

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

PRESENT: Trustee Brown, Trustee Cook, Trustee Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro
EXCUSED: Trustee Gray

APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH PASKEVICH AS PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that

Whereas, the Village has previously implemented the use of part-time Police Officers, and

Whereas, interviews have been conducted, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that Joseph Paskevich is appointed to the position of Part-Time Police Officer effective August 14, 2025

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Mayor and Chief Halbfinger swore in Officer Paskevich.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Bucciferro opened the privilege of the floor at 6:40p.m.

Beverly King of 8 Sanders Ave; concerned with thru traffic at the dead of Sanders Ave related to the Glen Sanders project.

Stephen Urbanski of 11 Riverside Place; opposed to demolition of the Flint House; property contains a lot of history. Opposed to the Glen Sanders development; need to preserve historic sites.

Mayor Bucciferro closed the privilege of the floor at 6:44p.m.

LOCAL LAW 2025-D RELATING TO NO STOPPING

Tom Milander, Village Traffic Engineer, stated the legislation is in place at the request of the Fire Department in order to have a clear area in front of the station for responses.

a) Public Hearing

Mayor Bucciferro opened the public hearing at 6:46p.m.

Tom Gifford of 203 Lincoln St; concerned with the loss of parking spaces for the businesses along Mohawk Avenue; currently drives fire trucks out of the station and this area is not a concern.

Mayor Bucciferro closed the public hearing at 6:48p.m.

b) Action

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that

Whereas, a public hearing was held, this night, August 13, 2025 on proposed Local Law 2025-D relating to No Stopping, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees adopts proposed Local Law 2025-D.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

August 13, 2025

LOCAL LAW 2025-E RELATING TO 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Tom Milander, Village Traffic Engineer, provided the following information related to Local Law 2025-E:

Village of Scotia Speed Limit 25

The Village of Scotia is requesting the posted Speed Limit on all streets (State Highways, collector streets, and residential streets) to be at 25 miles per hour.

During the recent five years (January 2020 through December June 2025) there have been 640 vehicle collisions of which

- 15 were vehicle bicycle collisions (mostly with children ages 11 to 15 years of age)
- 12 were vehicle pedestrian collisions (with adults of over 50 years of age)
- 78 involved vehicles colliding into roadside objects such as utility poles, signs, hydrants
- 84 involved vehicles colliding into vehicles parked along the curb
- 144 involved vehicles traveling too fast and too close colliding in rear end collisions
- 79 involved vehicles making left turns
- 61 involved vehicles not yielding at intersections and colliding into the side of a vehicle
- 106 involved vehicles going around other vehicle and sideswiping the other vehicle.

The leading causes of vehicle collisions include

- 45% Driver inattention
- 19% Failure to yield to traffic
- 14% Following too Closely
- 11% Using the parking lanes as traffic lanes
- 10% Turning improperly – cutting the corners

The Village of Scotia during the recent seven years (January 2018 through December 2024) has experienced 21 vehicle - pedestrian collisions resulting in 3 fatalities and 13 personal injuries. 10 of the vehicle-pedestrian collisions occurred on State Highways intersections and 5 of the collisions occurred on side street intersections with State Highways.

The Village of Scotia during the recent seven years (January 2018 through December 2024) has experienced 11 vehicle – bicycle collisions resulting in 9 personal injuries. 7 of the vehicle-bicycle collisions occurred on State Highways:

However, the collisions were the result of vehicle speed exceeding the stopping ability of the vehicle to avoid the collision. While driving a vehicle (car, SUV, truck, or even a bicycle) you must first observe a hazard, react to the hazard and stop the vehicle.

Traveling at 30 mph your vehicle will travel a distance of 110 feet while your mind sees a hazard and reacts by applying the brakes, the vehicle takes another 100 feet to stop the vehicle on level dry roadway. Upon your seeing a hazard and stopping the vehicle will take time to passing two residences. Therefore, your attention has to be at least two residences ahead of your vehicle at all times.

August 13, 2025

Traveling at 40 mph your vehicle will travel a distance of 150 feet while your mind sees a hazard and reacts by applying the brakes, the vehicle takes another 155 feet to stop the vehicle on level dry roadway. Upon your seeing a hazard and stopping the vehicle will take time to passing three residences.

Traveling at 25 mph your vehicle will travel 90 feet while your mind sees a hazard and reacts by applying the brakes, the vehicle takes another 60 feet to stop the vehicle. Upon your seeing a hazard and stopping the vehicle will take time to passing one residence.

The Village of Scotia is requesting the posted Speed Limit on all streets (State Highways, collector streets, and residential streets) to be at 25 miles per hour. The objective of the 25-mph speed limit reduces vehicle speed to improve the stopping ability of the vehicle to avoid the collision.

Mayor Bucciferro stated that the State has approved a 25mph speed limit on Mohawk Avenue from Vine St. to Western Gateway Bridge. The Village also asked for reduced speed limits on Rt. 147 and Rt. 50; the State denied original request, the Village will continue to pursue.

a) Public Hearing

Mayor Bucciferro opened the public hearing at 6:50p.m.

