

**MAYOR JAMES M. JAROSZYNSKI
TRUSTEE ANTHONY CAVALLARO
TRUSTEE TIMOTHY DUNN-excused
TRUSTEE ALAN GUSTAFSON JR.
TRUSTEE NIKKI PIERCE**

**GREGORY PETERSON, ATTORNEY
CINDY CAPESTRANI, VILLAGE CLERK
PAULA SPUNAUGLE, TREASURER
KEITH BABCOCK, 1st ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF
PAUL CAPITANO, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
AVERY FAULKNER, DPW SUPERINTENDENT
LAURIE BECKER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

The regular meeting of the Village of Falconer Mayor and Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Firemen's Exempt Hall with Mayor James Jaroszynski presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance & Roll:

Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Cavallaro, Trustee Pierce and Mayor Jaroszynski were all present.

Visitors

Nina Gustafson Ian Webster Joseph Taylor Chris Blakeslee – Post Journal Alan Gustafson Sr.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

VISITORS ARE ALLOWED A MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) MINUTES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD. THIS IS **NOT** THE TIME OR PLACE FOR A DEBATE. IT IS A MEETING FOR THE BOARD TO CONDUCT VILLAGE BUSINESS. ALL COMPLAINTS/REQUESTS WILL BE CONSIDERED AND REVIEWED AT A LATER TIME.

Visitor Comments

- Joe Taylor, village resident – Railroad Avenue, between E. Main and E. Falconer Street has deteriorated with potholes and he wanted to bring it to the attention of the village board. Also, would like to request the village put garbage cans in the public parking area behind E. Main Street to eliminate garbage being thrown out of their cars in that area.
- Ian Webster, village resident – As a 13-year member of the Falconer Fire Department, he presented a proposal from the volunteer firemen to purchase helmet cameras. The cameras would be purchased by the Falconer Firemen's Association. The association approved the purchase of 5 cameras pending legal and village board approval. Training would be the main purpose of the helmet cameras, showing potential new firemen what they are getting into, as well as reviewing past fire scenes to use to improve upon procedures in handling fires. A Helmet Camera Policy was given to the village clerk to be given to the board for review and consideration at a future board meeting.

Mobile Food Unit Regulations – review draft copy – set public hearing date

- Alan Gustafson Sr., Village Planning Board Chairman, presented an amended Chapter 90 Peddling, Vending and Soliciting Law to include language for food trucks. In addition to the proposed law, the Planning Board is recommending the following fee for the license after reviewing area municipality fees.
 - Initial fee: \$50 to include one day, and a \$10 fee for each additional day with a \$300 per year maximum.
 - Annual fire inspection fee: \$50 (applies to mobile food vehicles required to have an annual inspection as required by the Fire Code of New York State.)

- The fee structure will not be included in the local law and can be amended from time to time by resolution of the Village Board of Trustees.
- If the Village Board agrees with the proposed language in the amended law, the next step is to schedule a public hearing to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed law.

The Planning Board will next be reviewing and updating the current sign regulations in the Village Code as it was not part of the re-zoning process in 2020.

Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to schedule a public hearing for the Peddling, Vending and Soliciting local law at the next board meeting on April 14th, 2025 at 6pm. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Minutes

Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gustafson to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Work Session Board of Trustees Meeting. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gustafson to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Regular Board of Trustee Meeting. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Mayors Remarks

- Mayor Jaroszynski recognized the service to the village of two individuals that recently passed. Emily Lodestro was a past Vice President of the Library Board, helped with many library book sales and was very involved with community events. Lance Spicer served as a county legislator for the Falconer area for over 30 years and was county chairman from 1990 to 1995.

Fire Chief

The Fire Chief's February report was reviewed and noted that the department responded to 23 EMS calls, 28 cancelled in route, 2 motor vehicle accident with injuries, 2 cover assignment, 1 chimney fire, 1 fuel burner malfunction, 1 assist invalid, 2 alarm system malfunction, 1 smoke detector activation malfunction, 1 extrication of victim from vehicle, 1 smoke scare, 1 motor vehicle accident with no injuries, 1 brush fire, 1 water/steam leak, 1 trash fire contained, 67 total incidents.

Mutual Aid Breakdown - February 2025

Given: Jamestown-3, Frewsburg-1, Kennedy-7, Fluvanna-3, Gerry-2, total 16

Received: Medic 74-3, Alstar-13, Kennedy-5, Gerry-2, total 23

Highlights:

- ***Review/Approval of 2 Membership Applications***
 - Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gustafson to approve Allisandria Jaye Durnell into the Falconer Hose Company for firefighter and EMS. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
 - Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve Amy Lynn Newhall into the Falconer Hose Company, EMS only. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Code Enforcement

The February code officer report was reviewed. It was noted 2 building permit totaling \$175 was issued this past month, totaling \$250 year-to-date.

