

**Village of Champlain  
Village Board Meeting  
February 9, 2026 6:30 p.m.**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, February 9, 2026 at the Village Office, 11104 Route 9, Champlain New York.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Mayor McFetridge called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were Mayor McFetridge, Trustees Trombley, Molinski, Conner, Herzog, Clerk/Treasurer Spring, Deputy Clerk Ducharme and Representative from Clinton County Health Dept.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve minutes of the Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Board Meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve minutes of the Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Special Board Meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND GENERAL QUESTION PERIOD FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

None

**Presentation from Clinton County Health Department: Active Community Concept Plan**

The Village participated in the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) program in 2023 and received technical assistance and grant funding for several Complete Streets initiatives. These projects included the installation of solar lighting along the bike trail and various sidewalk repairs throughout the Village.

In October 2025, the Clinton County Health Department, through its CHSC grant program, conducted both a walkability assessment and a community survey. The assessment focused on Main Street, Cedar Street, and Oak Street in order to identify areas in need of improvement. The purpose of these efforts was to help prioritize potential projects for future grant funding. As a result, a Concept Plan was developed outlining ten proposed projects:

1. Church Street/Pine Street/South Street intersection – Pedestrian safety improvements with a primary focus on crosswalks
2. Cedar Street at Church Street – Installation of a crosswalk
3. Cedar Street at Church Street – Pedestrian amenity such as custom seating
4. Main Street (NYS Route 9) – Sidewalk repairs
5. Cedar Street – Sidewalk repairs
6. Main Street at Pacquette Park – Landscaping and creation of a buffer between pedestrians and the roadway
7. Cedar Street at Main Street – Installation of a crosswalk
8. Pacquette Park – Pedestrian amenity, including an ADA-compliant ramp to improve accessibility
9. Elm Street at Oak Street – Pedestrian amenity, including signage for the Northern Tier Recreation Trail
10. Oak Street – Sidewalk repairs

Additional projects were discussed that are not eligible under the CHSC grant program. These included the creation of a digital map of the Village identifying points of interest such as parks, trails, historic sites, and community amenities.

To support the long-term sustainability of these initiatives, the Clinton County Health Department recommended that the Village consider establishing an annual budget for sidewalk maintenance and snow removal. It was also suggested that the Village develop a yearly highway maintenance plan with clearly defined priorities.

The Board was advised that a decision regarding the use of grant funds must be made within six weeks, by the end of March. Board members inquired about the anticipated grant amount. The CCHD representative stated that the funding is expected to be approximately \$15,000, slightly higher than the previous award. The Mayor was advised to contact Lisa at the Clinton County Health Department for additional details.

The Board thanked the representative for the informative presentation.

**At 6:41 p.m. the CCHD representative left the meeting.**

**REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

**Violations:**

- 104 Church St                      Sign on building removed                      Resolved

**Permits:**

- 215 South St                      Solar Permit Issued                      Paid \$311.47
- 25 Meadow Lane                      Building Permit                      Paid \$33.60

**Inspections:**

- 11149 Route 9                      Roof Permit                      Passed
- 25 Meadow Lane                      Site Inspection                      Passed
- 860 Route 11                      Sign Permit                      Passed
- Price Chopper
- 10260 Route 9                      Roof Permit                      Passed

**REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge reported the following:

The Mayor expressed appreciation to the Department of Public Works crew for their continued efforts in maintaining the roads and sidewalks. Residents were reminded to allow faucets to drip during periods of extreme cold to help prevent frozen pipes and to check in on homebound neighbors.

Work is currently underway on the upcoming budget plan. Anticipated increases include electricity, wages, and insurance costs. A public hearing regarding the budget will be held at the March meeting.

Mayor McFetridge also attended several meetings, including a discussion with a local banker regarding opportunities for the Village to generate additional revenue. Additional meetings included the America 250 Committee, a local realtor to discuss vacant and abandoned properties, and potential programs to assist first-time homebuyers and small construction companies interested in renovating homes. The Mayor also participated in the State of the County forum, where optimism was expressed regarding the local economy and overall quality of life.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Water & Sewer Committee:** Trustee Trombley said we are currently looking for more haulers. The Village currently has 1 hauler and 1 potential. The issues with the plant need to be addressed.
- **Streets and Sidewalks Committee:** Trustee Trombley said that there are potholes on Church St. that need filling. Supt. Jolicoeur said that they will work on taking care of that.
- **Equipment & Tool Committee:** The mirror was broken off on the loader.
- **Buildings/Property Committee:** Nothing to report
- **Parks/Recreation Committee:** Nothing to report
- **Planning Board Liaison:** No meeting planned.
- **Zoning Board Liaison:** Approved a small at home business for accounting.
- **Champlain Fire District Liaison:** Thanked DPW for keeping the hydrants cleared. This is the time of year when we typically see an increase in fire and emergency incidents.
- **Recreation Committee:** Cross country ski tracks have been seen on the trail and the solar lights along the trail look nice.

## REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

### Trustee Herzog

Reminded residents to leave their faucets running with a little bit of a drip.

### Trustee Conner

Nothing to report.

### Trustee Molinski

The library has received its licensing to show movies and had a trial run with no one in attendance. On Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4 p.m. the library will be showing Ruby Bridges for Black History Month that is free to attend.

### Trustee Trombley

The data needed for the water board report is starting to accumulate and should be ready soon.

## REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER

The board was provided the Expense and Revenue report for January 2026.

### TRANSFERS

TO:	A1410.4	Clerk/Contractual	\$3,000.00
FROM	A5142.4	Snow Removal/Contractual	\$3,000.00

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve these transfers as written.

Roll call vote:

Trustee Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

## PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT

Warrant - \$33,463.49

Additonal Invoices - \$6,060.56

Total - \$39,524.05

Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve the warrant with additional invoices. Roll call vote:

Trustee Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

## **REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT**

Mayor McFetridge summarized the Superintendent's report as follows:

**Water:** - There were nine frozen water services reported. Four water meters were replaced, with two additional replacements scheduled at a later date due to necessary plumbing repairs. One water service froze underground, requiring the use of the Magikist machine to thaw it. Snow was cleared from around fire hydrants, and both chlorine injectors at the Water Treatment Plant were cleaned.

**Streets** - The Department of Public Works has been actively plowing and sanding streets and sidewalks. An additional load of salt was received, and salt and sand were mixed to replenish the storage shed. Snow was removed from Church Street and River Street to accommodate a funeral service.

**Sewer** - One pump station experienced a backup that affected a residence. The issue was caused by a valve that had vibrated closed; the valve has since been secured in the open position. Another resident experienced a sewer lateral backup, and DPW removed approximately half of a trash bag of paper debris from the line. The Huber screen tripped 30 times this month following use by outside haulers. The Superintendent recommended temporarily suspending outside haulers from dumping until the issue is resolved. Additionally, one side of the clarifier is currently out of service due to a drive sprocket that came loose and fell into the tank. The tank will need to be pumped out to locate the sprocket to prevent further damage. A resident on Prospect Street experienced a collapsed sewer lateral. The contractor requested to excavate across Prospect Street but was denied permission. Instead, the contractor replaced a portion of the line and installed a cleanout.

**Miscellaneous** - Two boiler inspections were completed—one by the New York State boiler inspector and one by Hartford Steam Boiler. The boiler at the Water Plant temporarily shut down due to ice buildup but has since been cleared and is operating without issue. The backhoe will need to be sent to the shop for repair of an oil leak near the turbo. There were also issues with the plow truck's air brake chamber, which have been addressed. The Superintendent will need to order replacement parts that are beginning to fail. A heated side mirror arm on the loader was broken while mixing salt and sand. The DPW crew removed a tree on Church Street, and annual fire extinguisher inspections were completed.

### 1. RACO Alarm Agent Service Agreement

Supt Jolicoeur brought to attention that the Main St lift station needed their alarm system renewed to send alerts that something was wrong with the station. A 1 year agreement for \$450.00 and a 2 year agreement for \$850.00 were proposed to the board for choice.

A motion was made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Trombley to renew a 2 year AlarmAgent Service agreement with RACO for a cloud based storage alarm.

Roll call vote:

Trustee Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Champlain Fire District for the new contact- Brandy Ross
2. NY Homeland Security and Emergency Services- Village was granted the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant program.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Tax Cap Override:  
Mayor McFetridge summarized to the public the tax cap override. A discussion followed about scheduling a public hearing. It was decided that a public hearing will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Bandshell Grant  
Allison submitted the grant on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with 4 letters of support
2. .gov website  
The board was forwarded a preview of the website. There are still items that need to be added to the website before it is up and running.
3. Tree Ordinance  
This will be looked at closely in the March meeting.
4. America 250 Celebration  
The Town has a link for the 250 celebration calendar of events that is updated as the events are made. It includes a list of activities and fun stuff, the Village encourages everyone to take a look at it.

Mayor McFetridge called for an executive session on the terms of potential litigation.

Motion to approve the end of regular session made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Conner. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor McFetridge called the start of executive meeting to start at 7:16 p.m.

Motion to approve the start of executive session made by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Trombley. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor McFetridge called the end of executive meeting to stop at 7:35 p.m.

Motion to approve the end of executive session made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor McFetridge called the start of regular meeting to start at 7:35 p.m.

Motion to approve the start of regular session made by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Trombley. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

No motions made.  
No vote taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, at 8:17, p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Trombley to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.