

Village of New Berlin Public Hearing re: Tax Levy 10 March 2026

and

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting of 10 March 2026

Public Hearing: Opened by Mayor Pete Lennon at 6:03PM

Attendees: Michael Wesolowski, Mike Chase, Diane Chase- Richard Noble arrived during the session; Board Members in attendance: Jim Crawford, Maryellen Canuel, and Pete Lennon

Pete provided background on the proposed law allowing the Village property tax levy rate to increase, if necessary, by more than the state-directed cap of 2-percent. He described the three categories of budget funds (e.g. General Fund, EMS and Water). The tax levy being considered applies only to the General Fund as the EMS and Water are to be self-sustaining through non-property tax related sources of revenue.

It has been a practice in years past for the Board to consider and ultimately pass such a law at the beginning of the annual budget development process. If the levy rate at the filing of the final fiscal year budget does not exceed the 2-percent cap, the Village will rescind the law. The Village has not recently put forth a budget that has exceeded the 2-percent cap: in two of the last four years. Therefore, in previous years, similar laws relating to the upcoming tax year's levy rate have been rescinded.

Michael Wesolowski raised the question as to procedures instituted or updated to ensure the Village would not experience another procurement issue like the one that occurred in 2023 when the Village attempted to procure a backhoe, but fell victim of cyber crime. Pete provided, with input from Maryellen and Jim, the background on that attempted procurement and noted that the Village procurement policy has since been formally updated to eliminate the execution of "prior to delivery payments": thus a similar occurrence will not happen again. He also noted that despite the loss of funds due to that crime (which is in the hands of the Missouri Attorney General), the Board took innovative financial and fiscal management steps to reduce expenditures and increase revenue during the subsequent tax cycle. As a result, the tax levy rate for the subsequent tax year did not exceed the state directed cap.

Pete also gave an update on the status of the budget workshops and the timing of budget approval and submission. Maryellen reminded all that prior to any final action on the 2026-7 budget, there will be another public hearing. No date has yet to be set for the final budget review.

The Public Hearing ended at 6:30pm

Regularly Scheduled Meeting began at 6:30pm

Board Attendance: Mayor Pete Lennon, Trustees: Jim Crawford and Maryellen Canuel  
Trustees Absent: Dave Smith, Kelly Banks

Others Present: Jared Hanslmaier, Jared Kline, Mike Chase, Diane Chase, Michael Wesolowski, Richard Noble, Lisa Serradilla

Approval of previous month's minutes: Regular board meeting (11 February) and Special Meeting of 23 February: Motion to approve both sets of minutes made by Jim Crawford, Seconded by Maryellen: All present voted to accept.

Public Concerns:

Richard Noble: Thanks to Jared Kline and DPW for excellent job on snow removal.

Michael Wesolowski; – Zoning board has not been in existence for the past two years. Requested explanation as to what code enforcement officer is doing. Pete explained that the current job relates to properties that present potential health and safety issues to the Village and its residents: It is not directly related to other aspects of zoning or appearance. Examples include lawns that are so high that they present a risk or ticks of rodents to passers-by and snow/ice removal along sidewalks.

Pete – Formally thanked Dave Smith and Maryellen Canuel for their service to the Village during their years on the Board. Tonight is their last official meeting as Board members.

Update of Village Drinking Water Infrastructure Project: Barton & Loguidice (Carley Thomas)

Water main layout has been submitted to State Dept of Health and comments should be back by the end of the week.

Work zone/traffic signals were submitted to DOT at the beginning of Feb and B&L is following up to ensure approval.

Easement Status – 33 out of 84 completed and notarized. The Board will review the option of having another community-wide session where notaries will be available. Lisa S raised question about her easement as it will be very close to her foundation (14 North Main Street). Carley will follow up with her directly.

