VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 22, 2026

Present: Eli Gabuzda, David Gervais, Leonard Charron, Jason Longway - Online
Staff: John Dasaro, Caroline Marcy
Public: Pauline Loiselle; Brittany Flood, Saydee Lasko, Adam Lasko, Richard Bernholz, Angie Legault, Northwest Access Cable.

The meeting was called to order by Eli Gabuzda at 6:30 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no changes or modifications to the agenda.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review and Approve Minutes of September 8, 2026

David Gervais made a motion to approve the minutes of the Trustee meeting held on September 8,2026, as presented. Leonard Charron seconded the motion. Unanimous.

4. Animal Control Officer Introduction and Dog Incident Discussion

Brittany opened the discussion by reporting that an incident involving Saydee Lasko occurred on September 10 while Saydee was walking along Missisquoi Street to Cold Hollow Career Center. Saydee prepared a written statement describing the events of that morning, which Eli Gabuzda read aloud.

Saydee stated that a pit bull attacked and bit her while she was walking on the sidewalk. The dog's owner immediately came outside to assist and drove Saydee to the school, where the nurse treated her wounds. The incident was reported to the School Resource Officer, who then contacted Courtney O'Brien, the Animal Control Officer.

Courtney joined the meeting online at 6:40 p.m. and introduced herself to the Board of Trustees as the Animal Control Officer. She explained that this was the second incident involving the dog. During the first incident, the bite did not break the skin and caused little injury and no damage. Consequently, no photographs or other documentation of the first incident were available.

Courtney explained that she had been in contact with the owner, who had been very responsive. Vermont Department of Health guidance requires the Animal Control Officer to ensure that an animal involved in a biting incident is confined and quarantined for ten days. Courtney confirmed with the owner that the dog would remain inside the home except when taken outside on a leash and while muzzled. The owner was also actively working to install a fence system to contain all three dogs.

Brittany stated that they were not requesting that the dog be euthanized but wanted it removed so that it would no longer pose a threat.

The Trustees were provided with a copy of the dog ordinance and stated that they would review the evidence and provide a response.

Saydee, Brittanty, and Adam left the meeting at 6:48 pm.

5. Rich Bernholtz to discuss a dog issue, separate issue

Rich introduced himself and his daughter, Angela, who lives at 209 Pleasant Street. Rich discussed concerns regarding a pit bull residing at 68 Railroad Street. He stated that a young child who lives at that address frequently lets the dog off its leash. Rich described an incident in which the dog went after a much smaller dog that was on a leash. To protect the smaller dog, its owner had to hold it over his head. Rich provided the name of the smaller dog's owner in case the Trustees required a firsthand account of the incident.

Angela then described an incident in which the dog entered her enclosed backyard and attacked her cat. Angela and Rich both expressed concern about the potential for further attacks and the frequency with which the dog is off leash and roaming loose, particularly with small children nearby.

Courtney O'Brien, Animal Control Officer, stated that she had no prior knowledge or records of incidents involving the dog residing at 68 Railroad Street. She reported that she had been unsuccessful in contacting the owner but would try again.

Rich asked about his rights to protect himself and his family while on his own property. He emphasized that he wished to resolve the issue legally, nonviolently, and in accordance with established procedures.

David Gervais stated that the Village ordinance includes a leash law. He noted that the Trustees may need to review the ordinance, which was adopted in 1985, to determine whether it should be amended. John stated that he would have legal counsel review the ordinance and would provide the Trustees with the results.

Courtney, Angela, and Rich left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

6. ITG public right of way request

ITG Communications (aka Fidium Fiber) applied for a permit for use of public right-of-way at 60 Valentine Drive. The work involves underground directional boring (HDD) within the ROW to connect a customer to the existing Fidium network.

John stated that he saw no issue with this request. David Gervais made a motion to approve the permit. Jason Longway seconded. Unanimous.

7. Set Tax Rate and Due Date

The Village received the Grand List from the Town earlier in the week. Caroline Marcy prepared a worksheet for the Trustees comparing the Grand List, approved budget, and tax rate for the previous four years. For 2026, the Grand List was $1,018,091, and the budget approved at the March Annual Meeting was $798,813.00. These figures resulted in a tax rate of 0.7846, a decrease of 0.0178 from the prior year.

