and she doesn't think that it is right for their residents, and that's why she's in support of the Resolution.

Trustee Irwin asked what the sense of urgency is to approve this Resolution tonight.

Trustee Meier stated that it is because it starts in 2026, which is in two months.

Trustee Irwin stated that she means passing it tonight, rather than tabling it for this conversation to be had during the next Workshop Meeting. That is her question.

Mayor Evans stated that the Board already kind of had that discussion.

Trustee Irwin stated that she didn't see anything about it.

Trustee Levine asked Trustee Irwin how she feels about the Resolution.

Mayor Evans asked Trustee Irwin if she wanted to make any other comment.

Trustee Irwin stated that she is in agreement with Trustee Hanse when it comes to not liking the path moving forward, but she finds it an incredibly flawed policy in terms of being in favor of clean energy, but having a severe lack of options, and really any hopeful alternatives in the near future. That's a glaring issue across the board. Her hang-up remains the jump over the State level.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution No. 122025-A Resolution in Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) and in Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted no. Trustee Irwin voted no. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The resolution passed.

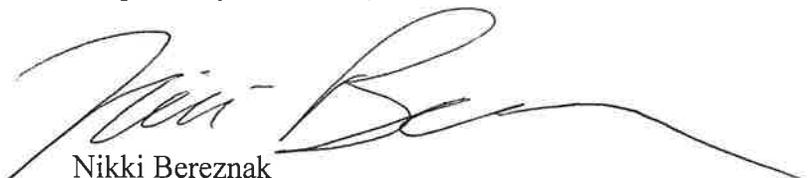
Public Comment Period

No public comments were offered.

A motion to adjourn the Board Meeting was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Berezna
Clerk