Carley will need to research what provisions are in place to protect homeowners from damage to their foundations during and as a result of the project. (While there is a year's coverage to protect the property owner from any damage related to the project, B&L could not provide specific details at the meeting.) More detailed answers are to be provided at the public hearing on

the 25th and will be included in the FAQ section of future updates related to the project. Pete also mentioned that the project staff will include a contract inspection rep to ensure compliance with the terms of the contract and statement of work. That person will also serve as the interface between the Village and the contractors.

The Board reminded all present of the March 25th (6:30- 8:30PM) Public Information Meeting to be led by Barton and Loguidice) at the Chobani Center. Topics will include impact of the project on the Village traffic patterns and a funding update for the project.

Well #3 (Emergency well near Genesee St and River Lane): B&L is refining the process and taking steps necessary to decommission this well. Property owner is fine with the well becoming de-commissioned and understands it will not be integrated into the new system/network.

Funding – CDBG – The resolution to approve the agreement between the Village and the Office of Housing and Community Renewal will be considered under New Business. A Request For Proposals for the hiring of a CDBG grant administrator has been reviewed by the CDBG project manager assigned to New Berlin's project. The document is ready to be sent out through three avenues as required by CDBG: 1) Directly to Identified MWBE firms, 2) posted in the Evening Sun, and 3) posted on Contract Reporter. A virtual meeting is scheduled on March 17th between the Village (Pete and Brian Pinney) and the CDBG Project Manager to review the process and to authorize the release of reimbursement funds. Barton and Loguidice will also participate.

Dept of Agriculture: Rural Development is still working through requirements of "prior to-bid" for the ultimate release the funding. Fiscal Advisors and Bond Council (Hodgson Russ) are working to collect and provide this "prior-to-bid" information to RD through B&L.

SRBC – On track. The documentation for one recent purchase of meters (Approximately \$4K) will be submitted for reimbursement within the terms of this grant.

Additional funding – The documentation/application to Congressman Riley for his advocacy of the inclusion in the FY27 Federal Appropriations Bill has been submitted. Similar applications for consideration by Senators Schemer and Gillibrand are due by March 22nd. B&L has everything they need to execute this second set of submissions.

EDU Count – 654 is new number – this is slightly higher than the original figures.

Three candidates for Village Construction Compliance Inspector position (addressed previously) have gone through preliminary interviews. B&L now needs to schedule formal interviews and select the two inspectors- one for each contract under the project.

A Pre-bid meeting needs to be scheduled for contractors to preview area to understand the Village's nuances and requirements. B&L is attempting to get the first contract out to bid in April pending approval from DoH. The bid period is recommended at four weeks, which would make

the bids due right after May board meeting (May 13). (The target for the release of for bids on Contract One (distribution lines) is the April meeting). These timelines may make it necessary to hold a special meeting on May 27 for contractor selection. Bids will come in as two parts: Part One- the baseline project and Part Two: the additives.

DPW Update: Jared Kline advised all that 192 drive-by meters have been installed to date- this is ahead of schedule. EJP will be reimbursed to install approximately 60 of the remaining meters as part of the terms (10-percent Village match) of the SRBC grant.

Fire Department – Work is being done on doors to the firehouse – particularly one that doesn't close correctly. The FD leadership is trying to get more training for team –they will have a meeting with SNB to review some joint training opportunities- perhaps as much as once month.

The Fire Dept cameras are working well. There is still a camera that will view across the lot toward the DPW to be installed. The camera procured as part of the Village-package did not work at this location as there was an unplugging risk. That camera was subsequently placed on the pole by the DPW.

The septic repairs for the Fire Dept/Chobani Center last month are working well. Will look into getting cost of the riser cost covered. FD requesting to roll over any left-over money to large equipment account for truck repairs. A grant that was applied for was not awarded: primarily due to the fact that a similar grant was awarded to Nbfd two years ago

Bids are needed for driveway sealing.

No radio coverage for the Town of New Berlin for a day this week while the service Shacktown Mountain is being shifted to Millbrook. Cannot do two-tone alerts and pagers will not go off.