Leonard Charron made a motion to set the 2026 Village tax rate at 0.7846, with taxes due on November 2, 2026. David Gervais seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Main Street Water Line Project

John briefly reviewed the Main Street Water Line Project, which had been discussed at the previous Trustee meeting. At that meeting, the Trustees considered the project timeline to ensure completion before the State's repaving project in 2029. The first step is to contract for preliminary engineering services. Aldrich & Elliott prepared the following documents for Trustee approval: the Engineering Services Agreement (ESA) for Preliminary Engineering for the Main Street Waterline Replacement, Review and

Approval Form, Loan Request, Estimated Project Schedule, and Estimated Spending Schedule of Loan Proceeds. John stated that the Village had planned to pay for the preliminary engineering out of pocket; however, Nate from Aldrich & Elliott advised that, if the Village chose to do so, the Step I work could be reimbursed retroactively through the Step II loan application.

David Gervais made a motion to engage Aldrich & Elliott to provide preliminary engineering services for the Main Street Water Line Project and to authorize John Dasaro to sign on behalf of the Village. Jason Longway seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Approve Bid for Lighting and Fan Project under MERP Grant — Hydros

John requested the Trustees' permission to amend the MERP grant to include lighting and fans and to replace the furnace with a more efficient propane system. The current boiler was installed in 1996. Jason confirmed that propane is significantly more efficient than oil.

Only one bid was received: Bertrand Electric, LLC $11,060.00

To qualify for grant funding, all contracts must be in place before the end of September.

Jason Longway made a motion to waive the procurement policy and accept the bid from Bertrand Electric, LLC, in the amount of $11,060.00 to install lighting and fans, contingent upon the cost being covered by the MERP grant. Leonard Charron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Approve Bid for General Contract Work under MERP Grant — Hydros

John presented the Trustees with a bid from Merrill Hersey Carpentry LLC in the amount of $27,500.00 to perform general contract work at the Village Hydro Building, located at 42 Village Drive. The work includes replacing windows, constructing storm windows, repairing fascia, building a temporary wall, and insulating the double doors from the inside. This was the only bid received for the project.

David Gervais made a motion to waive the procurement policy and accept the bid from Merrill Hersey Carpentry LLC for the general contract work outlined in the bid request, in the amount of $27,500.00, contingent upon the cost being covered by the MERP grant. Leonard Charron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Election of Vice-Chair

Eli Gabuzda recommended Jason Longway for the position of Vice-Chair.

David Gervais made a motion to appoint Jason Longway as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees. Leonard Charron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jason Longway accepted the position.

12. Manager's Minutes

- The financial software conversion is still proceeding. Training is on-going.
- The Harvest Fest was a success. There will be two events happening in October:
  - Paint the Town Pink
  - Boy Scout's Troup 190 retreat in the park
- On September 24th, there will be a planned power outage to upgrade the electrical lines from Jay View, up Watertower Road to Reservoir Road. Swanton will be assisting.

- The regulators have been tested. John will be reviewing the results with the Electric crew on Wednesday.

13. Other Business

Pauline Loiselle gave the Trustees a letter expressing her interest in the open position on the Board of Trustees.

Caroline Marcy requested Trustee approval to change the payment schedule for Roberta Morin, Village Clerk, from monthly to weekly. She explained that the weekly schedule would simplify payroll processing in the new financial software.

David Gervais made a motion to approve paying the Village Clerk on a weekly basis. Leonard Charron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Executive Session: For the Purpose of Discussing Negotiations in which Premature Public Knowledge May Compromise the Position of the Municipality.

David Gervais made a motion to enter Executive Session. Jason Longway seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Executive Session was entered at 7:48 pm.

Leonard Charron made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:40 pm. David Gervais seconded the motion. Unanimous.

There was no action taken as a result of Executive Session.

15. Adjourn

Leonard Charron made a motion at adjourn at 8:40 pm. Seconded by David Gervais. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Marcy
Director of Finance

These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Meeting on October 27, 2026.