

FINAL MINUTES: JANUARY 27, 2025



Village of Bellport

General Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2025 at 7:00PM
This meeting will be held in the Community Center

A G E N D A

This meeting is open to the public in the Community Center, located at 4 Bell Street. It is or was an in-person meeting and was be streamed on Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

Mayor Maureen Veitch, Trustee Nathan Rohrmeier, Lorraine Kuehn, and Trustee Michael Young present. Deputy Mayor Steve Mackin absent. Also, in attendance Attorney Lisa Perillo.

On a motion by Trustee Rohrmeier, seconded by Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried the General Meeting was opened at 7:01 pm.

Opening remarks by Mayor Maureen Veitch. She welcomed those present and on Zoom.

On a motion by Trustee Rohrmeier, seconded by Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried the Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law #1 of 2025 Engine Idling & Penalties was opened.

Mayor Veitch opened the Public Hearing to the public. No one from the public responded. Mayor Veitch called for a vote.

Motion: Trustee Kuehn – Second Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried.

Resolution 3: Approved the Introductory Local Law #1 of 2025 Chapter 12 Article III – Stopping, Standing and Parking §12-104 Engine Idling prohibited, and §12-105 Penalties for offenses.

On a motion by Trustee Young, seconded by Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried the Public Hearing for the proposed Introductory Local Law #1 was closed.

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On a motion by Trustee Young, seconded by Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried the Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law #2 of 2025 Overriding the 2% Tax Cap was opened.

Mayor Veitch opened the Public Hearing to the public.

Tom Penfold commented that with everything in the world is going up in price he would like the Board to keep the budget tight when considering any increase. Mayor Veitch had showed Mr. Penfold around the Community Center and he realizes that the building needs upgrades and repairs. Also, the sidewalks and the roads in the Village need to be repaired.

Mayor Veitch thanked Mr. Penfold for his comments and called for a vote.

Motion: Trustee Kuehn – Second Trustee Young and unanimously carried.

Resolution 4: Approved the Introductory Local Law #2 of 2025 overriding the 2% tax cap as established in General Municipal Law § 3-c as is necessary to adopt a budget that requires a tax levy greater than the tax levy limit.

On a motion by Trustee Kuehn, seconded by Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried the Public Hearing for the proposed Introductory Local Law #2 was closed.

Presentation by Marc Rauch on “Suffolk County Thousand Yard Campaign” moved to future date.

Mayor Updates Capital Projects, Grants

a. FEMA

We continue to work on the 3rd of 4 submissions. The submission is very complex and every detail of expenditure must be included. We do believe there's money that is owed to the Village.

b. Solar Panels

Fantastic news. I believe they have completed the solar panels work with the help of Jason Crane and DPW staff. Jason has an app on his phone that monitors the level of power and how many days of power we have.

Eldor did a fantastic job and one of the engineers who installed the solar panels, walked 3 ½ miles on the day of the snow to remove the snow and change the tilt of the panel.

Also, thanks to the Town of Brookhaven for their support.

c. Use of Recreational Space and Bowling Alley Policy

Mayor Veitch thanked all of the members of the Bellport Village Program Fund and especially Phillip Thomas, who designed the look and feel of the upgrade at the Community Center bowling alley. We have a beautiful bowling alley with a linoleum floor that should last for many years.

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d. HUD 2024 Grant

We are moving ahead with the plan for the HUD 2022 grant. The next phase is to obtain the Environmental Review. After that we sign the agreement. As soon as we sign, we can begin to be repaid and get reimbursed as we go. Unlike FEMA you can get reimbursed on a monthly basis.

Trustee Updates

Mayor Veitch stated that Deputy Mayor Mackin is not in attendance tonight. Part of his report is work being done by Village Hall staff to create an Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Village. Greg Miglino assisted with primary information for the plan.

a. Deputy Mayor Steve Mackin – DPW, Bellport Fire Department, South Country Ambulance, Suffolk County Police Department – Road Safety

- Emergency Preparedness Plan Progress

b. Trustee Nathan Rohrmeier – Code Enforcement, Waterfront Management Board, Golf Commission, Tennis Commission, and Vouchers

- Recap of HUD 2024

This grant covers Otis, South Howells and Thornhedge flooding. We are going to find another engineering firm to help us with the flooding and the erosion that's happening at the golf course. Permits are in the works for this grant. We're trying to extend the dredging period for the creek. The Village is only allowed to be dredged during certain months because of sea life and fishery.

