

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025

5:30 pm

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was opened at 5:30pm with a motion by Mayor Massey and a second by Trustee Jenkins due to an Emergency Executive Session for personnel and litigation. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Trustee Hutchins-absent

Trustee Davis-absent

Trustee Barbarite-yea

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the Executive Session at 6:12 pm. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Trustee Hutchins-yea

Trustee Davis-yea

Trustee Barbarite-yea

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Massey-Present

Trustee Jenkins-Present

Trustee Hutchins-Present

Trustee Davis-Absent

Trustee Barbarite-Present

Also Present:

Michael Sussman, Village Special Counsel

James Snowden, Village Manager

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to accept the agenda with the following four (4) add-ons:

1. Resolution setting a Public Hearing dates for the 25/26 Village Budget for Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 5:00pm and Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at 6:00pm
2. Resolution setting a Special Meeting date for Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 7:00pm for a Joint Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, the Village Planning Board, and the Village Zoning Board of Appeals

3. Resolution authorizing the quote and payment to PN alarms for a Camera System at the Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$1,532.00 from app#F.8310.240 (Water Admin-Security System). Current account balance is \$10,000.00
4. Resolution authorizing the quote and payment to PN Alarms for a Camera System at the Salt Shed for the Sewer Department in the amount of \$2,610.00 from app#CL.8160.423 (Sanitation-Truck Repairs). Current account balance is \$20, 271.41

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Approval of minutes from the May 21st, 2025 meeting

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to approve the minutes. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Massey did not read her report, but asked that it be included in the minutes as follows:

Good evening neighbors. June has been designated by healthcare organizations around the country as Men's Health Month. This is aimed at making a way to encourage men to take care of their health and prevent future illnesses. June can also serve as a helpful nudge for some men who are reluctant to discuss health issues with their medical providers. Many men tend to avoid doctors and healthcare facilities. This reluctance in seeking healthcare raises questions about the underlying reasons and potential consequences. This may be related to their concept of masculinity. This is especially true cases of men of color, masculinity has been traditionally defined in terms of characteristics that entail toughness, independence, and emotional resilience. These ideals can clash with the notion of seeking help or admitting to having health concerns. Consequently, men may feel obligated to maintain a facade of invincibility, suppressing their own health needs in the process and downplay or dismiss symptoms, attributing them to temporary discomfort or fatigue. This passive approach, while seemingly demonstrates resilience, often leads to delayed diagnoses and the progression of potentially serious health conditions. By using June to raise awareness and promote health literacy, we can break the silence and encourage men to prioritize their health by providing information about common health concerns, preventive measures, and the importance of early detection. This can potentially empower men to make informed decisions and take proactive steps towards their well-being and begin to break the silence and transform health outcomes and empower men to prioritize their well-being and seek medical care when needed.

Additionally, remember Summer is approaching, and the focus should be upon keeping our properties clean and safe!

6/4/25-Village Board Meeting Minutes

Reminders:

- 1) Keep grass mowed
- 2) Trees trimmed
- 3) Yard free of debris
- 4) Control weed and wild plant growth
- 5) Keep sidewalks clear
- 6) Ensure cars are parked correctly
- 7) Maintain in good repair and structurally sound all accessory constructions i.e. (detached garages, walls, fences)
- 8) Keep basketball and soccer nets off sidewalks and out of the path of traffic

These actions will ensure a beautiful and safe Monticello!

Down to Business

As I stated previously, we have begun the process of preparing next year's budget and in the interest of transparency, I have been upfront about the challenges we are facing. This is possibly the most difficult budget the Village of Monticello has ever had to put together. Why? Because we're not just planning, we're also cleaning up the past. The major issues we encountered with last year's budget are that millions of dollars were allocated for critical needs, but the spending never happened, and that money still lies unaccounted for. We have been facing issues tracking down exactly where it went. The bottom line remains within the fact that those costs must be added back into the new budget. This is the only way to get the village back on solid footing.

Moreover, the entire community has had to confront the impact of rising costs. Electric rates have jumped 40%. The village's insurance coverage has gone up by \$400,000 since last year. This is compiled with the increase of health insurance premiums by 12 to 14%. By contract the village must cover that for employees. Furthermore, payroll expenses are also going up significantly, again due to commitments made by the previous administration in union negotiations. Nevertheless, we also can't ignore the wider economic picture either. The federal tariffs on countries like China and Canada are already affecting the cost of supplies our community relies upon like services and goods such as chemicals, equipment, and parts needed to keep our water, sewer, and highway departments running smoothly. We don't yet know how big the impact will be, but it's something the Village needs to prepare for. So, yes, this is our toughest budget year, but I promise you, we, as a community, we will face it together head-on. We will remain committed to being transparent, responsible, and working with all of you to get Monticello back on track.

