

Agenda: February 02, 2026

General

Pledge

Approval of January 19, 2025 Minutes

Pay Bills and Review Payroll Records

Historic Preservation District

Public Participation (5 Minutes per individual, time may not be yielded to another individual)

Correspondence

Police Department

Streets Department

Office

Budget Process

Water

Sewer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF BELMONT - COUNTY OF ALLEGANY

January 5, 2026

Present: Mayor DeTine Trustees: Grantier, Schmitt, Healy and Evans

Absent:

Employees: Officer Sherman

Public: Maureen Harding, Ron Baker, John Ricci, Gretchen Hanchett, Carissa Knapp, Denise Chilson, Meredith Chilson, Michael Felbaur, Seth Petrichick, Dwight "Mike" Healy, Karen Ash, Barb Zlomeck, Barbara Woolston, Bridget Bannerman, Mary Presutti, Sherry Teach and Shannon Panoro

The Board pledged the flag.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved on a motion by Trustee Grantier, 2nd by Trustee Healy and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Motion to accept financial report, payroll records and pay bills on Abstract #8 made by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Evans and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's as follow; General \$117817.42 Water \$8427.38 and Sewer \$8101.81.

Maureen Harding introduced herself to the Board, and gave a brief background information of herself. She informed the board that she grew up here in Belmont and although she may not reside here anymore, she still owns property in the town that she may retire to, and strong family ties here. She went on to say that when she heard of the County plans for demolition of the Old Philip's Church, located on 10 Willets Avenue, and make it a parking lot, she wanted to reach out, and offer her services (pro-bono), because she does not want to see anymore buildings in here hometown (or anywhere) be demolished and made into parking lots. She informed the board that she contacted a good friend, who is a historic preservation architect. He reviewed the evaluation report from Hunt Engineers and stated that "Hunt's report is pretty dead on and fair". He checked with the SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) and they have it listed as Eligible for the National Register. He also stated that most of Schuyler Street and Willets Avenue (31 buildings in all) is eligible for listings as a Downtown Historic District. He concluded his letter with a few ideas, as to what could be done to possibly stop the demolition of the Church.

Maureen proposed to the board, to form a Landmark Preservation Commission. This Commission can administer Landmark Status. This will allow the Village to have a say in buildings being demolished and taken off the tax roll. It also could result in grants to help pay for restorations. She also discussed the Historic Preservation Law, that the Village would have to adopt. (As stated in a guide from Preservation League of New York State) "This law is a local legislation established to protect and enhance historic architecture and attributes of a community's historic downtown, industrial area, and residential neighborhoods. These laws protect individual properties and historic districts through a local designation and permitting process that requires advanced review of proposed projects to determine their impact on historically significant structural features and nearby historic properties". She went over more benefits to the board if they form the Landmark Preservation Commission, and stated that she has two people that she would like to recommend to the Commission.

Maureen also discussed the Downtown Historic Overlay Zone. Which would include changing Zoning Laws.

Mayor DeTine asked if she has contacted anyone from the Town about this?

Maureen replied she did speak to one person.

Mayor DeTine stated that he does not want to see the church demolished either, and does not want people to get the impression that we do not care about downtown. He addressed the 31 buildings that would be affected if they were to make it a Historic District. He stated that he does not want the owners of these properties to be controlled by the Preservation Commission, and have them not be able to afford home improvements. He also stated that at this time the Village does not have the funds to invest in the renovations needed for church either.

The public asked if there were any benefits to the property owners, if they were in the Historic District?

Maureen replied there are a list of laws, protecting buildings from being demolished so "protection".

It was suggested to talk to the residents that are in the Historic District in Angelica.

There was a discussion about the parking lot on South Street.

Carissa Knapp gave an insight for the reasoning, as to why the County purchased the property that the Church is located on. She also stated that when the County looked at the Church, they had no intentions of demolishing it. But the cost of repairs and / or possibly turning it into a Community Center was too much.

There was also a discussion about the County doing a SEQR for the demolition.

Casey Jones commented that he feels that there are no regulations in the Village and referenced the issues he has brought up a few times at prior board meetings. One being people parking in their front yard.

Shannon Panoro also spoke. She stated that she grew up here, and just recently moved back and purchased a house here in Belmont. She went on to say that she wants to help preserve Belmont and see more businesses come here, not just for us, but for the next generations. She also informed the board that she would be interested being on the Planning board, if there were any openings.

Trustee Schmitt replied yes, there is, and they can talk to her after the meeting.

There was a discussion on the time frame, as to when the demolition might take place.

Carrissa Knapp stated that she does not want to see the church demolished either. This needs to be a plan at the Town and Village level. She would like to see the County, Town and Village work together.

Mayor DeTine and the board agreed.

Maureen thanked the board for letting her talk and encouraged them to consider the options they discussed. She asked the board to please contact her with any questions.

Mayor DeTine also thanked her for coming in. and that they (the board) have a lot of information to process and discuss, he will be talking to her soon.

Motion to accept the Water and Sewer estimates made by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Evans and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Motion to accept the Water and Sewer adjustments made by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Healy and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Motion to adopt a resolution abolishing the Village registration day, made by Trustee Grantier and 2nd by Trustee Evans and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Motion to adopt a resolution for time, and polling place for the Village Election made by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Evans and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's as follows; Village election will be held on Wednesday March 18, 2026 from noon to 9:00 pm at the Village / Town hall located at 1 Schuyler Street, Belmont NY 14813.

Motion to adopt a resolution appointing Mary Presutti and Barb Zlomek election inspectors made by Trustee Evans, 2nd by Trustee Grantier and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

The board review M.A.C.E. activities for the month of December.

Casy Jones informed Mayor DeTine, that he researched the law for Municipalities selling properties. He stated that the Village does need to post it for bids. He gave the information to the Mayor.

Mayor DeTine replied that he will pass on the information to the Village attorney.

Officer Sherman reviewed the Police report with the board

Motion to accept the Police report made by Trustee Evans, 2nd by Trustee Grantier and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Officer Sherman informed the board that he has started receiving some equipment for the T.R.A.C system.

The clerk informed the board that she has a meeting tomorrow with Justin Bennet and the Mayor to start the budget process for 2026-2027.

The clerk informed the board that Brian, the Mayor and herself have consulted with two companies for water and sewers programs: Eldorado and Williamson Law, and will be meeting with Muni-Link on Wednesday.

Mayor DeTine informed the board that the Street Department have the Garbage Truck and Dump Truck back from the repair shop.

Mayor DeTine informed the board that they need to schedule a meeting with MRB. They need to discuss the water lines and locations. He stated that the State plans on paving Route 19 and needs to make sure that it does not interfere with the potentially new water lines.

Motion to accept the sewer flow chart made by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Grantier and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Trustee Schmitt, 2nd by Trustee Grantier and carried on a vote of 5 ayes and 0 no's at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Cline
Clerk/Treasurer