

VILLAGE OF NEW YORK MILLS

Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2025 – Village Board Room

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 PM

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Ernie Talerico called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Present: Mayor Ernie Talerico; Trustee Edwards; Trustee Kulpa; Trustee Chamberlain; Trustee Copperwheat

Also Present: Police Chief Rob Frankland; Fire Chief Rick Ulinski; Village Engineer Al Swierczek; Code Enforcement Officer John Constas; Village Attorney Kate Festine

Absent: Highway Superintendent Sean Brady (due to weather conditions)

Public Hearing – Local Law #1 of 2025

Mayor Talerico read the proposed Local Law #1-2025.

Local Law No. 1 of 2025

A LOCAL LAW TO REZONE PARCEL 305.019-5-35, 17 MILL PLACE IN THE VILLAGE OF NEW YORK MILLS TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (P-D)

Article 1 – Statement of Authority:

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority granted under Article 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and §7-708 of the Village Law.

Article 2 – Statement of Purpose and Findings:

The Village Board finds that parcels within the Village should be zoned Planned Development (P-D). The subject parcel is currently zoned Manufacturing-1 and consists of a former mill building. Mill operations no longer take place, and the building is vacant. No economic return is possible under its current zoning classification due to the building's size, structure, and incompatibility with modern manufacturing needs. The purpose of this Local Law is to amend the zoning map of the Village.

Article 3 – Enactment:

The Village Board hereby amends the Zoning Law and Map to rezone the following parcel from Manufacturing-1 to Planned Development:

17 Mill Place, Parcel #305.019-5-35

Article 4 – Severability:

If any part of this Chapter is found void, voidable, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

Article 5 – Effective Date:

This Local Law takes effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

A motion was made by **Trustee Copperwheat**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to open the Public Hearing. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Hearing opened at 7:03 PM.

No residents were in attendance, and no correspondence was received.

Trustee Kulpa asked whether the law could be amended to include the Vicks' Lithograph property and adjacent parcels. Attorney Festine advised that such changes would require a new public hearing and cannot be added to the current Local Law. This could be considered at a later date.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Hearing closed at 7:07 PM.

Attorney Festine noted that the proposed Local Law received no recommendation from the County but did receive a Negative Environmental Impact determination.

A motion was made by **Trustee Copperwheat**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to declare a Negative Declaration. All in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 77:2025:

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to adopt Local Law #1:2025. All in favor. Motion passed.

Regular Business**Treasurer's Report**

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2025. All in favor. Motion passed.

Abstract #7 Approval

Motion by **Trustee Copperwheat**, seconded by **Trustee Chamberlain**, to approve Abstract #7:

- General Fund: \$297,683.24
 - Library Fund: \$1,984.67
- Total: \$299,667.91 (Voucher Nos. 251–301)**
All in favor. Motion passed.
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Approval of Previous Minutes

Trustee Kulpa advised the Board he wished to rescind a motion from the November 12, 2025 meeting:

Resolution 73:2025 involved entering into an agreement with TextMyGov. He stated that he did not support the program and did not intend to make that motion.

A motion to rescind Resolution 73:2025 was made by **Trustee Kulpa**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**. All in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 78:2025:

A motion was made by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to enter into an agreement with TextMyGov.

Roll Call:

- Copperwheat – Aye
- Edwards – Aye
- Chamberlain – Aye
- Kulpa – Nay

Motion passed.

A motion was then made by **Trustee Kulpa**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the November 12, 2025 minutes. All in favor. Motion passed.

Fire Department

- Written report for November 2025 is on file.
- Chief Ulinski advised that firefighter Joseph Odarchuk has become a NYS Emergency Medical Technician and Ashlyn Morrissey has graduated from the Utica Fire Academy.

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to approve the November 2025 Fire Report. All in favor. Motion passed.

Highway Department

- Written report for November 2025 is on file.
- Superintendent Brady was absent due to weather. The mayor reported that snow removal contractors are pushing snow across roadways and leaving excess snow in the street. The Highway Superintendent intends to notify the Police Department so citations can be issued.
- Trustee Kulpa suggested identifying parking lots for residents during snow removal. Chief Frankland noted the Village already has a no-overnight-parking law year-round.

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to approve the November 2025 Highway Report. All in favor. Motion passed.

Police Department

- Written report for November 2025 is on file.
- Chief Frankland thanked Noel Ames from BOCES for providing students to assist with traffic at the Craft Show and Ugly Sweater Run.
- He also commended Officer Joseph Luscumb for his handling of burglary suspects from New Hartford.

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the November 2025 Police Report. All in favor. Motion passed.

Code Enforcement

- Written report for November 2025 is on file.

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Kulpa**, to approve the November 2025 Code Enforcement Report. All in favor. Motion passed.

Engineer's Report

Nothing to report.

Recreation Report

Christmas on Main Street will take place on December 12th from 6–8 PM.

Attorney's Report

At the November 9, 2025 Board meeting, the Board agreed in Executive Session to offer a settlement to the property owner at **504 Main Street**. Terms include:

- New windows and siding on the front house by August 2026
- Demolition of the garage by the end of 2026
- Engineer's report on the rear apartment and proposed new room
- Basement repairs and siding for the property by the end of 2026

Attorney Festine will prepare the written settlement agreement and present it to the owner.

Motion to accept the settlement terms made by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business

Resolution 78:2025:

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to approve the following wage increases effective 1/1/2026:

- Mary Lourse Heaton – Librarian: \$27.00/hr.
- Cindy Ho – \$18.00/hr.
- Mihee Jo – \$18.00/hr.
- Tracy Maycock – \$18.00/hr.
- Chelsey Plows – \$18.00/hr.
- Jordan Roback – \$16.00/hr.
- Virginia Petras – \$17.50/hr.
- Amy Topor – Village Clerk/Treasurer: \$60,000 salary

All in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 79:2025:

Motion by **Trustee Kulpa**, seconded by **Trustee Chamberlain**, to approve the 2026 tow rotation:

- Elite Towing – 315-570-7318
- Advanced Motors Towing & Recovery – 315-404-9705
- Norm's Auto – 315-768-1115
- Upstate Towing & Recovery – 315-982-8153
- Burkhart Auto – 315-736-8227

All in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business

Mayor Talerico advised that LED lighting installation is complete. The Village will begin payments to the NY Power Authority. The lighting system is automated, and outages are automatically reported to NYPA for repair.

Trustee Business

- Edwards – No report
 - Chamberlain – No report
 - Copperwheat – No report
 - Kulpa – Reported he has spoken with engineering firm regarding drainage issues between Meadow and Main Streets. They can use GPR (ground penetrating radar) and will review trunk maps and conduct site evaluations using grid patterns to locate sources of water retention.
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With no further business a motion was made by Trustee Chamberlain, seconded by Trustee Copperwheat to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:36PM.