

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, July 20, 2026

Board Members

Mayor Neville
Trustee Montreuil
Trustee Rankin
Trustee Conger

Others in attendance:

Nancy Niswender - Clerk
Angela Conger-Deputy Treasurer
Chad Shurtleff - DPW Suprv.
Ted Skibinski-Code Officer
Eric DeForrest - GFD Fire Chief
Mike Albro - Yaws
Lee Shurtleff arrived at 8:30

Kyle Titus
Frank "Butch" Nagy
Marie Busby
Claudia McGarrigle
Charlene Haskell
James Busby
Craig Small

7:00pm Mayor Neville welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15 & June 30, 2026 Board Meetings, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, carried.

Audit of claims and approval thereof.

Trustee Montreuil made a motion to approve the claims presented for review.

The claims paid are covered by the following list of audited vouchers:

	<u>Abstract #2</u>	<u>Abstract #13</u>
GENERAL	237,473.53	
WATER	44,642.53	
SEWER	47,720.94	2,299.50
ELECTRIC	117,570.33	2,000.00
JOINT REC	6,410.06	
CAPITAL	237,510.61	

Seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.

Monthly Department Reports:

Department of Public Works

Supervisor Shurtleff report submitted (attached to the minutes)

- Installed new filters - 20 year life expectancy.
- Using portable air compressor to keep plant running until new compressor is installed.
- Flushing for dirty water, higher iron content from well on Blvd.
- Setting up for paving on Gerald Moses Drive and West Cortland St.
- Paving of Conger Blvd Garage parking lot - scheduled for last week of August - 1st week of September.
- After pool closes, move pavilion over to make 2 new smaller ones and start work on big pavilion and guard shack.

Electric Department:

Supervisor Perkins report was submitted (attached to the minutes)

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Mike Albro - Yaws Report was submitted and reviewed (attached to the minutes)

- Blower repaired and delivered today ready to be installed.
- Muffin Monster motor went down & is locked up. Need to get a new motor for that or wait until the new headworks is in.
- Down in use of Chemicals from Slack.

Fire Department

Chief DeForrest reported the following:

	<u>YTD</u>
Ambulance Calls	542
Fire Calls	126 26 in month of July
	<u>668</u>

- GFD in Dryden for a structure fire, went throughout the night - 90+ degrees in morning.
- 117 participants for fire camp. Great numbers great participation. 25-28 members helping with program.
- Fireworks were a huge hit. GFD is starting some fundraising efforts next few months for next year's event.
- New Ambulance ordered in 2023 will be delivered this week. Selling the 2018 model. New ambulance has stretcher lift system that is now required. Last ambulance was sold through garage.com and will be doing advertising throughout the area. The new company will appraise and make a trade in offer for consideration.
- Alumni Pancake Breakfast - August 1st open to the community.
- Trustee Conger thanked the Fire Department & Ambulance for all their support

Planning Board

Trustee Rankin - Planning Board met and approved the site plan for the new Police Station.

Code Office

Ted Skibinski - Code Officer submitted his report attached to the minutes.

- A lot of Monday night court cases - 5 in process 2 moving forward with changes.

Presentation & Discussion Items

- Review & Discussion of Volleyball project email. Andrea & Bryce Wilkinson sent an email requesting the Village to consider additional support for the Volleyball court project for the park. While he has raised \$2,489 for the net system and has \$1,250 toward the \$3,000 border liner, the Village would like to see Bryce take a more active leadership role for the next month and report back to us in August and see where he is at.
- Discussion of Challenge Intern Position - A representative from Challenge stopped by to see if we would have any work for an individual seeking work experience. The person is a young adult and would not need supervision. They would be given tasks to do over a 3-4 month period for 12-16 hours a week. There would be no charge to the Village as it is under the ACCESS-VR program covered by NYS Dept of Education. Tasks could include cleaning, yard work and other items needed. Trustee Conger made a motion to accept the program, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, all in favor, carried.
- Concert Discussion - American Legion - One of the concerts that cost \$600 cancelled and was replaced by a free band. The Legion generally pays for 1/2 of one of the more expensive bands asked if the \$600 could be applied to their share of that band. The Town Board who contributes to Joint Rec for the concerts as well has agreed to contribute to the Legion following the Village lead.

Trustee Rankin made a motion to approve the Village share of \$300 to go towards the American Legion's share of the concert, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.

- Local Law Change Discussion- Review of Local Law Chapter #112 & 152. #112 is for a Free Style Sports Facility (Skate Park), which we no longer have. If we do not plan to install one in the future we could remove this. #152, section #13 is no longer valid and should be removed. We will need to hold a public hearing next month to do so.

Trustee Rankin made a motion to remove Chapter #112 and to amend Chapter #152 section #13, and to hold a public hearing next month, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.

Public Comments

- Marie Busby - Supervisor Shurtleff is a great guy. We have a condition by the Post Office - overgrown weeds, trees. May 26th fell on sidewalk. Unable to find who the home owner is. Presented a letter and a petition with signatures. Mayor Neville responded: The DPW did some trimming in the past couple of weeks. We had hoped this would be in our NYForward grant process but this project was not selected. We have been unable to discover who owns it. We have tried to maintain it to some extent. We will contact DOT to see if we can coordinate something with them. Supervisor Shurtleff will look at the pipe that is sticking out.
- Butch Nagy is inquiring if anyone has checked the creek where the bank washes out. We may need to subcontract it out. The company that was going to work on it went out of business. We will look into it further. We will get it on the schedule. Mayor asked who is responsible for the retaining wall alongside the driveway? Tompkins County may have some support grants but may not be for that purpose. More research needs to be done to see that we have the equipment to be able to do or get some quotes to repair. Supervisor Shurtleff will work on some quotes.
- Kyle Titus - Procedural question on how to handle litigation with the Village. Clerk Niswender said the items would be discussed during executive session and attorney would be notified.

Action Items

- Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt the new CDBG Grant Program Guidelines, seconded by Trustee Rankin, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Rankin made a motion to approve the Groton Labor Day 5K permit application, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Montreuil made a motion to adopt the GHD Contract Amendment #3 for the Waste Water Treatment Plan, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Rankin made a motion to adopt a resolution to declare the Police weapons (9 Glock Revolvers) as excess and approve to be sold, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Rankin made a motion to adopt a Permissive Referendum to transfer up to \$9,100 from Water Capital Reserves for a Water Plant Compressor, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the CMD Administrative Contract for NYF Small Project Fund, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, all in favor, carried.
- Review of Vehicle Decals, Trustee Rankin made a motion to approve Decal and have them installed. The remaining members would like to table it.
- Trustee Montreuil made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the WIIA Grant Application, seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the CDBG Application - T Swayze, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, all in favor, carried.

8:30pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move into executive session to discuss contract details. Seconded by Trustee Montreuil, all in favor.

9:06pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Rankin, all in favor, carried.

No Action taken

9:07pm Trustee Conger made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Niswender

Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator