MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH COLLINS BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 AT 6:30 PM.

Mayor Michael Gullo Sr. called the Regular meeting to order at 6:30pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	**Mayor Michael Gullo Sr.**	**Trustee Corinne Leone**
	Trustee Lisa Voss	**Attorney Richard Schaus**
	Trustee Nick Enders	**Trustee Richard Bley**
	Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Mallaber	
	Deputy Clerk McKenzie Blake	
SIGNED IN VISITORS:	**Brenda Bauer-Petrus**	**Carol Montaldi**
	Norm Andolina	**Dave Haidon/ Bldg Insp**
	James Panus/ Patrol Officer	

MOTION to close Meeting and open Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant made by Trustee Leone. Seconded by Trustee Voss. Unanimous. Carried.

Erie county has sent a lengthy Community Development Block Grant Application. Three projects the Mayor would like to see done are as follows:

1. **Dewey Avenue / Spruce Street Development Project – The proposed project will address existing water infrastructure along Dewey Ave to Spruce Street, extending from the railroad tracks to High Street. The project will include installation of new waterlines along the East side of Dewey Ave. The new waterline will extend underneath the bridge and creek and continue onto Spruce Street. As part of the project, portions of the existing sidewalk on Spruce Street will need to be removed to allow installation of new waterlines. Water service connections to residents will be temporarily shut off as the new waterline is installed. Following completion of waterline work, the sidewalk on Spruce Street and Dewey Ave will need to be replaced. One existing tree, on Dewey Ave, may also need to be removed to accommodate the new sidewalk. The proposed improvements will extend along Spruce Street from the Railroad tracks to High Street, with new waterline and sidewalk improvements to both sides of the street where necessary. Blacktop not included in current estimate. Estimated project cost is $483,000, engineering is $36,000 for a total cost of $519,000.**
   The Village is hoping to get $150,000 in grant funding, and the remaining cost will be financed through municipal bonds.
2. **Rural Transit Service Project – They provide transportation to senior citizens, low/moderate income individuals and disabled clients. Eligible residents are transported to medical centers, Doctor's appointments, etc. The Village will need to get back to them by October 23, 2026.**
3. **Brant Road Sidewalk Project- which is a carried over project from last year, hoping to replace sidewalks along Brant Road.**

MOTION to close public hearing and reopen general meeting at 6:45 pm. Made by Trustee Leone. Seconded by Trustee Bley. Unanimous. Carried.

Mayor would like to rank three projects in order as highest priority from 1-3.

MOTION to rank Dewey Avenue / Spruce Street Development Project as 1, Rural Transit Service Project as 2, and Brant Road Sidewalk Project as 3 made by Trustee Leone. Seconded by Trustee Enders. Unanimous. Carried.

Meeting minutes from Board Meeting on August 18, 2026.

MOTION to approve August 18, 2026 Board Meeting minutes made by Trustee Voss. Seconded by Trustee Bley. Unanimous. Carried.

VISITOR QUESTIONS –

It was asked what the Rural Transit Service Project was? Trustee Voss explained it was a transportation service provided by volunteer senior citizens to transport other senior citizens and disabled individuals to doctor appointments, etc…

Trustee Leone pointed out our newest Patrol Officer, James Panus in attendance at the meeting. He is a retired Buffalo Police Officer of 30 years, and came back to work part time.

MAYORS REPORT-

DPW – The flowers have been taken down throughout the Village, roads have been swept, cleaning of DIs has been started, they finished top soiling and grass seed on Santello and Weiser, new salter has been put together and is running, new plow for Kenworth truck has been picked up. The last brush pick up will be on October 5th, then leaf pick up will begin shortly after.

BUILDING INSPECTOR – Issued 8 building permits for garages, roofs and sheds. Over $110,000.00 in improvements for the village, also visited multiple residents regarding complaints A complete annual fire inspection for all North Collins Central School buildings was done. He was at the fire scene at American Wire Tire to determine the safety of structure. Corrine asked if he was done with his school training. He stated he has finished his building inspector courses and is fully certified in NYS, but still has 3 more weeks of schooling for code enforcement.

POLICE REPORT – North Collins Police issued 12 traffic tickets – 7 for speeding, and 5 related to stop signs.

