



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WATKINS GLEN HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The public session of the meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock. Present were Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock, Trustee Bob Carson, Trustee Margaret Schimizzi, Trustee Stephen Klemann, and Village Clerk Fred Warrick. Also in attendance was Sergeant in Charge Ethan Mosher, Water Electric Supervisor Tommy Ballard, and Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Tremblay. Absent was Mayor Laurie DeNardo. There were approximately three others in attendance.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Item "E" on the agenda under voting items regarding the Historical Society was removed.

PRESENTATIONS

Charles Murray from Switched Source presented new utility automation equipment that balances load currents and system voltages, and reduces or eliminates neutral current called Phase-EQ.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Trustee Stephen Klemann motioned to approve the appointment of Brandon Margreno to the Planning Board. Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC BE HEARD

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting held on February 3, 2026

Trustee Bob Carson motioned to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on February 3, 2026. Trustee Stephen Klemann seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor with the exception of Trustee Margaret Schimizzi, who was absent that day and therefore abstained. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve all department reports. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VOTING ITEMS

Special Event Application Schuyler County Italian-American Festival

The special event application for Schuyler County Italian American Festival at Clute Park on 8/13 - 8/15/2026 was tabled.

Special Event Application Water Front Festival

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve the special event application for the Water Front Festival at Seneca Harbor Park on 6/19 - 6/20/2026. Trustee Stephen Klemann seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

[Special Event Application True Love 100th Anniversary](#)

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve the special event application for True Love 100th Anniversary Sail-a-Bratton at Seneca Harbor Park on 9/25 - 9/27/2026. Trustee Stephen Klemann seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

[Special Event Application Village Christmas](#)

Trustee Stephen Klemann motioned to approve the special event application for Watkins Glen Village Christmas on 12/4/2026. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

[Resolution Requesting an extension of waiver from GTCMHIC for the village employee health plan.](#)

Trustee Bob Carson motioned to adopt a resolution requesting an extension of waiver from the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium.

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen has a collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 118 covering certain Village employees, which outlines specific terms and conditions of employment including health insurance coverage; and), and

WHEREAS, the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium (“the Consortium”) requires participating municipalities to enroll all active employees in Consortium-sponsored health insurance plans pursuant to Section A.5. of the Municipal Cooperative Agreement (MCA), unless a waiver has been granted; and, and

WHEREAS, Section A.5. of the MCA provides that participation in the Consortium Medical Plan(s) by some, but not all, collective bargaining units or employee groups of a Participant shall not be permitted without a Board-approved waiver; and

WHEREAS, Section A.5. further provides that Participants with a waiver allowing active employees not enrolled in Consortium benefit plan options must, within three (3) years of the date of enrolling in the Consortium, fully enroll all active employees in Consortium plan options, and that failure to comply with this provision may be grounds for termination from participation in the Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen previously submitted an official resolution in 2019 authorizing the Village to join the Consortium in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the GTCMHIC Municipal Cooperative Agreement, and

WHEREAS, at the time of joining the Consortium, the Village of Watkins Glen did not enroll all active employees into Consortium coverage as required by Section A.5. of the MCA due to existing collective bargaining agreement conditions, and the Consortium granted a waiver permitting the continued offering of the Teamsters Health Insurance Plan; ; and has consecutively requested continuing the waiver, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen has determined that the Consortium’s current plan offerings are not cost-effective compared to the Teamsters Health Insurance Plan available through its collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 118; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Watkins Glen hereby formally requests that the Consortium grant an extension of the existing waiver of Section A.5. of the Municipal Cooperative Agreement for a period of three (3) additional years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this requested extension will allow the Village of Watkins Glen to continue offering the Teamsters Health Insurance Plan to employees covered under the collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 118 during this period; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Watkins Glen affirms its commitment to continued participation in the Consortium and will work in good faith to evaluate future compliance with the Municipal Cooperative Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Consortium Board of Directors and Executive Committee for consideration.

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

[Resolution Supporting use of State Highway for the Grand Prix Festival](#)

Trustee Stephen Klemann motioned to adopt a resolution to support an application for use of state highway/NYS DOT for the Grand Prix festival.

WHEREAS, Watkins Glen Promotions is in the process of submitting an application for use of State Highway/NYS DOT Property for the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival to be held on Friday, September 11th, 2026, and

WHEREAS, Watkins Glen Promotions needs to provide written proof from the Village of Watkins Glen, through which the event passes, stating that there is no objection to the event taking place, and

WHEREAS, the Village Clerk is listed as the contact person for any questions or concerns for this resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; the Board of Trustees of the Village of Watkins Glen have no objections to the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival taking place as requested.

Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

[Fire Protection Services - Wastewater](#)

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve the procurement request by wastewater for the necessary labor, material, and equipment to replace sprinkler systems & backflow preventer deficiencies by Davis-Ulmer Fire Protection for \$5,030. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. After further discussion, all members opposed on the basis that they did not agree David-Ulmer was classified correctly as a “sole source” and citing the need for the minimum quotes from other sources. Motion denied.

AUDIT

General Audit

Trustee Bob Carson made a motion to approve the general audit dated February 13, 2026 in the following amounts:

General	\$56,873.35	Sewer	\$114,884.17
Electric	\$12,857.66	Water	\$15,745.13
Joint Activity (CVWRF)	\$7,529.81	Water Improvements	\$2,596.00
Biosolids Disposal Study	\$2,000		

Totaling: \$212,486.12

Trustee Stephen Klemann seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

BOARD CONCERNS

Public hearing on several local laws will be held on March 17, 2026. The list of all laws is available on the village website.

ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Bob Carson made a motion to adjourn at 5:42p.m. Trustee Stephen Klemann seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Fred Warrick
Village Clerk