Highlights:

- Dunkin Donuts will be starting renovations this spring on the old M&T building
- A 3-bay old garage on Richard Avenue behind Waddingtons was demolished and the area fenced in
- Jim Sirianno is moving forward on a three-phase retail plaza project behind 56 E. Main Street. Site plans will be presented at an upcoming Planning Board meeting.

Department of Public Works

The DPW report was submitted for the month of February 2025.

Highlights:

- Painted interior of DPW shop, repairs to equipment.
- Office furniture built and new ceiling tiles installed in village offices.
- D&S Glass door for the library – to be installed March 19th
- Busy month snow plowing, snow removal, cold patching potholes, clearing drains due to flooding.
- Working on an RFP for a total road reconstruction on W. James between Homestead and Hickory.
- Will look at approach on Railroad Avenue near Burger King and fill hole with cold patch for now.
- Trustee Gustafson thanked Superintendent Faulkner for the work done in the Clerks’ office – it looks much more inviting and welcoming.

Library

The February 10, 2024 – March 10, 2025 Library report was reviewed.

Highlights:

- Thank you to the DPW crew for cleaning the mats in the library, many patrons noticed and made positive comments.
- The library is displaying the artwork of local home school families for the month of March and will host an open house/reception on Saturday, March 8th from 10:00 am – 11:00 am.
- The library staff is busy preparing for this summer reading program which kicks off on June 27th and runs for 4 weeks. The theme this year is “Color our World” and they are asking permission to “Yarn Bomb” the trees in front of the library. This entails piecing together knitted yarn squares to wrap around the trees, adding a splash of color. The knitting group suggested making scarfs to wrap around the trees instead of granny squares. At the end of summer, they can be taken down, washed and given away to those in need for the winter season. The board liked the idea and gave their approval for the project.
- The annual book sale will be August 7-9th, 2025.
- The next library board meeting will be on Thursday, March 13th at 8:00 am.

Committees:

Finance:

• ***Budget Modification***

Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution #7-2025 Budget Modifications to the 2024-2025 General Fund Budget as shown:

REVENUES

INCREASE: A1710	Public Works	\$701.22
A2770	Misc Income-Reimbursement from Lakeview Cemetery	\$1,211.45
A917	Unassigned Fund Balance-Fire Hall Overhead Doors	\$17,650

APPROPRIATIONS

INCREASE: 5110.2	Equipment Parts for Bucket Truck	\$701.22
3410.4	Contractual Fire Dept	\$1,211.45
3420.4	Fire Hall Maintenance Contractual	\$17,650

Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

• ***FY 25/26 Proposed Budget Presentation:***

The proposed 2025-2026 budget reflects a real property tax rate of \$8.61/\$1000 of assessment, which is a proposed tax increase of \$0.03. Last years' tax rate was \$8.58/\$1000. This proposed increase is within the limits of the NYS Property Tax Cap Law.

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 as presented

<i>Appropriations</i>	<i>\$1,704,438</i>
<i>Revenues</i>	<i><u>\$1,704,438</u></i>
<i>Balanced Budget</i>	<i>(\$ 0)</i>

Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to table the villages 2025-2026 fiscal year budget for 30 days as written. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

The board scheduled a budget workshop for Monday, March 31 at 5:00 pm in the Community Building Board Room.

Legal:

- Falconer Night at the Tarp Skunk ballgame is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23rd at 5pm.

Public Safety:

- The Fire Advisory Board (FAB) met and worked on the proposed 2025/2026 Fire Department Budget with Treasurer Spunaugle.
- NYS V-Fire Grant Award for \$325,000 Update – the grant is a reimbursement-based program. There are many requirements that need to be followed, sending out RFP's, showing that women and minority-owned businesses were searched out, and providing quarterly reporting. Due to having to pay for the projects before receiving the grant money, projects will be done one at a time, submitted and then once reimbursed, the next project can be started. The three projects to be funded with the grant are: a new roof for the fire hall, a generator and a tower for the fire horn. Superintendent Faulkner, who is responsible for the village buildings and grounds, will evaluate the projects and start with the one that is the most needed project.
- A resident sent in a request to Trustee Cavallaro to look at posting a sign at the corner of East Avenue and East James eliminating a right turn to alleviate the traffic that is backing up during school drop off and pick up times. Superintendent Faulker will look into the issue.