Had a meeting on September 3rd, 2026 with Village of North Collins/ Town of North Collins Joint Planning Board – it went well. All came to agreement on how things will run. Process will go as follows; application will go to Building inspector first, Village Board second, then Planning Board. It will then return to Village Board for approval.

Rural Outreach Center (ROC) Project Amended site plan review - There are now 6 apartments at 843 square feet. 4 people per apartment. They each have two bedrooms, one bathroom, a living area, and kitchen. The first floor is all handicap accessible; there is no elevator. There also is a shared laundry room on both floors. The building also has a sprinkler system for fire safety.
3 major changes were made as requested.
1. Drainage – 16-inch drain pipe that will go into a 13,000-gallon holding tank, and they are installing two DI's for drainage.
2. The "look" – they changed the look of building to match other buildings in surrounding area. It will have a front door that will face Route 62, and a side door that will face the neighbor's property.
3. Parking – There will be 9 parking spots total.

A visitor had a comment about how the company will not be paying any taxes. Attorney Schaus explained that the ROC are a tax-exempt organization but they have to sign a pilot agreement, which is payments in lieu of taxes, so they will make "pilot payments". Estimated that it will bring $2,500 a year in revenue. Tenants will pay rent- estimated around $900 to $1,000 a month. They are hoping to find someone local to manage facility.
The project still has to go to Planning board for site plan review – which will be open to the public.

> **MOTION to send the ROC site plans to the Planning Board for review made by Trustee Leone. Seconded by Trustee Bley. Unanimous. Carried.**

The Village received a letter from Erie County for Emergency Manager Association for Disaster Preparedness. The meeting is scheduled for next week at 7pm.

The budget for the end of August 2026 will be in the office if any of the Board members wants to look to see current expenditures and revenues.

Remittance Sales tax for Erie County is 5.21% greater than last year, and 5.67% ahead of last year at this time. Transfer sales tax is 5.49% ahead at this time last year.

The surveyor came and surveyed Dewey Avenue and Spruce Street waterline project, which came to a total of $7,050.00. The money will come out of DPW reserve budget.

> **MOTION to pay surveyor $7,050.00 for Dewey Avenue and Spruce Street waterline project out of DPW reserve made by Trustee Bley. Seconded by Trustee Voss. Unanimous. Carried.**

The Village got new computers throughout all of the buildings for a total of $9145.00 which will come out of Building Reserves budget.

> **MOTION to pay $9,145.00 computer invoice to Great Lakes IT Services out of Building reserves made by Trustee Enders. Seconded by Trustee Voss. Unanimous. Carried.**

The Mayor is looking to appoint a new member, Paul Lawton II, to the ZBA. Members will rank in order of years on the ZBA as follows; Joe Wales, Brenda Bauer-Petrus, Lynn DiVincenzo, Lindsay Demmerley, and Paul Lawton II.

> **MOTION to appoint Pual Lawton II to the ZBA made by Trustee Bley. Seconded by Trustee Enders. Unanimous. Carried.**

Vacant property located at 10544 Main Street – The Mayor spoke with BENLIC, People Inc. and Habitat for Humanity. At this time, it is impossible to find someone to build, because of time line. Planning board could not think of viable use for property. Some ideas are; parking lot, splash pad, or pocket park.

> **BE IT RESOLVED that BENLIC is offering the Village of North Collins the parcel of known as 10544 Mains Street for a $1.00 and quick claim deed, the Village agrees to accept the parcel and advertise it for 6 months in different publications to entice a business or organization to come to the Village and do commerce, or try and get someone to build residential. If the village does not get any results within the time, the Village of North Collins will decide what to do with the parcel.**
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> **MOTION to adopt said resolution that BENLIC is offering the Village of North Collins the parcel of known as 10544 Mains Street for a $1.00 and quick claim deed, the Village agrees to accept the parcel and advertise it for 6 months in different publications to entice a business or organization to come to the Village and do commerce, or try and get someone to build residential. If the village does not get any results within the time, the Village of North Collins will decide what to do with the parcel, made by Trustee Leone. Seconded by Trustee Enders. Unanimous. Carried.**

Erie County wants to make their own Regional Planning Board, replace all current Village and Town Planning Boards throughout Erie County. The Village of North Collins strongly opposes a regional Planning Board

