
VILLAGE OF NEW YORK MILLS

Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2026 – Village Board Room

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

At this time, Mayor Talerico asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of **former Village Trustee John Semeniak**.

The Village of New York Mills mourns the passing of **John Semeniak**, a lifelong resident and dedicated public servant. John served the Village as a Trustee from **2000 to 2010**, during which time he contributed thoughtfully and responsibly to the governance of New York Mills. He was known for his steady presence, commitment to public service, and sincere concern for the well-being of the community. Throughout his years on the Board, he worked collaboratively with fellow Trustees and Village officials, always with the best interests of residents in mind. Beyond his time in office, John remained deeply connected to the Village he called home. His civic pride, willingness to serve, and dedication to New York Mills left a lasting impact on the community. The Village of New York Mills extends its heartfelt condolences to John Semeniak's family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. His service and legacy will be remembered with gratitude and respect.

Open Forum

None.

Regular Business

Treasurer's Report

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the Treasurer's Report for **December 2025**.

- Trustee Edwards – aye
- Trustee Copperwheat – aye
- Trustee Chamberlain – aye
- Trustee Kulpa – abstain (stating he did not have time to review)

Motion passed.

Abstract #8 Approval

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve **Abstract #8**:

- General Fund: \$105,296.72
- Library Fund: \$3,017.66

Total: \$108,314.38 (Voucher Nos. 302–359)

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the **December 9, 2025** meeting minutes.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Fire Department

- Written report for December 2025 is on file.

Mayor Talerico congratulated **Chief Rick Ulinski** on being elected President of the **Oneida County Volunteer Firefighters Association**, stating it was a well-earned honor. Chief Ulinski also advised the Board that the department was the busiest in **2025**, which was met with applause from meeting attendees.

Resolution 1:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the Fire Department Elected Officers for **2026**:

- Chief – Rick Ulinski
- First Assistant Chief – Mike Edwards
- Second Assistant Chief – Joe Riopel
- Captain Rescue 2–3 – Tom Dwyer
- Captain Rescue 1 – Ken Kula
- Captain Truck 1 – Mike Szot
- Captain Engine 1 – Mike Wolak
- Lieutenant Rescue 2–3 – Roberta King
- Lieutenant Rescue 1 – Jacob Edwards
- Lieutenant Truck 1 – Edward Chamberlain
- Lieutenant Engine 1 – Tom Krol
- President – Bill Simpson
- Vice President – Tom Dwyer
- Treasurer – Tom Krol
- Assistant Treasurer – Ken Kula
- Recording Secretary – Corinna Simpson
- Corresponding Secretary – Roberta King
- IT Department – Jaden Franke
- Chairman of the Board – Jim Bednarczyk
- 2-Year Director – John Meagher
- 2-Year Director – Mike Wolak
- 1-Year Director – Dick Schmidt
- 1-Year Director – Joe Riopel
- Oneida County Delegate – Tom Dwyer
- Oneida County Alternate – Jeff Martin
- Herkimer County Delegate – Bill Simpson
- Herkimer County Alternate – Corinna Simpson

- Central Delegate – Tom Dwyer
- Central Alternate – Jeff Martin
- FASNY Delegate – Corinna Simpson
- FASNY Alternate – Tom Dwyer

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Resolution 2:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve **Steve King** as a *Support Member* of the New York Mills Fire Department.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve the **December 2025 Fire Report**.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Highway Department

- Written report for December 2025 is on file.

Resolution 3:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Kulpa**, to allow DPW members to roll over **16 additional personal leave hours**, to be used by **April 1, 2026**.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Trustee Chamberlain**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to approve the **December 2025 Highway Report**.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Police Department

- Written report for December 2025 is on file.

Resolution 4:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Chamberlain**, to approve **Kara Osika** as a part-time police officer for the New York Mills Police Department, pending

Civil Service approval, at **\$22.00 per hour**.
All in favor. **Motion passed.**

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

Code Enforcement

- Written report for December 2025 is on file.

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

Engineer's Report

Nothing to report.

Recreation Report

Nothing to report.

Attorney's Report

Nothing to report.

New Business

Resolution 5:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Copperwheat**, to approve and sign the **New Hartford Fire Contract for 2026**.
All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Resolution 6:2026

Motion by **Trustee Copperwheat**, seconded by **Trustee Edwards**, to schedule **Grievance Day** on **February 17, 2026**, from **6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**.
All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Resolution 7:2026

Motion by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Chamberlain**, to approve signing a contract with **Northland Communications** for new phone service.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Old Business

Mayor Talerico advised that **LED lighting installation is complete**. Going forward, outages will be reported automatically to **NYPA**, which will address any issues.

Trustee Business

- Edwards – No report
 - Chamberlain – No report
 - Copperwheat – No report
 - Kulpa – No report
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With no further business, a motion was made by **Trustee Edwards**, seconded by **Trustee Chamberlain**, to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Topor

Village Clerk