The Fire Dept met with Chobani officials regarding hazmat response procedures– The current procedures are not adequate-and a plan needs to be developed to mitigate the shortfalls.

The Fire Dept received a message that their subscription to the SAMS.gov portal will soon be expiring. Pete will investigate to see what needs to happen to ensure this account which supports both the Village and the Fire Department is renewed.

The FD cannot make turn onto Lake St due to boulders at former Mirabito property. Jared H recommended moving NYSEG pole and shave corner. In the meantime, Pete will reach out to Mirabito regarding adjustments to the rocks.

Annual banquet is April 4.

EMS – Attach reports

DPW – Trucks have not yet been converted to “summer-ready”: DPW is keeping them in the winter configuration in anticipation of further adverse winter weather. Some cold patch has been applied by State to Main Street, however, given the material and application techniques, this must be considered just a temporary improvement. DPW is continuing to do some repairs on roadway areas that we can act upon- this process has been holding better. During these repairs, it has been noted that some catch basins need to be installed or replaced.

Installation of new water meters continues: Meter reference numbers for new meters are being updated by front office to enable the new, more automated billing.

DPW is looking at street sweeper options to find best rental deal – Jared anticipates the cost of rental may be around \$3300.

–DPW will be requesting to replace our salt shed – CHIPS funds can be used as the CHIPS program views such sheds as equipment. CHIPS money is likely going up slightly this year.

Ryan and Kodye are going to training for more water licenses this month. Now that weather is warmer, DPW will work on replacing the three damaged hydrants – (approx. \$4-5K apiece)

Discussion about burial process. Jim stated that the issue relates to those occasions when a burial site needs to be dug/prepared on short notice-. Options - if it’s a quick turnaround, dig could be outsourced to other municipalities or Matt Tuller. This topic will be included as the Old Business for further discussion at the April meeting. Maryellen stated that Michelle Priola did some research into this topic during the pandemic when there was a high-demand for short-notice digs. Pete suggested she be sought as a reference.

Treasurer report – Brian P. is working on having more ACH payments to streamline the process – This is a much quicker payment process and eliminates the risk of a late payment. Process is being documented and will be shared with the Board.

ARPA - The Village’s last report was submitted to our contracted reporting agent this past week for final submission and close-out. The last monies (\$57.63) were spent earlier this reporting year.

CD Loan – Attach report

Community events – Attach report. March 23 is the Easter egg stuffing event.

Cameras – The Village is waiting for NYSEG to activate power at 4-5 camera sites. Hardware is all in place. DOT also needs to approve the activation of the camera at the intersection of Lake and South Main (equipped with the License Plate Reader) as South Main is a State Highway.

Funding approved for EMS training. Funds are due in within the next few days. While most of this funding is for: 1) refresher/mandatory training for providers and drivers, and 2) community

CPR/First Aid training, a policy needs to be crafted before any of these funds can be used for individual student (provider) training reimbursement.

Clock repair – everything related to the insurance claim has been completed. Additional work needed due to wear and tear. Work is being completed pro bono.

Water tank inspection – Jared has reached out to schedule a formal inspection-date TBD: There are no known issues at this time. We also need to schedule a hydrant flushing in April.

Letter of intent between Village and Good Shepherd Communities– Good Shepherd’s CEO signed a copy, however that was an older version. David Merzig is aware and will work through Good Shepherd’s counsel to obtain a signature on the correct version. Pete will step out of negotiations. Good Shepherd counsel is also reaching out to a firm that specializes in getting legislative approval for land transfers/sales that relate to properties designated as “park” properties.

New Business:

Local Law #1: Relating to exceeding the State-directed 2-percent cap on tax levy increases. Maryellen made the motion to approve this law; Jim seconded: All approved.

