

# FINAL MINUTES: APRIL 13, 2026



Village of Bellport

Work Session Meeting  
Monday, April 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM  
This meeting will be held in Village Hall  
**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## A G E N D A

This meeting is open to the public in Village Hall, located at 29 Bellport Lane. It is an in-person meeting and will be streamed on Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

Mayor Maureen Veitch, Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier, Trustee Lorraine Kuehn, Trustee Michael Young, Trustee Dan Polner, and Attorney Larry Davis.

On a motion by Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier, seconded by Trustee Lorraine Kuehn, and unanimously carried the Board opened the Work Session Meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Opening remarks by Mayor Maureen Veitch

Mayor Maureen Veitch welcomed the new Trustee Dan Polner for his win in the Special Election on April 7, 2026. The results were Dan Polner receiving 201 votes and Jean Damien Lury receiving 187.

In 2009 the Village residents voted by referendum to change the code regarding resignation of a trustee. If someone resigned from the Board, and they had less than a year to go, the mayor could not appoint someone, so we had to hold a Special Election.

As a reminder there is an election on June 16<sup>th</sup> to elect 2 trustees. The same process of collecting signatures for their petition will be followed. Important dates for the upcoming election are: first day to hand in petition May 5, 2026, last day to hand in petition May 12, 2026, and Registration Day on June 6, 2026, from noon to 5:00 p.m. Again, June 16, 2026, is the General Election from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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I was very impressed with Mary Pontieri and Tara Crane in terms of how they conducted the election. The vote was done by paper ballots, and the final count was done by 9:40 p.m. The next vote for the Village will be 2028 because the terms for Mayor and Trustees are 4 years.

### Mayor Updates Capital Projects, Grants & Other

- a. Special Election Results – April 7, 2026  
Updated at beginning of meeting.
- b. Negotiations of Local 342 Contract  
We are in the process of negotiating with Local 342 for the DPW contract. Their contract is for 5 years and is up May 31, 2026. Health insurance is a major area of negotiation. Medical insurance for families has gone from \$28,000 5 years ago to \$42,000 this year.
- c. General Code  
We are rewriting the Village Code book, so it represents 2026 and beyond, as opposed to the Local Laws from 1975. The process is painstaking going through chapter by chapter. There are 25 chapters and we have covered 8 or 9.
- d. Rental Registry Forms  
We have a rental registry in place for anybody who wants to rent their house, whether they rent for a day or a year. There were 10 people who contacted us that they wanted to pick up the paperwork to sign up for the rental registry. Three have already been given their license and Marylou Bono went in and did the inspections. Everything went smoothly.  
I have been told by one of the real estate brokers that they had 47 rentals in house. With only 10 coming forward we still have time for inspections. We are hiring two Code Enforcement Officers later in the meeting who will help in monitoring rental homes.
- e. Tentative Budget Vote April 27, 2026  
The Board will be voting on the Tentative Budget at the General Meeting on April 27, 2026. It must be submitted to the state by May 1, 2026.

### Trustee Updates

- a. Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier – Code Enforcement, Waterfront Management Board, Golf Commission, Tennis Commission, and Vouchers
  - Recap of HUD 2022/HUD 2024 Grants  
The Marina HUD 2022 is moving forward with engineers taking soil samples last week. The borings must go down 25 feet.  
To put the wave attenuator in you must have permits. We should have results soon and the permitting process will move forward.

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There are different permits Army Corps of Engineers, DEC, Town of Brookhaven, and Department of State.

- Code Enforcement Staffing  
Later in the meeting we are hiring 2 Code Enforcement Officers starting the week of April 28, 2026.

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

- Town of Brookhaven Senior Programs  
Trustee Kuehn updated the Senior Program after Trustee Young had spoken.  
Trustee Kuehn worked with Tara Crane to create a rough estimate of the costs to continue the program including gas, cellphones,
- Technology Update  
New York State municipalities are now required to announce local projects, like our ARB's and Planning Board are put on the website. With the announcement's we put names, emails, and addresses. Now we have to start blocking out emails and phone numbers because there are scammers.  
We have met with Civic Plus which is a website hosting business. Matt McKone attended a presentation outlining Civic Plus and its benefits. Civic Plus would maintain our website and bring it to ADA compliance. The service is available 24-7 and they will train 3 of our staffers to update more of the website in-house.  
SourcePass which is our IT vendor has updated a lot of our software to Windows 11. They have done recovery strategies and they have our cyber security intact. In fact, they moved all of our computer equipment down to the basement and that means the 9,000 pieces of cable. That was completed on Good Friday and then they came back and reprogrammed cellphones and cameras.