Downtown Development:

- Information on the PAINT CHQ project was handed out which included a recap of the first steering committee that was held on March 4, 2025. The meeting was led by Alexandra Hall, a public art consultant who is coordinating the PAINT CHQ initiative with the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG). The Falconer Steering Committee will meet monthly to coordinate efforts and track progress. A public workshop will be held at the Fire Exempt Hall on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 5 pm for residents to learn more about the project and provide input. Those unable to attend the workshop can still provide input by completing the PAINT CHQ Public Art Feedback Survey, which will guide the mural's theme so that it reflects Falconer's identity. A PAINT CHQ countywide public art festival is scheduled for Sept. 7-13, 2025.

- A grant was applied for through the CCPEG to develop design guidelines for our downtown area, something that was outlined in the village's comprehensive plan. This would provide building design guidelines that would fit the aesthetics of what the Village of Falconer is looking for. If awarded, the grant would be used to hire an architectural firm to help with a design guideline booklet.
- Still waiting on the announcement for the NY Forward grant award for the Western NY Region.

Farmers Market:

- Trustee Pierce shared the updated participation rules and regulations for the 2025 Falconer Farmers' and Artisans' Market. She would like the market to be a "community gathering" space and would like to add events such as a children's story hour, yoga in the park and music in the gazebo during the market. Trustee Pierce also met with the Falconer High School Principal, Mr. Jordan, and Ms. Scholeno with ideas to get the youth more involved in this event.
- Highlighted changes and ideas for this year:
 - Name of market updated to Falconer Farmers' and Artisans' Market.
 - Changed the market day from Friday to Saturdays from 10am – 4pm starting May 31st through August 23.
 - Charging a minimal participation fee of \$10 per week (May 31st will be a "soft opening" event at no charge) or \$100 for all 12 weeks. The money would be used at the end of the season to host an "end of season" family event.
 - Applications will need to be approved and applicants will need to submit a representative photo of items they are planning to sell.

Mayor Jaroszynski suggested that the board review the information given and come back with any questions at the next board meeting.

Parks:

- Nothing to report

Pine Hill Cemetery:

- As soon as spring weather arrives, the cemetery will be busy cleaning up the cemetery grounds.

Planning/Zoning Board

- The Planning Board met on March 6th, 2025 and approved the draft amending Chapter 90, Peddling, Vending and Soliciting in the code book. The next Planning Board meeting will be on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Community Building Board Room.

Old Business:

- ***Negative Declaration Resolution #8-2025 for Village Sanitary Sewer System Project***
Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to approve Resolution #8-2025 Negative Declaration for the Village of Falconer Sanitary Sewer System Improvement Project. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Paint CHQ – Public Workshop***
The public workshop will be on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 5pm in the Firemen's Exempt Hall
- ***Memorial Day Parade – discussion***
Mayor Jaroszynski noted that it has come to our attention that the Henry Mosher American Legion Post 638 will not be able to coordinate the Falconer Memorial Day Parade. Alan Gustafson Sr. has stepped forward and will help to organize the parade. Library Director Laurie Becker will provide information she has from previous years when she worked on the parade line-up.

New Business:

- ***Annual Easter Egg Hunt – discussion***

It has also come to our attention that the Henry Mosher American Legion Post 638 will not be coordinating the village annual Easter Egg Hunt this year. Mayor Jaroszynski noted that the village will make this event happen and set the date for Saturday, April 12th at 10 am in Falconer Park.

- ***Beautification Day – discussion***

Beautification Day (formerly Spring Clean-up) has been set for May 10th, 2025 from 9am – 12pm.

- ***Local Law #1-2025 – Review and set public hearing date for Zoning amendment***

Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to set the date for a Public Hearing for Local Law 1-2025 as April 14, 2025 at 6pm. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

- ***Resolution to dispose of village surplus inventory from board room (listed below)***

- Black storage cabinet (drawer broken) and computer desk with hutch

Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to dispose of village surplus inventory as noted above. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: non. Carried.

Correspondence:

- ***Abstract Audit – Trustee Gustafson***

Trustee Gustafson's letter, dated March 10, 2025, which acknowledged his review on March 9-10, 2025 of the unpaid vouchers for Abstract #10 (FY 24/25) and bank reconciliations from M&T Bank, Community Bank and NYCLASS for the month of January 2025 was placed into record.

- ***Thank you note***

A thank you note from the family of Emily Lodestro was acknowledged.

Abstracts

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Cavallaro and seconded by Trustee Pierce that Abstract #10, General Fund in the amount of \$72,771.78 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Gustafson and seconded by Trustee Pierce that Abstract #10, Cemetery Fund in the amount of \$650.00 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Pierce, and seconded by Trustee Gustafson that Abstract #10, Library Fund in the amount of \$1,190.41 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Abstain, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Gustafson and seconded by Trustee Cavallaro that Abstract #10, General Fund Hand Items in the amount of \$5,949.79 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:23 p.m. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Capestrani, Village Clerk*