

Village of Cossackie

Workshop Minutes

October 8, 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 Rodney Levine. Trustee Deidre Meier was absent.

Water & Sewer Requests

Mayor Evans stated that the Board received a request from Laura & John Shauger, of 6 Prospect Street, asking for the removal of late fees in the amount of \$38.68 from their water/sewer bill, due to the bill being lost in their mailbox.

After deliberation, it was determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on October 13th.

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, and is tentatively scheduled to be turned on on 11/23, the project involving the old DPW Garage is still progressing, and Kearney Development is working with the Village Attorney on lining up Variance paperwork, the 14 South River Street project is going back out to bid soon, and the work at 5-7 Mansion Street has been completed by Sitcer Construction.

Trustee Irwin stated that 1 Reed Street has received the duct and vent equipment, but they have to move 3 gas lines first before installing.

Regional Food Bank Thanksgiving Distribution

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to approve the use of Village Hall as a distribution point for the Regional Food Bank Thanksgiving distribution again, and authorize the Police Department to assist on November 21st.

After deliberation, it was determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on October 13th.

New Water Meter System

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to meet with Team EJP to discuss a potential new water meter system. He asked the Board Members if they would like to schedule a meeting with the company for after the Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 13th.

After deliberation, the Board agreed to reach out to Team EJP to schedule a meeting with them after the Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 13th.

Eagle Hotel

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to discuss a drainage issue behind the Eagle Hotel. The Mayor suggested that the Board look into running a camera through the pipes surrounding that

area downtown to take a look.

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 Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13th at 6:45 p.m. The Local Law can be passed at the Board Meeting following the Public Hearing on October 13th.

Move WWI Monument

Mayor Evans stated that the Board needs to discuss moving the WWI memorial to the WWII site.

After deliberation, it was determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on October 13th.

DPW Superintendent Vacation Sell Back

Mayor Evans stated that the Superintendent of Public Works, Scott Martell, is looking to sell back 1 week of vacation. He is hoping to have it approved tonight, so that it can be cut with Payroll tomorrow, rather than waiting until next week.

A motion to approve Scott Martell, Superintendent of Public Works, to sell back 1 week of vacation time was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine 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, Fire Chief Stephen Salluce, Jr., Police Chief Samuel Mento, Water Superintendent Christopher Gallagher, and Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator David Varade.

The following Department heads were excused: Department of Public Works Superintendent Scott Martell, Planning Board Chairman Robert Van Valkenburg, Jr., Code Enforcement Officer Michael Ragaini, Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson Patricia Maxwell, and Dog Control Officer Sherry Vieta.

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

WWTP SCADA System

Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, David Varade, stated that the Wastewater Treatment Plant SCADA system is struggling to keep up, and is needing daily updates to locate missing data from the system. The system is outdated and working extremely slowly. The cost to replace the system is about \$50,000.00. He only received a vague quote via email from Avanti Controls. He is still awaiting a more detailed quote. However, this is something that he cannot wait on.

A motion to approve the quote received from Avanti Controls for up to \$50,000.00 to replace the SCADA system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Irwin voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. The

motion carried.

Vacant Sergeant Position

Police Chief, Samuel Mento, stated that the Police Department has had a Sergeant position vacant since March 2026, and he is seeking to fill the position with an in-house promotion to assist with administrative duties. His recommendation is a recent hire, Michael McDowell, who has 23 plus years of experience, both as a Police Officer, and Supervisor. He also has completed the mandated NYS DCJS Certification Course in Police Supervision, which is a state requirement for all supervisors.

After deliberation, the Board Members determined that this will be added as an agenda item for approval at the next Board Meeting on October 13th.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Bereznak
Clerk