> **BE IT RESOLVED the Village of North Collins believes it is crucial that local municipalities retain the right to determine their own planning actions and be it further resolved that the Village of North Collins here by opposes creation of an Erie County Planning Board, and be it further resolved that certified copies of this resolution will be sent to Erie County Executives, Mark Polancarz, members of Erie County Legislature, and Erie County Association of Governments, and Village Officials Association of Erie County New York.**

MOTION to adopt said resolution that the Village of North Collins believes it is crucial that local municipalities retain the right to determine their own planning actions and be it further resolved that the Village of North Collins hereby opposes creation of an Eric County Planning Board, and be it further resolved that certified copies of this resolution will be sent to Erie County Executive, Mark Polancarz, members of Erie County Legislature, and Erie County Association of Governments, and Village Officials Association of Erie County New York made by Trustee Bley. Seconded by Trustee Voss. Unanimous. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Santello/ Weiser- job is complete, still have to put top soil in and make it tight with the road.

Orchard Place - Still have a couple more weeks before we hear anything.

Sidewalks – Still waiting on results from petrographic analysis testing, hoping within the next couple weeks.

NEW BUSNIESS

Parade applications – Holiday parade will be Saturday December 12, 2026 from 5:30 to 6:00 pm. It will take place on Route 62 from the High School to the Town Hall.

MOTION to approve Holiday parade Saturday, December 12, 2026 from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm made by Trustee Voss. Seconded by Trustee Leone. Unanimous. Carried.

Comp Alliance Training- Needs to be completed by all employees before the end of the year in order to get work place safety award. The only employees who have taken it are Reid Smith and Lisa Voss. McKenzie has one on Thursday – that the Mayor and Building Inspector will be taking also. It is estimated to be 1.5 hours.

Websites – Took a look at 3 different website companies, reached out to 4 only heard back form 3.

1. **Catalis- Had a meeting Monday 8/31/26 at 11am. Village would have to make updates ourselves, will do initial transfer everything over, no email, $250 monthly - $3,000 yearly. Will take 3-6 months to create website, willing to give 15% discount, would have to sign 4-year contract with a 6% increase annually. Get up to 5 hours of free assistance a year, offers free help videos, could do a joint town and village website.**
2. **Munibit – Meeting with Walton on 9/2/26 @ 11am. 4-5 weeks to set up new website, works with small villages no bigger than 10,000 people, will initially transfer everything over, no website development design fee, we can update the website ourselves and also have them help if needed – seems pretty straight forward, can handle our email – will be an additional $12 a month which will be an annual fee of $144, get license from Microsoft would require no change to email, would be a new platform but the same email address, can put calendar on front page, $1,188.00 per year (comes out to $99 per month), year to year contract, would able to pay taxes and water bills online - can link all online payments to Williamson – there will be transaction fee for costumer.**
3. **Xplicit - Meeting with Thomas 9/2/26 @ 12pm. They can transfer everything over from current website, we can upload all our information ourselves or they will if we email them. They want to have a good communication/ relationship, can manage host solutions – can do up to 1&1/2 hours of work a month, included in cost , 4-6 weeks to make website, yes, they can put a calendar on front page, Microsoft for email – can keep the same email, get license from Southern Tier and there will be no change to email address, can make online payments and will link to Williamson, initially**

was $1,200 a year, $100 a month. Including email – just got a contract sent over - $2,500 website and development fee, annual cost of $1,200, and would have to sign a 36-month contract. Total value of $6,100.

Erie County also offered a free website for Town and Village municipalities. But we would have to change our email, they don't offer email services, we would have to change to a ".gov" and the look of it was not very enticing.

The Village Office is leaning towards working with the website company Munibit. It was the cheapest, pretty straight forward to operate.

MOTION to approve go with Munibit website company for new Village of North Collins website and email hosting made by Trustee Voss. Seconded by Trustee Enders. Unanimous. Carried.

All of the Trustees signed the social media policy. Motion was made at last meeting, but policy was never signed.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Leone – Had a Disaster Coordinator meeting with Ryan last week. Almost done putting everything together, just have a few changes to make. Will meet with the Mayor and the Board to finalize plan. The DPW has training in October and there is a session on National Disaster Preparedness- Corrine asks if Keith can get meeting notes, and handouts. There is also a session on "When you should replace your equipment" and "records management" she also wants Keith to obtain notes/ handouts from that session too. Encourage Keith to go to "how to be a manger" session and thinks it would be valuable information.

