VILLAGE OF SHERMAN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL ZONING BOARD, AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:00pm

Mayor Meeder called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members Colleen Meeder, Ryan Sanders, Gary Emory, Dennis Watson, and Danielle Crane; Director of DPW Jay Irwin; Clerk-Treasurer Jeanette Ramm; and the press were in attendance.

RES 2026-09-09.1: MINUTES
Motion to accept the previous minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees held Wednesday, August 12, 2026.
Moved by Trustee Emory Seconded by Trustee Sanders
Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstains: 1 (Meeder) Carried

Motion to suspend the regular meeting and enter into the Municipal Zoning Board Meeting.
Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Watson
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

MUNICIPAL ZONING BOARD MEETING

No communication has been received from the NYS Department of State regarding the complaints made by Mr. Piszczek about the Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Messenger, and the Village of Sherman regarding the 143 East Main Street garage. An external review of the garage was done by a structural engineer.

As per the NYMS (Main Street) Grantors, no signs are allowed to be fixed to the front façade of the older buildings along Main Street. Code Officer Gormley is working with Colton Courtney and the other Main Street business owners, in conjunction with David Conrad, to get business signs approved and installed along Main Street.

RES 2026-09-09.2: SPECIAL USE SIGN PERMIT
Motion to approve the Special Use Sign Permit for 121 West Main Street for Colton Courtney of The Branding Inn for a 75” sign to be hung on the front façade of the building. SBL: 328.10-1-30.
Moved by Trustee Emory Seconded by Trustee Watson
Ayes: 0 Nays: 5 Denied

RES 2026-09-09.3: ZBA REFERRAL FOR POLE BARN HEIGHT
Motion to refer the building permit for the 123 Kipp Street Pole Barn for Nick Kenyon to the Zoning Board of Appeals; the allowable height is a maximum 15ft for a new building and the intended height is 21ft. SBL: 328.10-1-8
Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Emory
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

Motion to close the Municipal Zoning Board Meeting and resume the regular meeting of the Board.
Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Sanders
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FROM DPW DIRECTOR
Streets, Water, and Sewer Departments

- The blacktop patching on upper Miller Street near Piazza's is scheduled to be completed with the Town paving project. The DI further up Miller, near the Brosius house is still too high and not taking in enough water; we may need to bring Northrup back to correct that.
- The Tagger System still has software issues which we are looking into.
- The Hydrotech Disc Filter is having problems. The backwash pump keeps tripping and the touch screen never worked. The quote for two days is over $9,000 for them to come troubleshoot the panel, which we don't want. The electrical tripping could be caused by a bad starter so we will repair the starter for $650 before considering having them come out. Mr. Irwin has emails reporting these errors from 2024 while the equipment was still under warranty, so he is disputing their expired warranty policy.
- The leaf vac is working well and ready for fall.
- The sewer extension is complete, and we have started reclaiming the relevant ground.
- The DI is working well at the dog park, but the one in front of the funeral home needs to be repaired.
- The hydrant at the Yorker Museum was replaced, and the hydrant that was hit on West Main Street has been repaired.
- David Wassink told the mayor that our DPW department had not finished all the driveway aprons along East Street; stating that Gary Barringer and Lauren Cooks were not done. The DPW director explained that we do not put blacktop on gravel and our reclamation is always in-kind.
- Painting the designated crossing and parking areas on Park Street at the school was completed by Lakeshore, apart from one parking spot that the village will paint. It is unsafe for people to park along the fence, and we have done our due diligence by marking the parking and dropoff areas. People had to adjust for the first two days back at school but now traffic is moving smoothly.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT
AND SUPPORTING FIRE COMPANY, THE STANLEY HOSE COMPANY, INC.