Proposing to rescind the 2015 EMS policy that requires payment of only one provider during periods when the ambulance service is in a dual-provider status- The second provider has historically been reimbursed as a driver. A resolution will be developed to rescind this policy and presented at April meeting for approval

Additional Village Streets are to be included in the State’s inventory of Village-maintained roadways. This will increase future CHIPS reimbursement. The Village needs to pass a resolution requesting the State add that stretch of School Street west from Action to the top of the hill to the village-maintained inventory.

Another resolution will be initiated to add that segment of seasonal road from Chobani Field south to the Rotary pavilion area once the Village has a signed contract with Chase/Good Shepherd relating to the sale/transfer of that undeveloped parcel. The first resolution (which considers the addition of first segment) will be brought up at the April board meeting.

Resolution 2026-4 – Relating to the signature of the CDBG agreement between the Village and Office of Community Renewal Motion – Maryellen moved, Seconded by Jim; All approved

Timeero – Discussion about installing this “application” on cell phones. Timeero claims to make it “easier” to accurately track work-hours by project category. Jared and DPW team are on-board as their hours are split between the general fund and water accounts. -The board agreed to take advantage of a free month-long trial of the Timeero “app”.

Approval of New Elections Inspector –Dan Baltich to replace Jeff Keller. Dan has the hard-copy training material and the link to the supporting video training . Motion made by Jim; Seconded by Maryellen. All approved

Resolution to approve abstracts: Resolution read and motion made by Maryellen; seconded by Jim. All approved.

Maryellen made the motion to go into executive session in 8:30; Jim Seconded: All approved. .

Jim made motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:46 Motion – Maryellen Seconded: All Approved –

Maryellen made motion to adjourn - Jim Seconded - All approved

Meeting Adjourned at 8:48

# **NEW BERLIN EMS REPORT**

MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026

Please see the attached monthly call report for New Berlin EMS summarizing February 2026. The preceding report summarizes operations within and in partnership with New Berlin EMS.

## ***STAFFING***

- Staffing has been stable, with increased coverage for the Month of February. The addition of two providers, and an increase in driver shifts being picked up has contributed to higher responses filled by the New Berlin Ambulance Service.
- The New Berlin Ambulance Service is proud to announce the addition of two providers. Kyle Button (EMT-P) comes to us from Coventry Emergency Squad and Maine Emergency Squad. Button will be operating at the AEMT level, which will still allow NBEMS to bill for “ALS 1” calls. Button has been appointed as the Second Lieutenant, who will effectively be the Lieutenant of Logistics. Button will assist with tasks from monitoring CONs, departmental licensure and legal compliance, grants, resources for the agency, in addition to other duties assigned by the Captain. The second provider is Evan Grainger (EMT), who is joining us from Norwich Fire Department/EMS and Pittsfield Fire Department. Grainger shows promise and is ready to devote time to NBEMS.

## ***COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / PUBLIC EVENTS***

- NBEMS provided standby coverage for the Ice Water Rescue training for the New Berlin Fire Department on Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Captain Whitaker provided NBEMS’s first AHA CPR/AED refresher for a member of the community in need of recertification.
- Continuing to build relationships with the community through interactions and public outreach.
- Continuing to work closely with Village of New Berlin DPW, New Berlin Fire Department, and Town of New Berlin Police Department.