Trustee Voss – Attended a NEST meeting on September 10, 2026. Erie county is working on more battery drop off locations, and adding more collections. First one in our area is October 17, 2026 at the Hamburg Fairgrounds. Update on carpet law. Projected start date is July 2027. Says manufacturers are trying to figure out which carpet regulations are a part of the law. Update on future garbage contracts- NYS is closing 1 and a half landfills. Tonawanda is closing half of their landfill and Chaffee is going to be closing all of it. Modern and waste management are going to be going into PA. This is going to make the cost of garbage contracts to go up. DEC has no plans to approve any more landfills. of Waste management will be charging homeowner directly per mattress. Which will be $150 per mattress pickup. Unsure about couches. Waste management and Modern will be at the next NEST meeting. Assuming Casello will follow suit. Erie county handed out pamphlets on how to prepare and respond to basement flooding and backflows – what is covered by insurance and what is not. The gazebo is decorated for fall. September 19, 2026 is the next paint and electronic drop off from 9-12. Thanked Tracy, McKenzie and Norm for helping last month. The Town designated 4 days for lowering the flags to half-staff – Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Pearl Harbor, and 9/11. Thinks it's a great idea to honor fallen veterans. Veterans are having their spaghetti dinner fundraiser on October 17, 2026. Also, the VFWs hotdog sale this weekend for the village wide garage sale. Judy Bigelow is taking over dog control. Nick Blasz has stepped down. On September 25, 2026 is the homecoming parade starting at 4:30pm. The Town mentioned if the Village could help with repairs to the Historical building.

A visitor suggested putting something in Newsletter about how the garbage men will NOT pick up garbage bags that are not in the garbage tote. Tracy informed her we will put something on our new website and Facebook page once created, and also remind residents when they come in to pay water bills.

Trustee Bley- As of September 4, 2026 Dog Control Report had 3 complaints. No loose dogs, no bites, no barking dogs. Monthly water testing has been completed. Lead and copper sample testing completed. Maintenance and cleaning were completed. All trees have been taken down around the wells.

Ended up taking 3 more trees than expected. A person got poison oak during the work. Will be repairing a water leak on Orchard Place. Hydrant flushing will be done in October. Date to be determined.

DPW still working on DI issues per visitor question.

Put the Planning board meeting ad in penny saver – They meet the 1st Thursday of each month. Attorney Schaus suggests contacting Mike Drumm and forwarding him the referred ROC application from the Village Board. Possibly have meeting at Village Hall.

Trustee Enders – Fire department had 10 calls for the month of August. A great job was done at American Wire Tie. Ladder testing will be completed soon. They also will be doing a touch a truck event at the Elementary School (date unsure) and will be assisting with the homecoming parade on September 25, 2026. Fixing the sidewalk in front of the park has been postponed. Enders Contracting who was going to pour them had a sink hole emergency. Trying to set up a new date. Flock camera issue. Many people were unaware that there was one on route 62 in front of Shelley's. Town of North Collins put a moratorium on new flock cameras from going up. Wants to make a local law banning them. Encourages the Village to do a one-year moratorium banning the installation of new flock cameras going up in the Village of North Collins. Nick explained Flock is a private owned company, they give their data that they collect to the police departments, which is no issue. But they are also selling the private information to companies willing to buy them. A lot of Cities, Town and Villages have already banned them. He feels they are a huge invasion of privacy. They have facial recognition technology; they can ping the data off your phone. Sheriff's office claim they are to assist with amber alerts however; research has been done and not one amber alert has been found since they have gone up.

> **MOTION to approve the Village of North Collins Board hereby declares a one-year moratorium banning the installation of new flock cameras in the Village of North Collins made by Trustee Enders. Seconded by Trustee Voss. Unanimous. Carried.**

Executive session will be moved to next month's meeting.

Change meeting dates within the next couple months. Unsure of what day we will do.

> **MOTION to approve August/September Abstract #4 for a total of $159,687.28 made by Trustee Voss. Seconded by Trustee Enders. Unanimous. Carried.**
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> **Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:01pm made by Trustee Bley. Seconded by Trustee Leone. Unanimous. Carried.**

Minutes submitted by,

Tracy Mallaber, Clerk / Treasurer

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