- The Fire Chief and mayor have talked about some of the outstanding items to be addressed by the Fire Council, once a Fire Council has been established. This is new for everyone, and we are trying to work together to figure it out and come into compliance.
- The CPA Firm is working to verify what is involved concerning the 'blending' requirements.
- The mayor is hoping to get together with Fire Chief Matt Oehlbeck soon to continue discussions regarding the MOU, Bylaws, open meetings law, minutes, etc., as well as fully establish the Fire Council, which will remove the need for a Board of Commissioners, thus keeping the Fire Chief as the head i.e., President of the Fire Council.

- We have taken care of the urgent business, i.e., the confirmation and ratification of membership and fundraising. The next focus will be on properly accounting for and reporting on the Fire Company through the village's financial statements.

CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

COMPLETE STREETS

CREDC Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation

- Mayor Meeder handed out diagrams to explain the proposal for back-in parking along the south side of Main Street, parallel parking in front of The Cornerstone (which will also provide ADA parking), and more back-in parking from The Cornerstone to the Mill. The north side will also include 1 or 2 more ADA parking spaces in front of the pharmacy/liquor store. The changes may require some temporary signs while people adjust. Along with narrowing the road to slow traffic, other traffic calming initiatives could include adding bump outs at corners, and green spaces which will also help with noise, dust and runoff.
- Other items discussed were the impact narrowing the road will have on the bicycle lane, additional parking on Hart and Franklin Streets, and organizing parking/dropoff along Park and Willard Streets as per the school without negatively impacting Joanne's Puppy Palace or the Library.
- DPW Director Jay Irwin and Mayor Meeder are drafting the wish list/plan for Main Street with Matt Zarbo of Square Engineering who will prepare the conceptual design in line with manual specifications.

CHRIC Housing Projects

- **CDBG Housing Project** #1071HR324-23 – Final APR Report to be submitted by CHRIC to complete and close the project.
- **MMHR** – Clerk-Treasurer Jeanette Ramm submitted the second application for $283,200 on Thursday, September 4th. The clerk will apply for an extension for the original MMHR award, SHARS ID#20233075, in October/November.

FOOD PANTRY GRANT – FeedMore WNY has broken the grant award into two payments of $2,000. The first payment has been received, the second will come in early 2027.

NY FORWARD (NYF) Program

Josiah Lamp from the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Development is encouraging us to reapply, but it isn't as simple as polishing up our old application and resubmitting it. We are required to involve the community, hold a public hearing, and show private investment. Sadly, our previous main project, the children's gymnasium, was unable to secure the property. Other projects we listed, like the K9 Complex, are pushing forward with their vision using other resources. It was noted that four new businesses moved into the Village over the last month, in addition to the two new businesses that opened in July.

COMMITTEE & AGENCY UPDATES

FRENCH CREEK YORKER MUSEUM / VILLAGE COMMONS & MEMORIAL PARK

- Night at the Museum is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2026. The museum buildings will be open for viewing, with live music by Tyler McClain (who was such a hit last year), along with Danielle Keith's catering. The evening should be a big hit.

HISTORICAL SIGN

- Ron Moore suggested a sign for the 1957 Six-Man Football Team, which the school has also considered for a historical sign.
- Louise Schofield Wiggers and Linda Pratt Page have offered to assist with this historical sign initiative.
- The mayor will reach out to Bill Brosius and Teresa Guzman (Frank Barney's daughter) who have connections with this team. Teresa may have some ideas on the placement of the sign (probably near the football field) and the names of those being honored, including her father, Roger Warner, and many others.
- Pam Brown suggested that we apply to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation 'Legends and Lore' grant.
- Dustin Gifford has done such an amazing job restoring the house at 146 East Main Street, and it would be great to get a historical sign for his property in the future.

TRAIL

- CCETS (Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail Services) is hosting the North Harmony State Forest Equestrian Trail ribbon cutting on November 6th.

STEERING COMMITTEE / STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 17th where the committee will be reviewing the new laws and other village business.

SHERMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Next meeting is Thursday, September 10, 2026, where the focus will be Music Festival.
- The annual Sherman Music Festival is Saturday, September 12, 2026, starting at 2pm.
- The Chamber mentioned that there is only one empty shop within the attached row buildings on Main Street.

MAYOR

- Copies of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) were presented to the Trustees, and a copy is available on the village website.
- CDBG 1071HR118-20 (1st Housing Grant), CDBG 1071HR324-23 (2nd Housing Grant), and CDBG 1071PR103-23 (Main St Stormwater Infrastructure Grant) awards are under post-closing review, additional records were requested due September 14, 2026, which we have submitted.
- The plan is to reorganize the equipment loans and needs, including a new plow truck for 2027-2028, being aware that equipment is financed according to its life expectancy. We will not need a sweeper, but will need a brush hog, especially for the trails and CR430 along the solar property.
- The SHC attorney has verified that the village is not required to own a fire truck.
- The mayor handed each trustee notes regarding the Parking Law for them to review.
- Mayor Meeder expressed her appreciation to the crossing guard, Geraldine Robson for her 47 years of service to the Sherman community and Sherman Central School District. She thanked her and wished her well for her retirement.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FROM CLERK-TREASURER

Community Bank Accounts:

General Checking Account:	Balance (09/09/2026) is $20,569.03 & book balance $6,327.57
NYS Fund Bank Account:	Balance (09/09/2026) is $15,000
Parks Fund Account:	Balance (09/09/2026) is $943.90
Climate Smart Account:	Balance (09/09/2026) is $0.00
Stormwater Account:	Balance (09/09/2026) is $12.60

NYCLASS Account: Balance (09/09/2026) is $256,490.51

Of which is: General Funds $183,935.30

Capital Funds $30,604.38

Contains Stormwater BAN proceeds and Bldg Proj. Balance

Debt Funds $582.06

Repair Reserve Funds $41,368.77

Receipts: Total $68,028.22

Trustee Ryan Sanders had to leave the meeting.

RES 2026-09-09.4: VOUCHER #4 2027

Motion to accept Voucher #4 for $27,102.41 for August 2026, of which $0 is from the NYS Special Fund, and $0 is from the Climate Smart/Economic Development Fund.

Moved by Trustee Emory Seconded by Trustee Crane

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

RES 2026-09-09.5 ACCESS CHAUTAUQUA

Motion to approve the annual $250 funding request by Access Chautauqua.

No motion was made.

NEW BUSINESS:

RES 2026-09-09.6: CROSSING GUARD RESIGNATION

Motion to accept the resignation of Geraldine Robson as crossing guard, effective September 2, 2026.

Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Watson

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

RES 2026-09-09.7: CROSSING GUARD APPOINTMENT

Motion to appoint and approve the hourly wage of $21.00 for hours worked as a crossing guard by Jill Gratto.

Moved by Trustee Emory Seconded by Trustee Crane

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

RES 2026-09-09.8: ZBA APPOINTMENT OF ROSE VAN VOLKENBURG

Motion to appoint Rose Van Volkenburg to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the remainder of the three-year term expiring May 31, 2029.

Moved by Trustee Emory Seconded by Trustee Watson

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

RES 2026-09-09.9: MMHR GRANT EXTENSION REQUEST

Motion to approve the request for a one-year extension to NYS Homes and Community Renewal for the 2023 Mobile & Manufactured Home Replacement Grant 20233075, with a current agreement term of expiration of December 31, 2026, extending it forward to December 31, 2027.

Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Watson
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

Motion to move into Executive Session at 7:44p.m. to discuss legal and personnel issues, *with no action to be taken following the executive session.*

Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Emory
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

Returned to the regular meeting at 8:05pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm.

Moved by Trustee Crane Seconded by Trustee Emory
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Ramm
Clerk-treasurer

Next Meeting: **Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 6pm.**
Special Meeting TBA – Fire Contracts for Town & District Budgets

Future Topics, Battery Moratoriums