## ***OPERATIONS***

- The Statements of Deficiency issued to the New Berlin Ambulance Service by the NYS Bureau of EMS and Trauma Systems has been satisfied and closed.
- All controlled substances have been inventoried and returned to the pharmacy at Chenango Memorial Hospital with the release of Paramedic-level services with NBEMS. Inventory forms have been signed off by the Medical Director and submitted to the state.
- DOH-4362 form has been submitted to NYS Bureau of EMS and Trauma Systems, indicating our reduction from Paramedic-level services to AEMT-level services with Medical Director authorization.
- Captain Whitaker and Lieutenant Button have completed all paperwork for the renewal of the Town of New Berlin CON. The Town of New Berlin will be submitting all required paperwork to the state to make the March 31<sup>st</sup> expiration date.
- The Zoll AutoPulse is out of service until further notice due to a mechanical issue with the abdominal band. The Zoll representative has been contacted and options are being presented to either repair the device or find an alternative device.
- Captain Whitaker attended the quarterly Chenango County EMS Council meeting. Present were Captains from other EMS agencies throughout the county, to include the county EMS Coordinator, Deputy EMS Coordinator, Chief Dispatcher, and the Medical Director.
- The New Berlin Ambulance Service has continued to utilize the bus wash, courtesy of the Unadilla Valley School District Transportation Department with no issue.
- The New Berlin EMS website is live, and is located at: [www.newberlinems.org](http://www.newberlinems.org). This is a comprehensive resource for NBEMS to the public relating to information about the department, our providers, our services, billing, coverages and standby requests, etc.

## ***SHOUT-OUTS***

- Captain Bryan Whitaker would like to thank the New Berlin Fire Department for their hospitality with the Ice Water Rescue training this month.
- A thank you is given to the Unadilla Valley School District Transportation Department for continuing to allow us to utilize their bus wash.
- Captain Bryan Whitaker would like to thank the Norwich Fire Department for their continued assistance with handling calls within our district when NBEMS is experiencing staffing issues.

This concludes the updates for the Village of New Berlin Ambulance Service for the Month of January 2026. Any questions, comments, or suggestions may be directed to Captain Bryan Whitaker via email.

Respectfully submitted,

CPT. BRYAN M. WHITAKER, EMT

*Chief of EMS*

607-888-1448

[ems@villageofnewberlinny.gov](mailto:ems@villageofnewberlinny.gov)

[www.newberlinems.org](http://www.newberlinems.org)

VILLAGE OF NEW BERLIN AMBULANCE SERVICE			
CALL REPORT - February 2026			
	MONTH		YTD
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	36		74
<b>NB DISTRICT</b>	33		69
V/ New Berlin	19		42
T/ New Berlin (incl. SNB ((Chen))	7		14
Columbus	7		13
<b>MUTUAL AID</b>	3		5
Sherburne	1		1
Chenango County (other)	0		0
Pittsfield	1		2
Morris	1		2
Edmeston	0		0
SNB (Otsego)	0		0
Otsego County (other)	0		0
Madison County (all)	0		0
<b>CALL DISPOSITION</b>			
Transport	13		24
RMA (Refused Medical Attention)	2		5
Cancelled Prior to Arrival	1		2
DOA/Deceased (No Transport)	1		1
<b>ANCILLARY CALL TYPES</b>			
Structure Fire Standby	2	Dedicated	3
UVSD V. Football Standby	0	Dedicated	0
Event/Function Attendance	1		1
<b>MISSED CALLS</b>			
No Crew	12		34
Crew on Another Call	0		1
Maintenance	0		0
OOS - Outside Operational HRS	5		9

# Village of New Berlin Code Enforcer Report

## February-March 2026

One communication with the corner lot/  
green space on Genesee Street to shovel  
and remove ice from the sidewalk all the  
way around the corner.

The property on the corner of Green Street  
and Genesee Street with the trucks and  
garbage. Looking into having them remove  
items. Called landlord with no response. but  
3 vehicles are technically allowed, per laws.

17 Green Street is cleaned up. They have  
three vehicles out front which, even though  
it does not look great it is allowed, per  
laws.

In process of inquiring about a zoning  
matter for a new business for parking and  
residential/commercial zoning on 4 Neely  
Ave.



