

Town of Lenox & Village of Wampsville Joint Board Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2026

Mayor Seymour called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Village of Wampsville: Mayor Gerald Seymour Jr., Trustees: Marcia Rafte, Douglas Bailey, Ellen Bowe and Dawn Collins. Village Clerk/Treasurer Debbi Waxenfeld. **Town of Lenox:** Supervisor Meghan Samsel, Councilman Thomas Bush and Dominick Perretta. Others: Alex & Sue Brown, Wayne & Mary Ann Anderson, Thomas & Gail Drury, Heidi & Dan LaSalle.

Introduction:

Supervisor Samsel and Mayor Seymour each introduced their boards. Supervisor Samsel indicated that it has been a busy few months with new hires and resignations. There is a new codes person hired that will start in a couple weeks. Greg Smith from Chittenango will handle the Town of Lenox as well as Wampsville. They feel he is perfectly fit for this position.

Old Business

- a. **Wampsville Fire Truck Update:** Mayor Seymour advised that we will be updating our budget to include the down payment and purchase of the fire truck in July. We have chosen the Bank of Green Co. for financing and will put 300,000 down. The truck will be coming in January or February of 2027.
- b. **Highway Agreement Discussion:** Mayor Seymour indicated that he would like to review the contract that was in place as the date was changed. It is not known if it was intentional or a clerical error, but we would prefer to have a contract that is at least 10 years rather than year by year. Supervisor Samsel advised that AJ Salay was tracking the cost and now Jake Smith is tracking it so that we can come to an agreement on a fair price for both the Town and the Village. She understands that Wampsville would like some continuity and certainty with the snow plowing so having a longer contract is ideal. She is working on this and will bring it back to the board before the end of the year. Mayor Seymour also reminded her that the codes contract has expired as well, so we will need to sign a new one soon.

New Business

- a. **Lewis Point Grant Application Update:** Supervisor Samsel advised that there isn't much to update except that they did apply for the grant. Hoping that the grant is approved for the full 3.5 million. The grant is a DEC grant, and they are hopeful to hear in the month. They received a lot of letters of support for the purchase, including from the DEC. The future of the property could include campsites, weddings, events, etc. There would be meetings with the residents to get opinions as well. Most of the structures are in good shape.
- b. **Village of Wampsville Septic Update:** The program started when Mayor Seymour had a conversation with an engineer during a conference at Lake Placid. Wampsville is the only village that is offering every resident the option to have their septic pumped out as part of their taxes. If this is successful, we could be the blueprint for other towns and villages. The program will cost 15-16,000 per year. We have received positive feedback from the residents. The board has been obtaining signatures of residents for that are part of Phase 1. Hoping to have appointments made by the end of the month.
- c. **Housing Authority:** There had been some misinformation regarding the closure of the office. The office in Canastota will not be closing, however there have been resignations on the board and the Executive Director position needs to be filled. If Canastota were to close, the residents would need to go to Oneida for services. A conversation was held about how the program works, and it was agreed that the program is great for residents and landlords.
- d. **Smoke Detector Program:** Supervisor Samsel wanted to remind everyone that there is a program available to provide and install smoke detectors. Fire Marshall Tim Cowan will install the detectors in homes as needed.

Additional Comments

- a. Trustee Bowe expressed that she was disappointed when the stop signs were removed in front of the village. She strongly believes that this is a safety issue as it is opposite the school. Traffic was much slower when the signs were there. She has offered to get a petition going. Supervisor Samsel suggested getting a letter of support from the school and she will take it to the county to see if anything can be done.
- b. Supervisor Samsel provided an update on the DOT signage change on the corner of 13 and Court Street. They will be adding a sign that says that cross-traffic does not stop. Hoping that this will help, especially for those not familiar with the area.
- c. Mayor Seymour said he would love to have joint meetings in March and November before budget meeting adoptions. The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays work best. Supervisor Samsel will review their schedule and set a date that works for both.

Adjourn

Trustee Rafte made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm, Trustee Bailey seconded and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Waxenfeld

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Clerk/Treasurer