

**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, FIRE CHIEF
PAUL CAPITANO, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
AVERY FAULKNER, DPW SUPERINTENDENT - excused
LAURIE BECKER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

The regular meeting of the Village of Falconer Mayor and Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, October 14, 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. Trustee Dunn was absent.

Visitors

Alan & Nina Gustafson	Alexis Birath	Katie Pierce	Bailey Olson
Emily Rhinehart	Gracie Lisciandro	Chief Ingrao – Town of Ellicott Police	

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

- No visitor comments

Minutes

Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gustafson to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 Regular Board of Trustee Meeting. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Mayors Remarks

- Mayor Jaroszynski commented on the busy village activities that took place this summer:
 - Farmers Market, Band Concerts and a Family Movie Night in Davis Park
 - 2nd Annual CHQ Chamber Made in Falconer 2nd event showcasing Falconer manufacturing
 - Unveiling of the mural on State Lanes Bowling
 - 1st Annual FALLconerFEST
- The village is still working on seeking sewer improvement funding
- Will be applying for the 2025 NY Forward Grant
- Received a grant for our record keeping to update our record room
- Applied for the Chautauqua County 3% Occupancy Tax Grant for improvements to Davis Park

- Mayor Jaroszynski also read a statement in response to the recent media coverage regarding the use of the Quality Inn as temporary housing for homeless individuals.

Key points made in the statement:

- The Quality Inn is located in the Town of Ellicott, not the Village of Falconer and the village had no role in the decision to utilize the facility.
- Concerns have been communicated to county officials by the village, town and school in the past and they will continue to meet in the future to work for a better solution to the issue.

Fire Chief

The Fire Chief's September report was reviewed and reported that the department responded to 33 EMS calls, 26 cancelled in route, 1 assist police, 3 cover assignment, 2 motor vehicle with injuries, 1 good intent call, 1 smoke scare, 1 building fire, 1 vehicle accident general cleanup, 1 false alarm, 1 assist invalid, 1 brush fire, 72 total incidents.

Mutual Aid Breakdown – September 2025

Given: Frewburg-1, Kennedy-3, Fluvanna-1, Jamestown-2, total 7

Received: Medic 74-2, A-74-5, Kiantone-1, Alstar-10, Gerry-1, Tech Rescue-1, total 20

- ***Review/Approval of 1 Membership Application***

- Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve Eric James Loman into the Falconer Hook and Ladder Company for firefighter and EMS. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Code Enforcement

The code officer report for September was reviewed. There were 8 building permits issued this past month totaling \$782.50 for a year-to-date total of \$4,067.50

Highlights:

- Dunkin to start work soon
- 221 E. Pearl Street new build to start soon
- Empty lot on the corner of North Dow Street and Main Street - grass finally cut
- Completed 24 hours of Code Enforcement continuing education training

Department of Public Works

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

Highlights:

- Reconstruction work on West James Street between Homestead and Hickory has been completed
- A tree order has been submitted (10 oak, 5 flowering cherry, 5 flowering lilac, and 5 maple) The trees should be delivered by the end of October and will be planted in November.
- Leaf pick-up started in the village and will continue until completed
- The generator for the Fire Hall is on order and should be delivered in early 2026
- Trustee Pierce has shared photos with Superintendent Faulkner regarding planted shrubbery ideas for Main Street.
- DPW Surplus Equipment – Pull Saw, K-12 saw, and Leaf cart and blower for X580. Equipment is outdated and has been replaced with newer equipment. Will try to sell on Auctions International but if not sold will be disposed of. Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro for Avery to either auction the surplus items and/or throw them away. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- Mayor Jaroszynski relayed a request to Superintendent Faulkner from Prevention Works to light our building in red for National Red Ribbon Week from October 23 – October 31, 2025.

Library

The September 8, 2025 – October 14, 2025 Library report was reviewed.

Highlights:

- It was Fire Safety Day at Story Hour this week! Thank you to Katie, Liz, Ian and Terrell from the Falconer Fire Department for sharing stories, important information, and allowing our students to see a fire truck and ambulance up close. We appreciate all that you do for our community.
- Library patron Sue Johnson led a class on September 17th making pumpkins from discarded book pages and the craft group on October 7th making the annual library patron Christmas ornaments.
- Celebrating National 4H Week October 5-11th with a display of projects completed by local members.
- Board President Steve Swanson, Sandy Theis and Laurie Becker attended the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System Annual Workshop and meeting on October 8th in Ellicottville.
- The library will host an art display for the month of November featuring the works of local artist and Falconer Central School art teacher, Aleida Foulk. There will be visits from local authors, TJ Buck and Dawn Swanson on November 1st for National Author Day.
- The next library board meeting will be on Thursday, November 13th at 8:00 am.

