

Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026

Regular meeting

Village of Mohawk Board of Trustees

Meeting called to order by Mayor Baron at 6pm, opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attending on roll call: Mayor Baron, Trustees: Cryer, Eisenhut, Watkins, & Tubia, Attorney Manne, Fire Chief Crisino, MPD Chief Morse, Superintendent of Public Works Ken Mead, Justin Olbrys of OHSWA, and Clerk-Treasurer Joni LaBarge.

Josh Olbrys of Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (OHSWA):

Discussed the expiration of our upcoming waste collection contract expiration and the need to get bid packets out. Our contract ends on January 31, 2027. Bid process needs to start in September. He discussed that we obtain revenue from the sale of bags & tote rentals, we typically end each year with a surplus. We can bid the contract as is this year, estimating a 20-30% increase. There are a few things we can have removed from the contract to try and lower the increased cost; removing green waste pickup, no more selling of bags, everyone needs to get a tote, eliminate some items allowed on the curb. This would make it more competitive and hopefully get more bidders. Will add to next agendas to make sure discussed further and bid process begins.

Chief Crisino MFD:

Provided training reports to the Board. Training is going well. They will be having training attendance discussions with three members. Asked to have a clarification about medical notes – was stated that if they can't serve due to medical reasons they are not eligible & should not be showing up at calls. 114 going in for inspection and oil change. Annual hose testing will begin at the end of the month. They have a few interviews scheduled for new members.

Ken Mead SPW:

Provided monthly report to the Board. Municipal Commission: They have been making repairs to the Village sign, getting light to work and trying to fix the clock. DOH has changed some rules with the mandated lead and copper report. Dielectric truck testing is complete. PPE testing is scheduled in the next few weeks. Hydrants are being painted by the summer county workers – going well, they have completed 50 of the 115 hydrants already. There have been some issues with the water system due to the heat, there has been some failures from overheating, AC units have been installed in the building to help fix this. Still working on the water report progress, pumped vs billed. No obvious water leaks, feel that we are losing revenue due to metering. Sub-station – on going, there was a meeting last week, contractor has until the 20th to complete repairs. New office clerk Erica did her first payroll – went very well. Street Dept: request to hire Devin Hallenbeck-Heap for the open General Laborer position; he has passed the background check, pending drug test results. Motion to hire pending clear drug test results Trustee Tubia, Second Trustee Eisenhut. Meeting with paving contractors – we have \$117k in CHIPS money to use for this. Would like to purchase a steam jenny pressure cleaner, they are \$3-6k – ok to do a split purchase with the St Dept and MMC as both will be using. Looking to get quotes to have the yellow lines repainted on Main St, Mayor advised to check with State DOT, they may be willing to assist. Tree stump removal has been steady. Cemetery

fence needs to be painted – may have summer county workers do this if there is enough time.
Working on the upper cemetery road – still not good condition.

Chief Morse:

Provided monthly report to the Board. Request to hire current part time officer Don Kane for the new full time position, Motion Trustee Tubia, Second Trustee Eisenhut.

Advised the Board that he did not pass the Chiefs exam & will need to be re-appointed as provisional Chief for the interim until he can re-take the exam; motion Trustee Watkins, Second Trustee Tubia. New part time Officer Martinez training is going well, he should be complete with training and be able to work shifts on his own next month. Part time officers Held and Hula will both be resigning soon. Part time officer Lawrence has been issuing a lot of traffic tickets in the village. Tech Grant has been announced – in order to apply/qualify for this we have had to terminate the agreement with ICE. Will be applying for grant and hope to purchase cameras for all entrance/exits into the village.

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues; Trustee Tubia, Second Trustee Eisenhut at 6:30PM

Motion to exit executive session Trustee Tubia, Second Trustee Watkins at 6:42PM.

Personnel issues were discussed regarding full-time Officer Pate. No decisions or motions were made. Will place on agenda for the next meeting after requesting more information from Officer Pate.

Attorney Manne:

Nothing to report.

Library:

Trustee Watkins: Nothing to report, next meeting is the 20th.

Planning/ZBA:

Trustee Eisenhut: Nothing to report

Safety/Rec Commission:

Trustee Tubia: Diamond Dawgs baseball team held a day clinic at the wetlands pavilion – 8 kids showed up and it went well.

Other business discussed by Mayor and Board:

- Minutes from June 22, 2026 approved. Motion, Trustee Watkins, Second Trustee Tubia.
- Annual Organizational Meeting 2026-2027. Please refer to attached packet for designations of official banks, newspaper, appointments, official meeting night, liaisons, resolutions and appointments to boards and commissions. All resolutions motioned individually and roll call vote: Mayor Baron: Aye, Trustees Cryer, Watkins, Eisenhut, & Tubia: Aye. Clerk noted that Adirondack Bank has been bought out and is now known as Arrow Bank.
- Insurance quote to have all equipment and buildings appraised to make sure our limits are correct. It was discussed in prior meetings that Ken Mead feels some of the limits are wrong. Quote is for \$5900, in which the Village would be required to pay. Mayor Baron would like to discuss with Ken further. Will put on agenda for next meeting. Haylor Fryer Coon advised that we can have this done at any time, they will renew the policies as is and will issue changes if needed mid-term.

- Connected Community Schools would like to host a Back to School Bash in Weller Park. This is something they do yearly however they seem to be confused as to how things work and who to ask permission. This year they would like to have food trucks. They have been advised that the food trucks need to obtain vendors permits in order to participate. Mayor Baron said that he will discuss this with the school and the Connected Community Schools contact.
- Playground equipment has been ordered. The Street Department will be putting the new items together & installing so we don't have to pay for a contractor to do this.
- Trustee Cryer spoke on the Family Youth Center and the situation they are dealing with, with the running of the center. Questioning on who owns the building and who will take over eventually.

Financials:

P&L reviewed and signed. Approval & signed of General Fund & Cemetery abstracts and bills dated July 13, 2026 Motion: Trustee Tubia - Second: Trustee Watkins

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm, Motion: Trustee Watkins; Second: Trustee Cryer

JML