## CD LOAN FUND MONTHLY REPORT AS OF: 03/10/2026

CURRENT ACTIVE LOANS: 12

OUTSTANDING BALANCE ON ACTIVE LOANS: \$114,440.58

DELINQUENT PAYMENTS FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH: 0

APPROVED LOANS IN PROCESS: 0

AMOUNT OF APPROVED LOANS IN PROCESS: \$0

AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR LENDING: \$135,099.76

CURRENT AMOUNT INVESTED IN NBT ICS (INTRAFI):

\$135,099.76 @ 3.50%

CURRENT AMOUNT IN SWEEP ACCOUNT 3043: 0

PENDING LOAN APPLICATIONS: 0

AMOUNT OF PENDING LOAN APPLICATIONS: \$0

Reported by Brian Pinney, Clerk Treasurer

VILLAGE OF NEW BERLIN

13 SOUTH MAIN STREET, PO BOX 280 NEW BERLIN, NY 13411 | PHONE (607) 847-6389 | FAX (607) 847-9865

Youth Commissioner Report:  
March 10, 2026

-The Easter egg hunt is on Saturday April 4. We are doing prizes and candy in the eggs. We are looking for any kind of 0-9 years old/unisex prizes.

-We have decided to move environmental day/cleanup day to a date little bit later this year, it will be held on Saturday, May 2. We will be cleaning up New Berlin and planting, weather permitting. We will have the dumpsters for tires and garbage removal, at 10 School Street. Preferred Mutual has confirmed they'd like to be a part of cleanup, awaiting instructions.

-A "Village crawl" will be Saturday, May 23. That is still in process. Samantha Yazwa is coordinating with vendors and NB businesses.

-Memorial Day parade is Monday, May 25.  
Eric Luther, Mayor Pete and myself are in progress of planning. We will have chicken from Edsall at Columbus House, gathering other vendors. We will have a parade at 9am, Looking for participants to march. Talked to Robin at Preferred Mutual to march, she's asking employees. Looking to have kids decorate bikes to be in the parade. Aubrey a bike decorating contest?! We are going to be asking a few veterans to speak on behalf of Memorial Day at the ceremony.

-Yard sale day will be Saturday, June 20!

-Park Renovation!!  
The park committee has gotten together for one meeting. We are currently awaiting quotes for the basketball court/wall/fence and we are looking into playground equipment. We were told the wall is good, structurally, so that's great news!  
Maybe looking for community help for install/repair of some items. The gazebo will be third in line in this process with money being spent on court and playground first. Considering buying the materials and having community support to put together. Hopefully we will have much more information for the April board meeting.

Thank you, Kelly Banks

New Berlin Fire Department --Monthly Report													2026
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Incidents	16	7											23
Miles	66	48											114
Personnel	100	39											139
<u>Townships:</u>													
Village of NB	4	2											6
Town of NB	4	5											9
Columbus	6	0											6
Other	2	0											2
<u>Mutual Aid:</u>													
Mutual Aid Received	1	0											1
Mutual Aid Given	5	4											9
<u>Times Apparatus Used:</u>													
251	3	2											5
252	0	0											0
255	4	2											6
256	1	1											2
258	4	0											4
UTV/ recsue trailer	0	0											0
<u>Vehicle Miles:</u>													
250	25	26											51
251	13	21											34
252	0	0											0
255	16	10											26
256	4	20											24
258	25	0											25
UTV/ rescue trailer	0	0											26
<u>Type Of Incidents:</u>													
Fire	1	2											3
False Alarm	3	1											4
Grass/Brush	0	0											0
EMS Assist	3	2											5
MVA	3	1											4
Hazadous Condition	1	0											1
Traffic Control	1	0											1
Water Problem	1	1											2
Wires/Trees Down	1	0											1
Stand by Station	1	0											1
Other	1	0											1
Submitted by Chief Hanslmaier													
Over head doors to be worked on march 18th. General preventative work on all. 1 currently non essential door doesn't close													
258 and UTV have been transitioned from winter to spring for Grass and brush fire season													
Josh Prentice was Appointed 2nd Assistant Fire Chief, pending approval from VB													
Joint training to be held with SNB and Pittsfield on a regular cadence with county instructors													
camera system has added 2 exterior cameras awaiting 1 final to go across the front then camera system will be done													