Brian Sleasman of 111 Vley Rd.- moved to the Village for walkability; strongly supports reduction in speed limit as first step. Thankful for law enforcement; consider next step of encouraging people to slow down.

Charlie Brooks of 148 Sixth St.-supports reduction of speed limit; walks the park often; concerned with speed of traffic coming off bridge and along Ballston Avenue.

Jeff Silvernail of 111 No. Toll St.-walks and bikes village; favors reduction and encourage the board to appeal to state the limit on all state roads. Encouraged visual enforcement.

Kim Dreisenstock of 7Washington Ave.-supports reduction of speed limit; concerned with speed limit of cars coming off bridge.

Aaron Gruenberg of 354 Vley Rd.- Supports reduction in speed limit; traffic safety is changing across the nation.

Tad Boniewski of 503 Charles St.-asked if just vinyl on the existing signs could be changed to reflect the new speed limit.

Tom Gifford of 203 Lincoln St.-signage needs to be in place prior to enforcement; concerned with surrounded by 30 mph roads.

Bonnie Belfance of 121 Jay St.-crossing guard Albion and Meriline; suggested lowering speed limit additional 5 mph near schools.

Sue VanVorst of 146 Mohawk Ave-in addition to the reduction to 25 mph; encouraged education on attentive driving. Concerned with crossing Rt 50 at John St. toward park; encouraged crosswalk on roadway.

Mayor Bucciferro closed the public hearing at 7:30p.m.

b) Action

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that

Whereas, a public hearing was held, this night, August 13, 2025 on proposed Local Law 2025-E relating to Village Wide 25 mph Speed Limit, and

Whereas, the Village Traffic Engineer has conducted a study and confirmed said local law is in compliance with the Manual and Specification for a Uniform System of Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) maintained by the NYS Commissioner of Transportation, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees adopts proposed Local Law 2025-E.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

SENIOR PARK ATTENDANT APPOINTMENT

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, there is a vacancy in the position of Senior Park Attendant, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that Benjamin Kimble is promoted from Laborer to Senior Park Attendant effective August 18, 2025.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 2 WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that

Whereas, the Village has an agreement with New York State Department of Transportation regarding the Sunnyside Road Bridge Project, and

Whereas, the parties seek to amend the Agreement to increase funding for a project phase, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign Supplemental Agreement No. 2 to D040698 with the New York State Department of Transportation.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

A Resolution authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid eligible costs, of a transportation federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore.

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that

WHEREAS, a Project for the Sunnyside Road Bridge over Amtrak, Bridge Replacement P.I.N. 176162 (the Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80 % Federal funds and 20 % non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Scotia desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Board, duly convened does hereby

August 13, 2025

RESOLVE, that the Village Board hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby authorizes the Village of Scotia to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$73,130.00 (Seventy Three Thousand One Hundred Thirty Dollars Zero Cents) is hereby appropriated from General Fund and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Village of Scotia shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Scotia be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the Village of Scotia with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project. and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Brown, Solotruck & Mayor Bucciferro
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

CHA CONSULTING, INC PAYMENT #27

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, the Village has received a grant for the Sunnyside Road Rehabilitation or Replacement, and

Whereas, the Village entered into an agreement on July 13, 2022 with CHA Consulting for Project Architectural/Engineering services, now therefore,

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves payment #27 to CHA Consulting, Inc. for professional services related to the Sunnyside Road Rehabilitation or Replacement in the amount of \$48,857.93.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

August 13, 2025

JUSTICE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, funding has been made available under a competitive grant process through the NYS Justice Departments Justice Court Assistance Program for funding of municipal projects,

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the Village of Scotia to apply for available funding to assist with the financing of such projects for the Village Court,

Be it Resolved, that the Board of the Village of Scotia authorizes Scotia Village Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2025-26 grant cycle up to \$30,000.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AGREEMENT WITH LABELLA ASSOCIATES FOR NY FORWARD GRANT APPLICATION

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that

Whereas, the Village seeks to submit NY Forward Grant Application for 2025, and

Whereas, the Village is in need of professional services to do so, and

Whereas, LaBella Associates has submitted a proposal dated July 31, 2025 for services in regard to the grant application process, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign an agreement with LaBella Associates for 2025 NY Forward Application services as laid out in a proposal dated July 31, 2025 in the amount of \$7,500.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

BUDGET AMENDMENT

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to

Amend Fiscal Year 25-26 budget as follows:

Increase A.1440.4000 by \$7,500 for fees related to NY Forward Grant Application.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

BUDGET AMENDMENT

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown to

Amend Fiscal Year 25-26 budget as follows:

Increase A.1440.4700 by \$67,500 for CDBG Grant Administration Fees.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

BUDGET AMENDMENT

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to

Amend Fiscal Year 25-26 budget as follows:

Increase A.1640.4550 by \$50,000 for DPW Garage Door Repairs.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

UNION COLLEGE LAKE ICE MONITORING STATION

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, Christopher Tompkins of Union College has requested to install Non-invasive Lake Ice Monitoring Station of Collins Lake, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that Union College is authorized to install Non-invasive Lake Ice Monitoring Station on Collins Lake as approved by the Superintendent of Public Works for a duration at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Brown to accept the Departmental Reports with thanks.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MAYOR'S COMMENTS TO THE BOARD