### c. Trustee Michael Young – Zoning Board of Appeals, Architectural Review Board, Planning Board, Historical Preservation, Yacht Club/Sailing Foundation

- I raised two things in our last meeting, both of which got a high level of reaction. Deer are more of a problem than he thought and a broader problem than he realized. A real concern is for the safety and health of our residents.  
I spoke to a landscaper, and his rough guess is that we probably have a hundred or so deer habituating in our area. It occurred to him that this spring roughly half of those are going to have babies which means that we've got a meaningful problem, and it's going to grow.

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I was sitting at a table with 8 or 10 people, and I decided to convene a focus group session. More than half of the people reported that they had had Lyme disease.

The remedy involves some measure of population control.

Mayor Veitch commented that she had met with a wildlife expert from the DEC and she would be willing to give a presentation at a Board meeting. She basically told us there is no silver bullet, and especially in a place as compact as we are.

We have to change the Code Book to represent what people are doing. They are putting black mesh fences behind landscaping. The code states that you cannot have a fence in your front yard higher than 4 feet with other restrictions.

Trustee Polner stated that in Staten Island tranquilizer darts are used in populated areas and when they are down you cull them.

There was continued discussion on strategy and solutions to deal with the deer. Mayor Veitch stated that she will invite the DEC representative to find out what's possible legally.

Trustee Young's second concern was the trenches that were left after the snow removal by the snowplows. I was approached by residents that stated that we're heading in the wrong direction. The trenches are getting wider and deeper. I have pieced together what I think is happening and provided pictures for the Board. These pictures showed that the snowplows went too far and now they are mud trenches. This creates a collection spot for sticks, leaves, and trash. The street sweepers are sweeping out the trench. So, the trench looks a lot better, but when you do that, it gets a lot wider. The solution is to fill in the trenches with extra dirt and seeds.

Mayor Veitch stated that we don't have the manpower to fill in all trenches.

The last final concern Trustee Young addressed was the collecting of social security numbers for the Senior Program. Mayor Veitch was glad Trustee Young brought it up. The concern is that we will be required to collect (by the federal government) social security numbers and keep them on file. That places a risk upon the Village of extremely confidential information.

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Trustee Kuehn and Mayor Veitch sat in front of the HUD people at the Town of Brookhaven level to ask for \$50,000 for the program as in past years. They informed us that a mandatory training was to be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Tara Crane and Christine Novelli attended the training, and were told that we would have to collect copies of the seniors' driver's licenses and social security cards.

I contacted Mr. Bell at the town level and he stated that if we want to be reimbursed retroactively, the Village has to start collecting the cards immediately. At the Thursday class last week, I announced to all the seniors the request by the Town of Brookhaven and asked for a show of hands from the seniors and how many would be willing to share that information. There was an overwhelming objection to doing that.

The next step was calling Alison Karppi at the town level and she said that this request was straight from Washington, D.C. and for the moment the request is on hold.

In regard to the deer fences, Trustee Young stated that he could help Attorney Davis with acceptable language for a Local Law with two sentences. He will forward an email to Attorney Davis for review.

- d. Trustee Dan Polner – DPW, Bellport Fire Department, South Country Ambulance, Suffolk County Police Department  
Mayor Veitch assigned the areas to Trustee Polner that were handled by former Trustee Mackin. Trustee Polner stated that he understands that Trustee Young has been here longer and on the Finance Committee. He would humbly offer his services to the Finance Committee, given his background and experience. Mayor Veitch also acknowledged Trustee Polner's experience in the above areas that former Trustee Mackin reported on.

### Open Discussion:

The Board reviewed all the items listed below which will be approved at the April 27, 2026 General Meeting.

- 1) The Board reviewed the following election information: 2026 Bellport Village Election of two Trustees (four-year term) to be held on Tuesday June 16, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Bellport Community Center, located at 4 Bell Street, Bellport, New York 11713 as presented.

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### 2) Discussion of Community Center Use.

There was a lengthy discussion by the Board as to the use of the Community Center. Since the completion of the renovation, the Board is hesitant to allow birthday parties, family functions, retirement parties, etc. in the Community Center. The discussion was initiated by a request from item #9 the use of the center for the Bellport School's Baseball Booster Club Spring 2026 Baseball Awards dinner.

Mayor Veitch called the representative from the Bellport School's Baseball Booster Club and inquired why the event isn't being held at the High School. It costs the Village taxpayer's money to have extra activities in the Community Center. Also, Mayor Veitch called the Superintendent of Schools to ask why this event is not being held in the schools.

I like to be community-minded but we should consider who is covering the liability for the day. If you read Lucy Mott's deed and the parameters of the Community Center, it is very clear to the guidelines of non-alcoholic use in the center and no collection of money for events.

Trustee Young was less concerned about liability and thinks he'd rather see the building used than not used. Trustee Kuehn was totally against large groups using the center noting that there aren't adequate bathroom facilities to accommodate large numbers and the new floors have to be considered. Trustee Rohrmeier was in support of the community using the center. He commented that this builds community support and good will.

The representative of the Bellport School's Baseball Booster Club was present at the meeting and explained the best she could as to why the club wanted to use the center. This is the fourth year the request has been made. After her comments, Trustee Polner questioned what does the school charge to use their facilities. The representative was unsure of the charges.

Mayor Veitch stated that when the bowling alley was renovated a \$100 deposit was secured and pictures were taken before and after the event. There has not been any problem with any of the events held.

### 3) Discussion of Home Improvement Contractors (sticker) as presented.

Mayor Veitch noted that under Chapter 10-12 and 10-13 states that any person who has a home improvement license or business has to register with the Village. What we have been doing is requiring the landscapers to register with us. Historically, the thinking was contractors are registered with Suffolk County so they don't have to register with the Village. At this time, we are working on the process for registering all contractors and how to identify sub-contractors.

Attorney Larry David stated that under Suffolk County's code, they list all who are required to have licenses, landscapers are included. It's under the definition of home improvement and quite a lengthy list. A follow-up of home improvement contractors will be discussed at the General Meeting on April 27, 2026.

### 4) Review of Waterfront and Tennis Rates as presented.

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- 5) Reviewed the request from South Country Central School District for parking rules for General McLean Drive be suspended for the Budget Vote May 19, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Bellport Middle School as presented.
- 6) Reviewed the request from Mary Immaculate Church to hold an Antiques & Collectibles Fair July 4, 2026 (rain date July 5, 2026) from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the corner of Browns and Bell as presented.
- 7) Reviewed the request from The Gateway to hold an annual fundraising party on July 31, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 99 South Howells Point Road as presented.
- 8) Reviewed the request from Lynette Pettinicchi to hold a Pilates class by the bandshell for The Girls Long Island on July 25, 2026 (rain date July 26, 2026) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. as presented.
- 9) Reviewed the request from Bellport School's Baseball Booster Club to hold the Spring 2026 Baseball Awards and dinner at the Community Center on June 2, 2026 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. as presented.
- 10) Reviewed the applications for Code Enforcement of Timothy Boe (Instructor of Passport - \$31 per hour) and Joseph Hogan (\$28 per hour) to start the week of April 28, 2026 as presented.
- 11) Reviewed the application of Evan Larsen for an AEO position at DPW as presented.
- 12) Reviewed the request from South Country Education Foundation to hold the Annual Cocktail Party and Auction July 11, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at 40 Academy Lane, Bellport as presented.
- 13) Reviewed the request from Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Museum to hold the Seine Net Fishing with Friends of Bellport Bay on July 11, 2026 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Mother's Beach as presented.
- 14) Reviewed the 12-month cleaning contract extension with NCS – National Cleaning Service for the 2026 – 2027 year in the estimated amount of \$30,000 (prevailing wages will go up) as presented.
- 15) Reviewed the 12-month cleaning contract extension with UMG for the 2026 – 2027 year in the estimated amount of \$60,000 (prevailing wages will go up) as presented.
- 16) Reviewed the request of donation from the Bellport Fire Department of a 2014 Chevy Suburban to be registered later this year. (Per Jason Crane)
- 17) Reviewed the Fire Inspection Summary as presented.

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18) Reviewed the Building Department Activities as presented.

19) Reviewed the DPW Activities as presented.

20) Reviewed the Open Permit Amnesty Project as presented.

Executive Session (If needed)

On a motion by Trustee Michael Young, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier, and unanimously carried the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Lorraine Kuehn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier, and unanimously carried the Board moved out of Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Dan Polner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nathan Rohrmeier, and unanimously carried the Board adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pontieri  
Village Clerk