

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:00 pm

**Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Massey.

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Roll Call**

Mayor Massey-Present

Trustee Jenkins-Present

Trustee Hutchins-Present

Trustee Davis-Present

Trustee Barbarite-Present

**Also Present:**

James Snowden, Village Manager

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Michael Sussman, Special Counsel

**Motion to accept the agenda**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to accept the agenda.

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Approval of minutes for the January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Regular Board meeting**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Mayors Comments**

Mayor Massey appointed Village Trustee, Gordon Jenkins, as the Village representative for the Sullivan County Landbank

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Mayor Massey appointed Village Trustee, John Barbarite, as the Village representative for the Sullivan County's Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

As you are all aware, by proclamation February has been appointed as National Black History Month. National Black History Month is an occasion to celebrate the contributions of so many Black Americans who have indelibly shaped our Nation's history. All throughout American history, Black people have been among our country's most significant trailblazers. They have shaped cultural and political destiny in profound ways. Heroes like Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Thomas Sowell, Justice Clarence Thomas, Martin Luther King, Malcom X and Barack Obama

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among countless others represent what is best in Black America and the nation. Their achievements have monumentally advanced the tradition of equality under the law in our great country and continue to serve as an inspiration for all. We will also never forget the achievements of American greats like the Venus, Serena and Tiger Woods who have pushed the boundaries of excellence in their respective fields, paving the way for others to follow. This is why I want to take the time to point out my inspirations, the countless Black women who have run for president and paved the way for other women of color. Among those are Charlene Mitchell (1968) Lenora Fulani (1988) Margaret Wright (1976) Isabell Masters (1984, 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004) Monica Moorhead (1996, 2000, 2016) Cynthia McKinney and Ms. Shirley Chisholm. Shirley made history as the first Black woman to be elected to the U.S. Congress. She also served in the House of Representatives from 1969 to 1983. In 1972, Shirley made history by becoming the first woman and the first to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. She is the defining reason why I had the desire to become Monticello's 1<sup>st</sup> Black female mayor and I am grateful to have accomplished that desire.

We have received approval for a Community Impact Grant from Home Depot which will allow us to obtain a new commercial stove and refrigerator for the Ted Stroebel Center.

### Now down to business:

Since one of our major goals is focused upon the appearance of our community, the board has decided to send a letter out to all taxpayers within the village informing them of the necessary tasks involved with maintenance of properties.

1. Garbage must be placed inside trash bins with lids on.
2. Recycling of cardboard requires it to be broken down and tied with string.
3. Garbage bags cannot be placed on the outside nor the side of the trash bin. Extra bags found to be located outside of the container will be fined at a cost of \$15.00 per bag.

Another very important priority is the Catholic Charities Foundation is looking for volunteers to restock the food pantry. This event will be held on Wednesday from 9-1. So, get out there and volunteer to serve our neighbors in need.

As we work towards all of our planned initiatives, I encourage everyone in our community to get involved. You can stay informed by attending the board meetings. Whether it's getting involved in local activities, volunteering, or simply supporting one another, every effort contributes to the strong sense of community that defines Monticello.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Together, we can progress and achieve for the Village of Monticello. I look forward to keeping you updated as we take on more projects moving forward and to hearing your thoughts and ideas along the way. Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

Ongoing Events:

1. Weekly AA/NA Meetings-Ted Strobel Center 7:00-8:30 pm
2. Behavioral Health Services for youth through Astor Services Satellite Clinic. There are online providers. They are sponsored by the Monticello School District and located at the Monticello High School and St. John Street building; parental consent is necessary.

**Manager's Report**

I have ordered all the park apparatus old picnic tables barbecue grills garbage cans to be Returned back to our Workshop to be cleaned painted and repaired if needed

I am still working on reimbursement from the insurance company to the Village for three incidents:

1. The fire hydrant that's in front of the old fire department was hit by a motorist The repairs was close to \$16,000
2. The Park tennis courts, we have not heard anything back from the insurance company for when the individual drove through the tennis courts. Estimates in the amount of \$15,000 in repair.
3. The guard rail by the Cooke School has been hit by a motorist, and has to be repaired. I have no estimate on that at the time but I am taking a new approach with these incidents. The Village will no longer pay for these accidents where the village is not at fault, we will pursue all means necessary.

I have spoken to the board about my plans and dealing with the fire hydrants as you know most of our fire hydrants are outdated and in bad shape, we are coming up with a comprehensive plan to address all the fire hydrants as the board is aware of every new street that I pave. I instructed the water and sewer departments to update all manholes and hydrants; the hydrants being the most expensive from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 to replace

The main office copy machine lease has run out and while negotiating for new lease, I found that every department including the Courts have a different agreement with different leasing companies. I am working with two providers, one local and one outside firm, to combine all the copy machines under one lease saving the village time and money.

**Presentation-Angele Ewane-Laketricity**

Angele Ewane was present with her colleagues and they gave a presentation on solar panels and the benefits for the Village and the residents. Their company has designed a way to build solar fields on the water with minimal impact on the environment and the water.

**Resolution authorizing payment of the Village Bills**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution of the Village Board authorizing the Village Clerk to appoint 4 (four) Election Inspectors in accordance with the NYS Election Law §15-116(1) for the upcoming March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Special Village Election**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution setting a Redemption Date for property owners to satisfy their delinquent tax balances as listed in the 2022 Foreclosure Proceedings in accordance with the NYS Real Property Tax Law Article 11 § 1111 for Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:30pm and authorizing the Village Clerk to send out notices stating the same**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Barbarite. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution in Support of an Easter Celebration on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2:00pm at the Ted Stroebele Recreation Center hosted by Reach Towards the Stars**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution authorizing payment to TAM Enterprises (sole source provider) in the amount of \$55,468.00 from app#F.8320.238(Source of Supply-Sand Filter Replacement) for the Replacement of the Sand Filter at the Water Plant. Current account balance is \$55,000.00**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution authorizing the Return of a Bond Check to Greenland Management in the amount of \$15,000.00 for work on 589-593 West Broadway and replacing the bond check with a Performance Bond in the amount of \$15,000.00. Bond Check will be returned from app#T.0033.704. Current account balance is \$15,000.00**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

**Resolution authorizing the Treasurer to open up an account with NYCLASS and authorizes the Mayor, Manager and Treasurer to sign the necessary documents to complete this action**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Trustee Hutchins-yea

Trustee Davis-yea

Trustee Barbarite-abstain

**Executive Session**

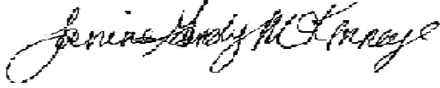
There was no Executive Session

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**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis to close the meeting at 7:16pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janine Gandy-McKinney".

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Janine Gandy-McKinney  
Village Clerk