Finance:

- The board received a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement from the Town of Ellicott to provide Tax Collection Services for the village for the next 3-years. The current agreement expires on December 31, 2025. There was a discussion regarding continuing the service or having the village collect their own taxes. The village tax collection period runs June through September. Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to table the memorandum of agreement for one month. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried
- ***Budget Modification***
Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to approve Resolution # 23-2025 Budget Modifications to the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget as shown:

REVENUES

INCREASE: A2770	Misc Income-received from County for Mural Festival	\$1,500
A3990	Sanitary Grant-received from BPU for Sanitary Grant	\$25,000
A3990	Sanitary Grant-received from grant to replace in BPU fund	\$25,000
A2680	Insurance Recoveries	\$3,827.66
A887	Street Equipment Reserve	\$158,936

APPROPRIATIONS

INCREASE: 8150.4	Beautification	\$1,500
8120.4	Sanitary	\$25,000
8120.4	Sanitary	\$25,000
5110.4	DPW Contractual	\$3,827.66
5110.2	Street Equipment- 10-wheeler body - payment	\$128,936
5110.4	Street Contractual Sidewalks	\$30,000

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

Legal:

- Nothing to report.

Committees:

Public Safety:

Dog Control Officer Inspection Report

- The Dog Control Officer Inspection Report was reviewed and shows a satisfactory rating after an inspection was conducted on 9/2/2025.
- Thank you to Chief Ingrao for placing the speed trailer and presence on Central Avenue as it has helped to slow traffic on that road.
- Mayor Jaroszynski commented about a recent issue with a loose dog in the village. The municipality that issues the dog licenses is responsible for dog control, which would fall onto the Town of Ellicott since they do the licensing for the village. Since they do not have a Dog Control Officer, it falls onto the Town of Ellicott Police. Trustee Gustafson mentioned that the village local law under animal control designates the duties to an animal control officer. It was suggested to request Matt Abbey to attend the next board meeting to review what his duties are for the village.

Downtown Development:

- The Mural Festival event held on September 13th brought a lot of activities to the village.
- West Main Street Mercantile received the “Emerging Business of the Year” award at the CHQ Chamber Annual Award banquet held on October 2. Falconer Power Sport, which is in the Town of Ellicott, was also recognized for 50 years in business.
- Waiting for a debrief from the Chamber on the recent Made in Falconer event held on October 4.
- NY Forward/DRI Business Owner call for projects meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15th at 5pm in the Falconer Library.
- A public workshop will be held on Monday, October 20th at 5pm in the Falconer Library for residents to share their ideas about what would make Falconer a better village in the future.

Farmers Market:

- This season has concluded and thoughts are to move to Sunday and possibly every other week for next year.

Parks:

- Nothing to report.

Pine Hill Cemetery:

- There were 2 burials this past month.

Planning/Zoning Board

- The Planning Board met on October 2 and is working on updating the village’s current sign law.

Historian Update

- Village Historian Brenda Cavallaro recently received a 1950 circus poster donated from Attorney Peterson that has a connection to the small elephant on the mural. The circus was important to the village many years ago. The poster features a hippo, Mr. Otto, as hippos were trained to perform in the circus in those days. Attorney Peterson had the poster from the days when his grandfather, whose name was Otto, used to take him to the circus in Falconer as a kid.
- The elephant was not on the original mural design. In speaking with one of the apprentices working on the project, Brenda gave them a small history lesson, mentioning that the circus came to town on the train and how the elephants paraded up Main Street. The next day, it was noticed that a small elephant was added to the industry part of the mural, raising questions as to the significance.

Old Business:

- Nothing to report.