On a high note:

Our previous clean-up days went very well. I was surprised at the turn-out of community members. This attendance allowed us to service many properties and areas within the Village Monticello!! Keep up the good work!!

Once again, I would like to remind all community residents that we have a noise ordinance throughout the Village of Monticello. The noise ordinance states that sound in or out of your

6/4/25-Village Board Meeting Minutes

vehicle must be kept to your ears. It is unlawful for any person to create noise or emit sound or cause the creation emission which is unreasonably loud, disturbing or unnecessary and is of such character, intensity or duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual, or in disturbance of the public peace and welfare. Be mindful of your neighbors because if it disturbs them, then it becomes a problem.

A free Rabies Clinic will be held at the Morningside Park Pavilion, in the Town of Fallsburg, on June 18th, 2025, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. There is also an additional clinic being held on June 3rd at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Ongoing Events

Have a hot cup of FREEDOM! Join Vet2Vet of Sullivan County for coffee and camaraderie e-very Monday at ATI from 10-11am at their location at 309 East Broadway, Monticello.

Weekly ANNA Meetings-Ted Strobel Center 7-8:30 pm

Behavioral Health Services for Youth. Astor Services Satellite Clinic. Online Providers. Monticello School District. Location: Monticello High School and St. Johns Street Building. Parental Consent necessary.

Sullivan 180: The 2025 Community Resource Guides are here! As a reminder, this valuable guide to our community's wide variety of resources is always available and kept up to date on the Sullivan 180 website - www.sullivan180.org

Veteran Caregiver program continues monthly from ATI. Rental assistance funding remains available for those in recovery from substance use disorders.

Community Services Now Offering Mental Health Services to Children Ages 5 and up in an effort to meet the demand for mental health services for children across the county, we are now accepting referrals for children beginning at age 5. Call (845)292-8770 for more information and to schedule appointments.

Help Wanted:

Center for Workforce Development- Applications are now available for Sullivan County's Summer Youth Employment Program for ages 14-20. Applications can be obtained on the SYEP- website sullivanny.us/Departments/Youthbureau

Child Protective Case Worker at DSS- The Child Welfare team at DSS is looking for a few more caseworkers to join the team to enable them to expand services and supports into local school districts in time for the start of the next academic year. Civil service exams are offered weekly for this position. A bachelor's degree or RN and driver's license are required for the position.

Hepatitis C Care Coordinator- Cornerstone Health Services.

Public Health-Healthy Families is seeking a bilingual family support worker & this position requires only a HS Diploma and is a wonderful opportunity to help new mothers and babies.

Finally, let me again reiterate that we must all make volunteering a personal priority. The initiative with Catholic Charities Foundation that was looking for volunteer to restock the food pantry has not garnered much of a buzz. I implore you all to get out there and commit to serving your neighbors in need. This event is held every Wednesday from 9am -1pm.

As we work towards all of our planned initiatives, I encourage everyone in our community to get involved. You can stay informed by attending the board meetings. Whether It's getting involved in local activities, volunteering, or simply supporting one another, every effort contributes to the strong sense of community that defines Monticello.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and commitment. Together, we can progress and achieve a lot for the Village of Monticello. I look forward to keeping you updated as we take on more projects moving forward and to hearing your thoughts and ideas along the way.

Manager's Report

The leak detection company discovered more than eight major leaks. These leaks were wasting thousands of gallons of water per week .

Our youth employment program funded through the county will begin in July which will employ six teenagers and a director, these teenagers will work at our Splash Pad, litter pluck our parks & Broadway, back roads and also be working in Village Hall

I have instructed the Highway Superintendent to power wash our pool. If necessary we will paint the pool before filling it up.

For the playground at DeHoyos, I am looking to bring the playground up to standard; that means adding two rows of 6x6 timber around the entire playground area. We will need approximately 80 pieces which will cost us about \$3,600.00. Then I would like to fill it withheld with mulch. The monies to fund this from the additional funds of \$4,700.00 from Mrs. Gunther office for a new swing set.

The repairs will be made to the fencing around our tennis court next week due to a motor vehicle driving through the courts and damaging the entire southside. The fence will be replaced from monies recovered by the insurance company.