Mayor Veitch commented that the grant Trustee Rohrmeier is referring to has 4 parts to it, erosion at the Howells Creek and the 3 road endings.

c. Trustee Lorraine Kuehn – Communication/Website, Business District, Senior Program, Vouchers, Kids Camp, and Building Department

- Employee Handbook

The Village Employee Handbook was originated and crafted in 2009. The revision requires a comprehensive update to reflect significant changes in employment laws, benefits, workplace standards, and technology. The handbook will be electronic user friendly that upholds the Village dedication to a fair, equitable, and professional work environment. I'm excited to accept the responsibility of assisting in restructuring the project and working with the Village Clerk with many challenges.

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- Town of Brookhaven Senior Programs
We're expanding the Senior Program to have Tuesday Game Day which will include Mahjong, Canasta or bridge. The facility will be open on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am to noon. We will be approving the purchase of card tables to be used for Tuesday Game Day.
I attended the Martin Luther King luncheon on Monday, January 20th. It was held at Bellport Country Club and was hosted by the Town of Brookhaven and the NAACP. There were 300 people in attendance and was very pleasant.
The Town of Brookhaven budgets a \$50,000 grant for the Senior Program which provides transportation for seniors and senior exercise classes.
- d. Trustee Michael Young – Zoning Board of Appeals, Architectural Review Board, Beautification Committee, Planning Board, Historical Preservation, Yacht Club/Sailing Foundation
 - Review of Building, Land Use, Zoning Procedures & Codes – no report.

Mayor Veitch thanked the Board members and opened the meeting to the public. No residents responded and Mayor Veitch moved on to the items for review.

Open Discussion:

Motion: Trustee Kuehn – Second Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 5 Approved the draft of Board Meeting Minutes of December 23, 2024 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 6 Approved the drafts of Special Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2025 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Young – Second Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 7 Approved the engagement for services with JKL Municipal Accounting to cover the year ending December 31, 2025 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 8 Approved the request to use the Village bandshell area for South Country Library – Outdoor Family Movie Event August 20, 2025 (8:00 pm – 10:00 pm) as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 9 Approved approximately \$240.00 transferred from the Senior Program Donation to purchase 4 card tables for the Senior Program as presented.

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Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 10 Approved the request from the Bellport Fire Department to sponsor the St. Patrick's Day Parade on April 5, 2025 (roads closed from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm South Country & Station Road) as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Young and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 11 Approved the request from the Bellport Fire Department to hold the Bellport Fire Department Classic Car Show June 29, 2025 (rain date July 6, 2025) from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm (street closed 161 South Country Road) as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 12 Approved permission for employees, at their sole discretion, to donate sick or vacation time to Theodore Hermus as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 13 Approved the retirement of Timothy Hall from DPW effective March 22, 2025 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Kuehn – Second Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 14 Approved the General Fund Checking Abstract Report consisting of 68 vendors totaling \$224,412.12 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 15 Approved the Enterprise Fund Checking Abstract Report consisting of 17 vendors totaling \$112,858.85 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 16 Approved the Capital General Checking Abstract Report consisting of 1 vendor totaling \$1,123.68 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 17 Approve the Treasurer's Report for the operating results as of December 31, 2024 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 18 Approved the Technical Support proposal and overview of related vendors from Michael Chiaramonte as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 19 Approved the authorization for the repayment of the outstanding BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) principal for \$877,377.00 and interest \$8,556.96 made by Dime Community Bank, and the cost associated with the payoff of \$4,425.00 as presented.

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Motion: Trustee Young – Second Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 20 Approved an increase to the budget lines for BAN Principal and BAN Interest in the amounts of the repayment principal and interest totaling \$885,893.96, and legal fees and other fees associated with the payoff of \$4,425.00 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Rohrmeier – Second Trustee Kuehn and unanimously carried.

Resolution: 21 Approved the proposal from VHB in the amount of \$38,000.00 for Bellport Marina design phase #2 for the wave screen as presented.

Executive Session (if needed)

On a motion by Trustee Kuehn seconded by Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:07 pm to discuss litigation and personnel.

On a motion by Trustee Kuehn seconded by Trustee Rohrmeier and unanimously carried the Board moved out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm.

On a motion by Trustee Kuehn seconded by Trustee Young and unanimously carried the Board closed the Work Session and adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pontieri
Village Clerk