- **New Business:**
- ***Resolution #22-2025 to Authorize Submission of the 2025 NY Forward Application***
Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gustafson to approve Resolution #22-2025 to authorize submission of the 2025 NY Forward Application. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Resolution #25-2025 to support County Proposal to Establish a Government Efficiency Fund***
Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution #25-2025 authorization and support of the submission of the grant application by the Village of Falconer for the 2025 Downtown Revitalization Initiative Program. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Resolution #24-2025 to support County proposal to Establish a Government Efficiency Fund***
Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution # 24-2025 supporting Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr's proposal to establish a government efficiency fund to encourage shared services, mergers, consolidations, and dissolutions. Discussion: Trustee Gustafson is in support of looking into this to save taxpayer's money if it is beneficial and makes sense for all parties involved. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Chautauqua County 3% Occupancy Tax Grant Application***
Mayor Jaroszynski informed the board that the village has applied for the Chautauqua County 3% Occupancy Tax grant for improvements in Davis Park.
- ***Consideration for Approval of FCS Homecoming Parade & Bonfire***
Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to approve the Falconer Senior High School Council to hold a parade and bonfire, this Thursday, October 16th with the bonfire dependent on the NYS burn ban. Discussion: Mayor Jaroszynski will contact the school to express concerns regarding candy throwing towards parade spectators and request that adults be assigned to walk alongside floats to monitor. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Consideration for Approval of Fire Department Boot Drive Fund Raiser***
Trustee Cavallaro made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pierce to approve the Fire Department Boot Drive on October 25, from 9am – 1pm as per the detailed map of the four corners of Falconer. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Set Halloween Hours for Friday, October 31 – Last year 5-7pm.***
Trustee Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to approve the Halloween hours for Friday, October 31st from 5 – 7pm. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Santa Parade Permission – Falconer Rotary***
- Trustee Pierce made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cavallaro to approve the request from the Rotary Club to sponsor the Santa Parade on Saturday, November 22 starting at 5pm. Roll: Gustafson: Abstain, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.
- ***Rotary Club Project Update***
Rotary Club member, Nina Gustafson informed the board that Rotary has applied for the 3% Occupancy Grant to rebuild the Santa House. If awarded, the grant will be used to expand the size of the Santa House, make it ADA compliant, update the electric and make other improvements in Coleson Park. These improvements would allow the Santa House to be used for other functions.

Correspondence:

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

Trustee Gustafson's letter, dated October 14, 2025, which acknowledged his review on October 14, 2025 of the unpaid vouchers for Abstract #5 (FY 25/26) and bank reconciliations from M&T Bank, Community Bank and NYCLASS for the month of August 2025 was placed into record.

- ***Resident letter from Kevin Pierce – Issue regarding the use of engine brakes in the village***

Falconer resident Kevin Pierce is requesting the village to implement a village ordinance prohibiting the use of engine brakes within the village limits. Clerk Capestrani noted that she had found this to be an issue that was brought up in the village back in 2006.

More research needs to be done on the legality of prohibiting the use, especially on Main Street which is a state road.

- ***Resident letter from Amanda McAllister – Annual chicken permit fees & Neighborhood Notification Law***

The board feels that the annual chicken permit is reasonable and is similar to an annual dog license fee. As per the village law, if there are any complaints received regarding any chicken permits issued, the issue is to be brought before the board. The board may not renew any chicken permit for any reason after the permit holder and any interested party has been heard. Trustee Gustafson will look further into municipality ordinances regulating lawn spraying. Lawn contractors are required to put up signs that is regulated by the DEC.

- Mayor Jaroszynski received correspondence that he also forwarded onto the Town of Ellicott Police Department from a resident who had an opinion on the placement of speed zone cameras on Central Avenue and also the speed enforcement on N. Work Street. Records from the Town of Ellicott court show there are a lot of speed tickets issued on the 25 mile an hour zone on N. Work Street as well in the Village of Falconer and Town of Ellicott.

Abstracts

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Cavallaro and seconded by Trustee Gustafson that Abstract #5, General Fund in the amount of \$314,581.04 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Aye, Pierce: Abstain and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Gustafson and seconded by Trustee Pierce that Abstract #5, Cemetery Fund in the amount of \$242.25 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 #5, Library Fund in the amount of \$1,942.86 be approved for payment. Roll: Gustafson: Aye, Cavallaro: Abstain, Pierce: Aye, and Jaroszynski: Aye. Nays: none. Carried.

Motion: It is moved by Trustee Cavallaro and seconded by Trustee Pierce that Abstract #5, General Fund Hand Items in the amount of \$13,616.90 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 7:08 p.m. Ayes: All, Nays: None. Carried.

*Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Capestrani, Village Clerk*