

Village of Cossackie

Workshop Minutes

September 17, 2026

The Workshop Meeting was called to order by Mayor Mark Evans at 6:00 p.m. Present were Trustee Christopher Hanse, Trustee Katlyn Irwin, and Trustee Deidre Meier. Trustee Rodney Levine was absent.

Correspondence Received

Mayor Evans stated that the Village received a letter from Homes & Community Renewal certifying the Village as a Pro-Housing Community.

Mayor Evans stated that the Village was copied on a letter from LeAnn Scherer to County Administrator Shaun Groden on issues related to senior meals.

Mayor Evans stated that the Village received a letter from Sherri Bauer regarding trees and other issues related to the water tanks' construction at the Water Plant.

Correspondence Sent

Mayor Evans stated that the Village sent a letter to Sherri Bauer in response to her letter regarding trees and other issues related to the water tanks' construction at the Water Plant.

UMH

Mayor Evans stated that there is a Public Hearing scheduled for Monday, September 21st, at 6:45 p.m. before the Board Meeting for the annexation Local Law. The Board can approve the Local Law annexing property into the village during the regular Board Meeting on September 21st.

NY Forward Update

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to discuss where the various NY Forward Grant projects are at, in terms of progress. Mayor Evans stated that the Verizon Wireless tower downtown is all installed, the project involving the old DPW Garage is still progressing, and the 14 South River Street project is going back out to bid.

New Water Meter System

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to decide on a date to review a potential new water meter system with Team EJP. Mayor Evans stated that he will reach out to them to see about a special meeting with them, maybe sometime in October.

14 S. River St. Grant

Mayor Evans stated that the bids received for the 14 South River Street Grant project were high. The Engineer met with several contractors to discuss ways to reduce bid amounts, and had great suggestions. So, the Village will re-bid the project soon.

Eagle Hotel

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to discuss a drainage issue behind the Eagle Hotel. The

Mayor will ask Delaware Engineering to look into this.

Pro Housing Community Designation

Mayor Evans stated that the Village has been approved as a designated Pro Housing Community.

Love's Travel Plaza

Mayor Evans stated that the proposed Love's Travel Plaza has requested a "will serve" letter from the Village for water and sewer for this project. Mayor Evans stated that the County is heading this project. The IDA will put in the sewer. The Village will not be paying for anything.

Water Plant Filter Wall Repair

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to approve the estimate for the filter wall repair at the Water Plant for \$34,400.00.

After deliberation, it was determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on September 21st.

Update Local Law #1 of 2011

Mayor Evans stated that the Department of State requested an update to the Village's Local Law #1 of 2011, which is in relation to Chapter 66 of the Village Code-Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code Law. He said that the Village Attorney is working on the updates, but the Board can schedule a Public Hearing for October.

After deliberation, it was determined that scheduling a Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 13th at 6:45 p.m. will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on September 21st.

Nalaxone Boxes

Mayor Evans stated that the Columbia-Greene Addiction Coalition has offered free Nalaxone boxes for the parks. The Board discussed various potential locations, and determined that McQuade Park would not be an ideal location. They determined that it would be better placed on the front of Village Hall.

Resolution on Sewer CSO Project

Mayor Evans stated that the additional work required on this Combined Sewer Overflow project, that was not planned on for Freleigh Place, and New Street, require additional approvals by EFC. Delaware Engineering and the Village Attorney are working on drafting a Resolution to state that this additional work does not affect the existing SEQR determination.

After deliberation, it was determined that this Resolution will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on September 21st.

Residents/Sewer Project

Mayor Evans stated that he would like to propose that the Board give all of the residents on New Street, Ely Street, Church Street, and Hollister Street, affected by the sewer project, a free quarter of water/sewer. The Board will contemplate doing this for the January 2027 billing quarter.

Towing Reimbursement

Mayor Evans stated that a person who had their car towed at the Village's request, because of paving at Betke Boulevard, is requesting reimbursement. Their car was broken, and was going to be towed anyway, and the Village, as normal, had very little notice on the paving date/time. He suggests that the Village reimburses them.

After deliberation, it was determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on September 21st.

Code Enforcement Position & Michael Ragaini

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to go into Executive Session to discuss Mr. Ragaini's potential retirement from the Code Enforcement position.

A motion to enter into Executive Session for personnel matters at 6:49 p.m. was made by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Hanse. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Meier voted yes. The motion carried.

Trustee Rodney Levine arrived at the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

A motion to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular Board Meeting at 7:07 p.m. 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.

Department Head Monthly Reports

The following Department heads came in at their respective scheduled times to give their monthly report: Clerk Nikki Berezna, Department of Public Works Superintendent Scott Martell, Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator David Varade, Water Superintendent Christopher Gallagher, and Police Chief Samuel Mento.

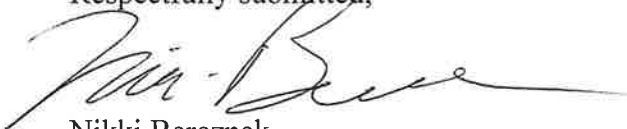
The following Department heads were excused: Code Enforcement Officer Michael Ragaini, Planning Board Chairman Robert Van Valkenburg, Jr., Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson Patricia Maxwell, Fire Chief Stephen Salluce, Jr., and Dog Control Officer Sherry Vieta.

All Department head monthly reports are on file with the Village Clerk.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Berezna
Clerk