Trustee Cook read the following proclamation in recognition of Ian Corbett:

WHEREAS, Ian Corbett has demonstrated exceptional dedication to Scouting America from his first-grade year as a Cub Scout in Pack 2, Scotia, New York, through his senior year of high school in Troop 3067, Glenville, New York; and

WHEREAS, Ian was recognized on Sunday, July 27, 2025, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in Scouting America, along with earning an additional seven Eagle Palms, representing thirty-five merit badges beyond the twenty-one required for the Eagle rank; and

WHEREAS, Ian is an active member of the Order of the Arrow, the national honor society of Scouting America, and in 2022 traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee, to participate in the National Order of the Arrow Conference, engaging in team building, leadership training, and other activities alongside scouts from across the country; and

WHEREAS, Ian has contributed countless hours to developing the skills of younger scouts, working at Cub Scout day camps and Rotary Scout Reservation, where he completed National Youth Leadership Training and served as a camp counselor, instructing scouts in outdoor survival, first aid, public safety, and other essential skills; and

WHEREAS, Ian earned the prestigious Dr. Bernard Harris Supernova Award from the Twin Rivers Council STEM Committee, an honor requiring significant STEM-related achievements, merit badges, research, and presentation, and remains the first and only scout in the sixteen-county Twin Rivers Council to receive this award; and

WHEREAS, for his Eagle Scout Service Project, Ian renovated the Village of Scotia's beloved "Cub Corner" park, organizing community volunteers to install a new split rail fence, update electrical service, and plant a new pine tree, fully funding the project through fundraising and donations at no cost to the Village; and

August 13, 2025

WHEREAS, “Cub Corner” has been decorated each Christmas by Cub Scout Pack 2, one of the first Cub Scout packs in the United States, and Ian is a fourth-generation member of Pack 2, with his great-grandfather, John Steadwell, having helped plant the original tree there in 1932;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scotia does hereby commend and congratulate Ian Corbett for his extraordinary achievements, leadership, and service to both the Scouting community and the Village of Scotia, and extends its best wishes for his continued success in all future endeavors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the Village of Scotia to be affixed this 13th day of August, 2025.

Mayor stated that Phase 2 of Municipal Building Project is progressing; roof was removed and ice/water barrier put down. All asbestos has been removed from building. Congratulated Freedom Park Board on their tremendous season so far. Monday will be Strategic Planning Session dedicated to a conversation on the Flint House.

CORRESPONDENCE, LIAISON AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Cook– Police -Thanked Chief Halbfinger for his work on the Village of Scotia Surveillance Camera Program and pedestrian safety signage at Vley and Cuthber St. Welcomed Officer Paskevich to police department. Thanked board for hiring discovery clerk to assist Police Department. SRO participated in active shooter drill.

Freedom Park – Thanked Police, Parks Department for all their support; coming to end of a successful season. Next year 50th anniversary of Freedom Park; 2026 celebratory year.

Trustee Brown – Zoning Board–no meeting held. Fire Dept.–close to finalizing labor contract. Special Events–discuss structure of Special Events Committee. Thanked all residents that attending meeting and their input.

Trustee Solotruck – Planning Board-meetings have been moved from first Monday of the month to first Thursday of the month; agenda and minutes are posted to website. Continued discussions of 52 Market St- will be occupied by long standing business as corporate office and storage space. Glad Phase 2 of Municipal project is moving along.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to approve the budget adjustments for the month of July,

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AUDIT OF CLAIMS

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated August 13, 2025 be allowed and ordered paid in full in the amount of \$213,200.97 charged to the H04-Capital Project Fund Further the Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized to draw checks in the claimants’ favor and in the full amount listed and charge the same to the funds listed therein.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

August 13, 2025

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated August 13, 2025 be allowed and ordered paid in full, in the amount of \$1,313,998.21 charged to the following funds.

A-General Fund \$ 268,182.37

F-Water Fund \$ 5,269.25

G-Sewer Fund \$1,040,546.59

Further the Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized to draw checks in the claimants' favor and in the full amount listed and charge the same to the funds listed therein.

Abstentions: None

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 9, 2025

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Brown that the minutes of the July 9, 2025 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: Trustee Cook

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING HELD JULY 21, 2025

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that the minutes of the July 21, 2025 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: Trustee Brown

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 5, 2025

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that the minutes of the August 5, 2025 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET TRANSFER

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown to Amend Fiscal Year 24-25 Budget as follows:

Increase G.8130.4760 by \$119,550.00; offset by a decrease to G Fund Balance for 24-25 Sewer Assessment to the City of Schenectady.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

August 13, 2025

ADDITIONAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SCHENECTADY COUNTY

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, Schenectady County utilizes a Public Surveillance Camera System (PSCS) to address criminal and quality of life concerns, and

Whereas, the County finds it of benefit to locate cameras in the Village of Scotia, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign an additional PSCS Memorandum of Understanding with Schenectady County.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to adjourn the meeting at 8:00p.m.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz

Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees