

**SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
April 30th, 2026**

The ninth meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lakewood, N.Y., was held,
Thursday, April 30, 2026, 8:00 A.M.

Present:	Randall G. Holcomb	Mayor
	Ben J. Troché	Deputy Mayor/Trustee
	Ellen E. Barnes	Trustee
	John L. Shedd	Trustee
	Scott A. Cooper	Trustee

Also Present:	Apryl Troutman	Village Clerk/Treasurer
	Shaunah Pilling	Deputy Clerk
	Matthew Bentley	Police Chief
	Kurt Hallberg	Fire Chief
	John C. Certo	DPW Supervisor
	Jeff Swanson	Code Enforcement Officer

Absent:	Marilyn Fiore-Lehman	Village Attorney
---------	----------------------	------------------

Village of Lakewood Budget 2026-2027 Discussion

Deputy Mayor/Trustee Troché prepared Budget amendments with the help of each department head, in which he emailed to the Board prior to the meeting and requested to discuss them line by line and pass an overall resolution for the budget.

Trustee Barnes clarified with Clerk/Treasurer Troutman that each line item had to be its own Resolution, as the Board did on the previous meeting on Monday, April 27th.

Clerk/Treasurer Troutman let the Board know her office called NYCOM to clarify this. The Board can approve the entire budget under one resolution with the amendments. The previous meeting's amendments had to have separate resolutions because that is how the Board chose to do so, but it is not recommended.

Trustee Barnes looked into the A-3120.11 Police Salaries Overtime; with what they have currently used this year she is unsure why they are requesting \$85,000.

Police Chief Bentley explained that the request is due to have additional selective patrols. His intention in the month of April and May was to do so, but he lost close to \$30,000 in a budget shortfall from this year for an insurance buyout for a retiree. This shortfall left him with \$5,000 left, in which he hopes is enough to get them through the next month.

Trustee Cooper thanked and let the department heads know how much it's appreciated to take an already tight budget and tighten it up more, especially in a very short period of time.

**SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
April 30th, 2026**

Trustee Barnes seconded the appreciation. She explained that the department heads have been very responsible. Money is money and she can't change the fact that our assessments doubled and everything is more expensive, so that the tightening of the budget came with trying to reduce the tax burden.

Trustee Troché asked Chief Hallberg if he had any recommendations.

Chief Hallberg states that he believes he turned in a pretty fiscally responsible budget. The point A-3410.40 LFD Contractual showed no increase. In spite of the cost of everything going up. The A-3410.20 LFD Equipment dropped \$32,000 and then he added a part for that exhaust removal system. It went up another \$37,000 so the A-3410.20 LFD Equipment does show an increase because of the exhaust removal system, which is something that the government, federal government, and NFPA and all of these agencies that have any control over the fire service recommend because of the carcinogens that they encounter. The only thing they could potentially live without is upgrading the security system which is \$11,000.

Trustee Shedd states the budget that has been put before us, in which he thanked everyone involved, was really a lot of work that they appreciate. Trustee Shedd believes it was a responsible budget in the first place, and now this is even more responsible. He doesn't want the Village to have decreased services, especially when it comes to safety and security and fire. He doesn't want to see us cutting services that the Village needs and expects. For whomever has been doing budgets in their personal lives or at work knows that prices have gone up significantly. Everybody is feeling it. We have to adjust for that, and if we don't, we're getting behind on what we can do here and provide. He is good with the way things look on this now, especially since the department heads are backing the proposed changes, and that they understand where we need to be.

Mayor Holcomb thanked everyone again, for all the work that was done to create this budget. He asked if there were any questions before the Board moved forward with their vote.

Trustee Barnes asked Chief Hallberg what the mini splits in the budget were for.

Chief Hallberg said they are units that do both heating and air conditioning. Currently, there is not proper temperature control in the upstairs of the Fire Department. This is a way to have better temperature control without a huge cost. This will also help with the ventilation in the room.

Trustee Troché added that all the IT servers and documents are up there without any climate control. This will help keep them in a better environment.

Trustee Barnes agreed with Trustee Shedd that the cost of everything has increased significantly, but so has the taxpayers. She appreciates what everyone has done, but cannot lose track of the fact of wants versus needs. She said maybe we need to spread these expenses out

**SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
April 30th, 2026**

over more years, taking the most critical things first and then doing the next. We don't want to lose services. But there's realities that all sorts of municipalities are looking at right now, and there's a reason for that across the state. This is why she asked what she did of all the department heads, and she does appreciate the fact that they've done it. This isn't it's not easy to take the stance that she is taking as in asking them to do as much cutting as they can, because everybody wants to run their department at top notch, but there are things we absolutely need this year or not, and that's what she was looking at.

Trustee Troché agreed with Chief Hallberg in the fact that all of the department heads budgets were fiscally responsible. We had department heads cut \$70,000 from their initial budget proposals and stay flat with rising costs is really impressive. A second thing he added is in the proposals in front of everyone, Chief Bentley did recommend another cut of \$5,000 from A-3120.40 Police Contractual in which he is against that cut because it is for filing cabinets and fireproof proving a lot of records that we do not have, just like in this office. He doesn't think it's smart.

Police Chief Bentley stated all the permanent records are upstairs, in a bat invested room with no proper storage.

Trustee Barnes would rather spend the \$35,000 put for the historical windows into get improving that room so we have good storage for their records.

**RESOLUTION #62-2026 TO ADOPT THE MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2026-2027
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD BUDGET**

Motion by Trustee Troché, seconded by Trustee Barnes to adopt the modifications to the 2026-2027 Village of Lakewood Budget as follows;

A.1325.10 Treasure Salaries, decrease by \$4,836

- Requested: \$84,836
- Adopted: \$80,000

A.1410.20 Clerk Salaries, decrease by \$5,606

- Requested: \$87,606
- Adopted: \$82,000

A.3120.10 Police Salaries, decrease by \$10,729

- Requested: \$1,144,500
- Adopted: \$1,133,770

A.3120.11 Police Salaries Overtime, decrease by \$20,000

- Requested: \$85,000
- Adopted: \$65,000

A.3120.12 Police Salaries Part-Time, decrease by \$22,600

- Requested: \$192,600
- Adopted: \$170,000

**SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
April 30th, 2026**

A.3120.13 Police Evidence Technician, increase by \$1,600

- Requested: \$36,400
- Adopted: \$38,000

A.3410.20 LFD Equipment, decrease by \$11,000

- Requested: \$127,730
- Adopted: \$116,730

A.5110.10 Street Maintenance Salaries, decrease by \$23,000

- Requested: \$315,000
- Adopted: \$292,000

A.5132.40 Street DPW Garage Maintenance, decrease by \$2,000

- Requested: \$2,000
- Adopted: \$0

A.7140.10 Playground Salaries, increase by \$19,200

- Requested: \$40,300
- Adopted: \$59,500

A.7140.40 Playground – Contractual, decrease by \$10,000

- Requested: \$30,000
- Adopted: \$20,000

Revenues

A1520 Police Fees, increase by \$500

- Requested: \$3,500
- Adopted: \$4,000

A2110 Zoning Fees, increase by \$500

- Requested: \$4,000
- Adopted: \$4,500

A2260 Police Other Govt, increase by \$27,000

- Requested: \$748,000
- Adopted: \$775,000

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Cooper, Troché, Shedd)

**RESOLUTION #63-2026-ADOPTED THE 2025-2026 VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
BUDGET**

Motion by Trustee Shedd, seconded by Trustee Troché, to adopted the 2026-2027 Village of
Lakewood Budget.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Cooper, Troché, Shedd)

ANYONE TO BE HEARD

**SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD
April 30th, 2026**

Laura Smith, Elmcrest Ave, stated that it is an honor and privilege to live in the Village of Lakewood. She thanked the Board of Trustees for the amount of time they took in reviewing and updating the Village budget to make the necessary cuts to help the residents when their tax bills come.

SPECIAL MEETING (Adjournment)

Motion by Mayor Holcomb, seconded by Trustee Barnes and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular Board of Trustees meeting at 8:25AM.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Cooper, Troché, Shedd)

Shaunah Pilling

Deputy Clerk