

**Village of New Berlin**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**FEB 11, 2025**

**Call to Order**

6:30 PM

**Roll Call**

Mayor Peter Lennon

Trustee Maryellen Canuel

Deputy Mayor David Smith – arrived at 6:40 PM

Trustee Kelly Banks

Absent: Trustee James Crawford

**Attendance:**

Fire Chief Don Anderson

Jared Kline

Joy Lawrence

Marti Benson

Lisa Serradilla

Richard Noble

Rich Anderson

Kathryn Dunham

Approval of 14 Jan 2025 Minutes and 23 Jan 2025 Special Meeting Minutes.

### **Public Concerns & Visitors:**

Martie – Why don't we have 24-hour ambulance service? We used to have 24-hour service. There are more calls for older people from midnight to 5:00 AM. The wait for Sherburne is excessive; multiple overnight calls overloads Sherburne at times. Mayor Pete explained that this is due to financial and staff restrictions. We have hired two new medics, two are in class, a new driver to approve and two other drivers hired. The hours of 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM have a low number of calls, but serious calls (stroke, DUI, etc.). Sherburne and New Berlin have a reciprocal relationship. We responded to 4 calls in Sherburne last month. Sherburne has two rigs & staffing issues. This is a statewide problem in rural areas. EMS is an essential service. In the Village of New Berlin, 40% is over 60 – many active/high risks.

Dave Smith: The decision was to cut back hours or close all together;

Don Anderson: The county medic coverage 8-8 & lack of volunteers;

Pete Lennon: The county repositions fly cars if we are not in service;

Lisa Serradilla: People trained in CPR/First Aid to respond before ambulance;

Pete Lennon: Newer training to medics. Also, classes are open to the public for CPR/AED.

### **Fire Department Report:**

There were 12 calls in January 2025. Pat Hill – garage in old concrete building for fire truck work. He will pick up and drop off trucks. Is he insured for driving the truck? Are we insured? There was a near collision with the ambulance vs. fire truck near NBT.

### **DPW Report:**

Jared reported that due to lots of snow, there were issues with salter (total rebuild) and a salt shortage – 300 ton used, and 120 ton ordered. There is a price hike next year of \$98.00/ton (\$68.00/ton paid for this year).

There was a water main break today (2/11/25) which was fixed within a 4-hour limit and no water boil required.

Kodye is doing good.

Pete Lennon: The sidewalk clearing of snow is being billed.

Lisa Serradilla: Stewarts corner not cleared, along with the alley near the new restaurant.

**Enforcement Officer Report:**

No Scott. Maryellen asked about a new officer. Pete suggested re-engaging the previous officer or partner with TNB.

**Grant Status:**

Pete stated there is a discussion tomorrow with Barton & Loguidice and fiscal advisors. We are waiting on funding from Dept. of Ag, EFC April/May. We will schedule pre-design session with toward the end of the month.

**SAMS Grant:**

There is a \$150,000.00 reimbursement for FD/Chobani Center. The paperwork will be done this week or next week. The total cost of project is \$1.6 million. We do not have the cost yet for the A&E Firm. Summary of project with FD funds explained.

**CD Loan:**

No change. Committee meeting to occur in the near future. The town is also going to be offering a similar program.

**CEC:**

The Egg Hunt will be on April 19<sup>th</sup>. We need someone to be the Easter Bunny. Environmental Day (Earth Day/Arbor Day) will be on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Dave said that Preferred Mutual will help. We will have a Memorial Day Parade in May. The community garage sale will be on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Community Center Painting Bids:**

There were 3 bids, waiting to receive 3<sup>rd</sup> one. The deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>. We have the paint for the gazebo.

**Safety Deposit Box:**

Do not renew.

**CHIPS:**

Waiting for payment.

**Planning:**

February 12, 2025, Meeting at 1:15 PM for lead service line inventory update. Peter Lennon informed us that Greenspace was sold. Lisa and Tom Cole own it; should discuss.

IT questions to Dave Smith. Maryellen suggested scheduling building visits – 5<sup>th</sup> project manager. Pete said that the camera installation was very slow. Dave and Jared need to get together regarding departmental phones: Cheap phones for village to use – avoiding using personal devices. Budget discussions.

Maryellen stated that she has the contract from Merzig for the Moss Street property. \$6000.00. Resolution that wasn't noted on the resolution. No date yet. Once the contract is signed, the closing takes place 60-90 days. Maryellen read Resolution 2025-3 in regard to Moss Street. Seconded by Dave. All: YES.

Two painting bids for the Village Office/Library: 607 Painting and J & J. J&J has no timeline/ insurance details. Painting grills not in 607 bid. Maryellen will call 607 and J&J tomorrow. Pete would like to make decision this week.

**New Business:**

EMS to General Fund Inter-Fund Payment: Approximately \$15,000 increments, stopped last year. EMS has first to repay to General Fund. Pittsfield reimbursement good. Report was made to State Comptroller.

Mike Cappetelli slated for next BLS course. Pete informed us that Mike wants to drive in the meantime. He has good bedside manner, medical experience and previously worked for DPW. Dave motioned to add him as a driver, Maryellen seconded it – all YES.

Maryellen read resolution 2025-4, Kelly seconded – All: YES.

Discussion involved repopulating numbers for the budget from Maryellen with the accountant's data. Maryellen can push out the initial budget spreadsheets next week (24<sup>th</sup>).

We have had the FIT proposal by Gates Cole in providing the non-emergency services for the village. It is with NBT right now. Renewal in the next couple of months. Schedule presentations with both sometime in March.

We do back bill property owners for shoveling and lawn maintenance by our DPW. How do we make it an incentive to take care of your property better? We need to figure out what we can do to get property owners to take care of their property. Proposal for the next meeting?

Resolution to approve abstracts: Resolution 2025-4 by Maryellen, seconded by Kelly. All: YES.

Kelly brought up faded and outdated village signs. Jared responded that there is no time to install. Pete suggested on Environmental Day – Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts could clean up around signs.

Parking spots on School Street Kelly stated there is no room for driving around the parking spots. Jared suggested moving spots on the other side of the street. Pete stated the curb could be modified around the municipal lot.

Hiring a cleaning service for the office: Cindy doesn't want to continue cleaning the office. Bid from The Night Shift? Broome Development or Springbrook?

**Executive Session if needed.**

The West Street curve near Hill Street is dangerous – no shoulder. We own the first piece, second ¼ acre owned by the Gage family, 3<sup>rd</sup> ½ acre owned by the Gage family. We could move the guardrail if we own the property. It is \$350-400 per piece; one would be donated if other sold. Useful for safety and for the water project. Temporary access/construction easement on Chase's property? Permanent moving of guardrail? Easement? Purchase?

Move to Exit Executive Session by Maryellen, seconded by Dave. All: YES.

Motion to adjourn: Dave, Maryellen seconded it. All: YES