

Minutes
Village of Orchard Park
Board of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orchard Park was held on Monday, March 9, 2026 in the Municipal Center, 4295 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, New York. Mayor Clinton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members present:

Mayor Jo Ann Litwin Clinton
Trustee Matthew J. Hartung
Trustee Dale T. Pyne
Trustee David N. Even
Trustee Christine M. Popek

Others present:

Clerk-Treasurer Heather Tucciarone-Richeal
Code Enforcement Officer John Gullo
Manager of Public Works Emery Wittmeyer
Attorney John C. Bailey

Members Excused:

Mayor Clinton made the following announcement:

“Fire exits are located at the rear in the Board Room and at the doorway to the lobby. In the event of a fire, you will be notified by announcement on the public address system. If notified, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest exit.”

Moved by Trustee Even, seconded by Trustee Popek to accept the minutes of February 23, 2026 as presented.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye”	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
	Trustee Hartung		
	Trustee Pyne		
	Trustee Even		
	Trustee Popek		

Moved by Trustee Hartung, seconded by Trustee Even that vouchers numbering 8201 to 8229 in batch #286 of fiscal year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$ 109,290.25 be paid as presented.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye”	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
	Trustee Hartung		
	Trustee Pyne		
	Trustee Even		
	Trustee Popek		

There were no comments from the floor of items not on the agenda.

Moved by Trustee Hartung, seconded by Trustee Even that the reports of the Village Justice, Treasurer and Water Department for the month of February be received and filed.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye”	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
	Trustee Hartung		
	Trustee Pyne		
	Trustee Even		
	Trustee Popek		

Code Enforcement Officer Gullo wanted to remind residents and contractors that web-based permit applications are available online through the Village website. In order to streamline the application process, you can submit documents and pay the permit fee at the same time.

Manager of Public Works Wittmeyer mentioned that it is pothole season. The DPW is waiting for the asphalt plants to open and will begin filling potholes as soon as materials become available.

Trustee Hartung asked DPW Manager Wittmeyer if crews will be collecting leaves and brush. Manager Wittmeyer said that they are picking up leaf and brush piles and noted that they do not need to be separated at this time.

Trustee Pyne had nothing to report.

Trustee Even -“Go Sabres”

Trustee Popek had nothing to report.

Clerk-Treasurer Richeal had nothing to report.

Attorney Bailey had nothing to report.

Mayor Clinton had nothing to report.

Moved by Trustee Popek, seconded by Trustee Even that:

WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years; and

WHEREAS, these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York’s strength begins in its cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services, infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve; and

WHEREAS, local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living; and

WHEREAS, NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State, testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted aid and a strengthened state-local partnership; and

WHEREAS, the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Orchard Park applauds Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to strengthening New York’s cities and villages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Orchard Park urges the New York State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted state budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Orchard Park calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure long-term fiscal stability for New York’s local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State Legislature representing the Village of Orchard Park.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye” Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
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Moved by Trustee Hartung, seconded by Trustee Pyne that the Annual Organizational Meeting be scheduled for April 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye” Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
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Moved by Trustee Even, seconded by Trustee Popek that a public hearing be scheduled and advertised for April 13, 2026 at 7:00 pm, to review the 2026-2027 tentative budget.

On the question:	4 voting "Aye" Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting "Nay"	Carried
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Moved by Trustee Pyne, seconded by Trustee Hartung that a public hearing be scheduled and advertised for March 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. to hear public comment on a Local Law, overriding the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

On the question:	4 voting "Aye" Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting "Nay"	Carried
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Moved by Trustee Even, seconded by Trustee Popek the following;

WHEREAS, the Village of Orchard Park has completed a Comprehensive Plan; and
WHEREAS, a Comprehensive Plan is a statutorily recognized instrument under Village Law 7-722 for immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development in a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Orchard Park has identified that a Comprehensive Plan was needed to properly plan for growth and development, protect the environment and enhance the health, safety and welfare of the community and residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Plan includes updates to the long-term vision, goals, objectives and strategies to guide the future growth in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Committee solicited and utilized the input of the public through a community survey, open public meetings, and stakeholder meetings to formulate the plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Village Law 7-722, the Comprehensive Plan adoption process requires that the Village hold a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining public comments.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Orchard Park Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on April 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Orchard Park Municipal Building regarding the Comprehensive Plan.

On the question:	4 voting "Aye" Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting "Nay"	Carried
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Moved by Trustee Hartung, seconded by Trustee Pyne;

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) regulations, the Village of Orchard Park Board of Trustees hereby announces its intent to serve as Lead Agency to conduct an environmental review of the proposed Comprehensive Plan.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees has determined that the proposed action is a Type I action as defined under SEQR; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village Board will notify Involved Agencies of its intention to act as Lead Agency for this project and will provide them with a copy of the completed Part 1 of the Long Environmental Assessment Form for review during the 30-day comment period.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye”	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
	Trustee Hartung		
	Trustee Pyne		
	Trustee Even		
	Trustee Popek		

Moved by Trustee Pyne, seconded by Trustee Hartung that;

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation announced the availability of Transportation Alternatives program (TAP) grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the TAP grant program provides up to \$7 million in grant funding for communities to implement alternative transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the TAP grant program provides up to 80 percent of total project costs; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Orchard Park desires to implement the Neighborhood Access Improvements project.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Orchard Park Board of Trustees does hereby enthusiastically authorize submission of a 2025 Transportation Alternatives Program grant for the Neighborhood Access Improvement Project; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village's share of the project to equal 20% of total project costs; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village understands the TAP program is a reimbursement program requiring the Village to pay all project costs and get reimbursed for 80 percent of those project costs.

On the question:	4 voting “Aye”	0 voting “Nay”	Carried
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Trustee Hartung
Trustee Pyne
Trustee Even
Trustee Popek

Moved by Trustee Even, seconded by Trustee Popek that the following budgets adjustments be authorized for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:

Increase budget for:

AA-61910-400	Unallocated Insurance	\$438.39
AA-63620-400	Building Inspector (Contractual)	\$1543.29
FF-68340-403	Transmission and Distribution (Materials and Supplies)	\$2595.76

Decrease budget for:

AA-61911-400	First Aid Claims	\$438.39
AA-61950-400	Taxes on Municipal Property	\$1543.29
FF-68310-110	Water Administration (Clerical)	\$2595.76

On the question:	4 voting "Aye" Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting "Nay"	Carried
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The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2026.

Moved by Trustee Hartung, seconded by Trustee Even to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

On the question:	4 voting "Aye" Trustee Hartung Trustee Pyne Trustee Even Trustee Popek	0 voting "Nay"	Carried
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Respectfully submitted,

Heather Tucciarone-Richeal, Village Clerk-Treasurer