I have called for budget meeting for all the department heads Tuesday, June 10th in my office at 9am.

The new plow truck should be delivered next week; it was paid for last year. It is at Robert Greene right now; they are still working out the kinks.

Discussion-Extension of Harris Sewer District-Jacob Billig

Jacob Billig was present on behalf of Brookview Cottages who would like to be added to the Harris Sewer District. He stated that the district as is has not met its maximum capacity and this project's consumption will not even come close to maximum capacity. He stated that they have already gone

to the Town of Thompson and their resolution is attached giving the approval, but there is a caveat in the inter-municipal agreements that requests final approval from the Village being that it is the Village's system that they would be tying into, so that's his purpose for tonight.

The Board responded that they wanted to get more information from the Village's Sewer Superintendent and a few other calculations before they felt comfortable moving forward and asked Mr. Billig to come the next scheduled Board meeting.

Resolution authorizing payment of the Village bills in the amount of \$1,588,522.83

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to pay the Village bills. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Rockland & Orange Reporting in the amount of \$1,687.25 for transcripts from the May 5th, 2025 hearing for the Village of Monticello v. Monticello PBA, Inc. from app#A.1420.404(Attorney Litigation). Account balance before expense is \$32,443.35

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Notice to Bidders to be published on the Village website, Sullivan County Democrat and Times Herald Record for the new DeHoyos Park Pool. Bid opening date set for Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 2:00pm

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Motion Ai in the amount of \$1,687.74 for work completed at the Sewer Department on the HMI system from app#G.8130.421(Treatment/Disposal-Repair/Maintenance). Account balance after expense is \$9,065.83

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the one-time transfer of funds from Utility Collection to the Sanitation fund in the amount of \$383,818.92 to pay for the Sanitation Department Employees Retirement, Medical Insurance and Payroll

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Barbarite. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Home Depot Credit Services in the amount of \$1,504.57 from app#A.1620.421(General.Building & Grounds-Repair/Maint.) for miscellaneous items needed for the Highway Department and roads. Account balance after expense is \$5,111.53

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Davis. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to MVP for April, May & June 2025 for the employee's health insurance in the amount of \$174,974.83 from app#A.9060.800(Hospital & Medical Insurance),

\$88,336.18, app#CL.9060.800(Hospital & Medical Insurance), \$25,269.66, app#F.9060.800 (Hospital & Medical Insurance), \$39,402.27 & app#G.9060.800(Hospital & Medical Insurance), \$21,966.72 respectively

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution accepting the quote and authorizing payment in the amount \$1,813.00 to Accredited Security from app#A3120.431(Police-Ammunition). Account balance after expense is \$260.60

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution accepting the lowest quote and authorizing payment for the repair of the DeHoyas Park Tennis Courts in the amount of \$14,400.00 from IFencing Installation & Rentals

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the return of a Bond Check to Joseph Weinberger in the amount of \$15,000.00 for work completed at 5 Feldberg Drive from app#T.0033.713. Account balance is \$15,000.00

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution awarding the lowest bidders for the Highway Departments Annual Bids for the next fiscal year August 1, 2025-July 31, 2026

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Treasurer to create a line item in the General Fund under the Police Department Personnel entitled, Constable, and to allocate \$10,000.00 for that line in the current budget and the 25/26 upcoming budget

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolutions authorizing the Village Manager to hire 4 to 6 Lifeguards for the Dillion Park Pool Summer Session at a rate of \$20.00 per hour and \$21.00 per hour for the Head Lifeguard

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution setting a Public Hearing dates for the 25/26 Village Budget for Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 5:00pm and Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at 6:00pm

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Davis. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution setting a Special Meeting date for Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 7:00pm for a Joint Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, the Village Planning Board, and the Village Zoning Board

of Appeals

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the quote and payment to PN alarms for a Camera System at the Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$1,532.00 from app#F.8310.240 (Water Admin-Security System). Current account balance is \$10,000.00

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Hutchins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

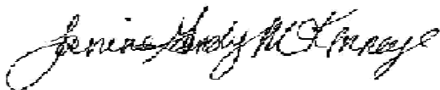
Resolution authorizing the quote and payment to PN Alarms for a Camera System at the Salt Shed for the Sewer Department in the amount of \$2,610.00 from app#CL.8160.423 (Sanitation-Truck Repairs). Current account balance is \$20, 271.41

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Hutchins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis to close the meeting at 6:59pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk