

REGULAR MEETING
DOLGEVILLE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 20, 2026
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Mary E. Puznowski
TRUSTEES: Robert P. Dyer
Robert Gridley
Brian Randall
Marilyn Williams

ATTORNEY: Karl Manne-absent

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Tammy L. Chmielewski

ATTENDED:

Daisy Null, Ned Mowers, Sharon Baisley, Amy Mowers, Elaine Sperbeck, Frederick DeLucco, Merwin Hight, Mr. & Mrs. Thomson, Tracy Barton, Donna DeLucco, James McKinney, Andrew Drumm, Amber Kraszewski, Gary Farquhar, Caryl Hopson, James Hopson, Barbara Schwartz, Anthony Carelli.

Mayor Mary E. Puznowski at Village Hall called this Public Hearing of the Dolgeville Village Board of Trustees to order at 5:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

***Public Hearing
Budget 2026-2027***

Mayor Puznowski read the legal notice published in the Times Telegram April 6, 2026.

Total to be raised in taxes \$ 1,224,693.55.

Town of Manheim Rate	-	\$ 26.663450 per 1000
Town of Oppenheim Rate	-	\$ 38.419957 per 1000

The proposed compensation to the Mayor shall be in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00), the Board of Trustees shall be in the amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$ 3,000.00) and the Deputy Mayor Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00) per annum.

Comments/questions included: people being on disability, job ending soon, 3.77% is a hefty increase, combine with other municipalities for shared services including state police, consider dissolving the village, cut down on O/T D.P.W. with staggered plowing schedules, there are places to cut in the budget, do more with less.

Looking at budget numbers:

Why increase in D.P.W. – reflects O/T and an additional employee.

Why increase in safety supplies – will be installing new LED signs @ \$ 1,800.00 ea.

Why first patrolman moved to second patrolman – contractual includes night bonus shift differential and changing the work schedule as needed.

Is the village looking into dissolving the police department – no plan to do so.

Several increases include street lighting up \$ 20,000.00, insurance/workers' comp. up 15% and significant increases for National Grid for all departments.

Ex. – 1.1964 per 1000 increase on a \$ 50,000.00 assessment in approximately \$ 59.00 per year.

By Trustee Randall sec. Trustee Dyer motion to close public hearing at 6:00 p.m. Ayes all.

Board agrees with the public, stop giving away the bank and raises. The Village cannot control insurance, utilities, fuel. The Village will respect taxpayers' requests when negotiating future contracts.

Mayor Mary E. Puznowski at Village Hall called this Regular Meeting of the Dolgeville Village Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

***Approval of
Meeting Minutes***

By Trustee Randall

Motion to approve and place on file the meeting minutes of March 16, 23, and April 6, 2026. Sec. Trustee Williams. Ayes all.

***Abstract of
Audited Vouchers
Resolution # 36-2026***

The following resolution offered by Trustee Williams sec. Trustee Gridley. Ayes all.

RESOLVED, that the Clerk be and hereby authorized to sign the Abstract of Audited Vouchers from the following funds for the amount specified:

**ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS
MARCH 17, 2026**

TRUST & AGENCY FUND \$ 11,666.59

**ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS
MARCH 23, 2026**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 9,592.91
SEWER FUND	\$ 10,881.27

WATER FUND	\$ 22,402.10
FINK CREEK	\$ 1,674.25
CENTER PARK	\$ 590.00
MAIN ST. SEWER	\$ 826.00
N. MAIN ST. HOMES	\$ 59.00
NY FORWARD	\$ 88.50

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS
MARCH 30, 2026

TRUST & AGENCY FUND	\$ 12,203.61
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ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS
APRIL 6, 2026

GENERAL FUND	\$ 14,604.77
WATER FUND	\$ 1,040.37
SEWER FUND	\$ 5,646.41

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS
APRIL 13, 2026

TRUST & AGENCY FUND	\$ 14,674.52
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AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams
NAYS: None
ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

Village Engineer

Village Engineer Chet Szymanski came before the Board on the following:

Active Projects

Center Park Rehabilitation – EPF Parks Grant #EPF-182340 & NY Forward

- Building last month's funding and scope coordination, Saratoga Associates continued working with DOS and OPRHP on the documentation needed to move the project into construction contracts.
- The project team confirmed that the current awarded scope includes the base bid park improvements, including the pavilion, splash pad, site lighting, walks / parking area, seating, and landscaping.
- The restroom building, kitchen / concession space, and pavilion enclosure remain outside the current awarded scope while the Village continues to evaluate funding options.

- Contract documents were issued to the general, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing contractors for signature, with a pre-construction meeting to be scheduled once contracts are fully executed.

Main Street Sewer Replacement Project (Construction Progress / Contract Administration)

- This month, Carver, the Village, Barton & Loguidice, and NYSDOT continued detailed coordination on 2026 construction sequencing, inspection coverage, and work within the NYSDOT right-of-way.
- Outstanding contractor documentation remains a major focus, including sewer testing, post-construction CCTV review, AIS / BABA documentation, asphalt pavement submittals, and 2026 plant certifications.
- Following project restart, Barton & Loguidice recommended a temporary pause on work within the NYSDOT right-of-way until several quality-control, inspection, communication, and documentation items could be clarified.
- Follow-up discussion with Carver focused on trench backfill, compaction testing, bypass pumping notifications, field communication procedures, and the need for timely submittal review.
- Coordination also continued on pending allowance authorizations, change order items, North Main Street layout modifications, stone dust trench backfill, NYSDOT paving details, and weekly traffic management notifications.

Fink Creek Storm Drainage System Project – FEMA Project No. 4472DR-NY [130884]

- FEMA issued notice that the current period of performance for the Fink Creek Storm Drainage System project expires on June 30, 2026.
- The notice confirmed that any extension request will need to include prior extension information, justification for the additional time, and a projected completion date.
- This will need to be coordinated with Barton & Loguidice and DHSES so the project schedule and funding path remain aligned with the current design and construction timeline.

Dolgeville BioChar / Dolgeville Organics – SEQR and Planning Board Review

- This month, the Village is beginning early coordination related to the proposed Dolgeville Organics / BioChar project, including wastewater, air permitting, solid waste permitting, stormwater permitting, Planning Board review, and SEQR considerations.
- I have been providing assistance to the Planning Board over the past month as this process moves forward.

Van Buren Street Extension Embankment Failure

- A new embankment failure at Van Buren Street Extension was reviewed with DPW following reports that the failure was progressing toward the roadway.
- I reviewed available historical information and aerial imagery, which suggests that prior stabilization work in this area was likely completed following the June 2013 flooding.
- Based on discussion with DPW, the nearby sewer line and water line should continue to be monitored while the Village looks for prior construction records or repair documentation.
- Discussed an interim repair with DPW which they will construct to protect the utilities

Water Meter Replacement Project – GIGP Grant

- Following comments on the draft project budget, the Village continued organizing materials needed for the GIGP water meter project submission.
- EFC's project checklist was reviewed, and the Village will need to assemble remaining documentation before the June 30 submission deadline.
- I also recommended confirming whether SEQR documentation was completed with the grant application or whether it needs to be started now as part of the project file.
- I am meeting with the Village's project team next week to finalize the EFC submission.

IDA Water Storage Tank Project (Manheim Business Park)

- Wright-Pierce continued coordination with NYSDOH, EFC, the IDA, and the Village regarding the agency review submission for the Manheim Business Park water storage tank project.
- NYSDOH requested revisions to clarify that the Village of Dolgeville public water system is the applicant / owner for DOH review purposes.

- EFC also clarified that, because the anticipated Project Finance Agreement will be between EFC and the Village, only the Village can submit disbursement requests to EFC.
- Additional coordination will be needed among the Village, IDA, Wright-Pierce, DOH, and EFC to align the construction specifications, funding administration, and ownership language before the project advances further.

Water / Sewer Rate Study Support

- The Village continued participation in the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center rate study cohort.
- This month's session focused on utility budgeting, including operating costs, capital costs, debt service, reserve planning, and how these items affect future water and sewer rate discussions.
- Future sessions are expected to move from budget review toward rate structure options and the effect of those options on different customer classes.

Sewer Cleaner / Vactor Funding and Procurement

- I created and submitted Congressionally Directed Spending applications for sewer cleaner equipment which were submitted to Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand's offices this month.
- The application materials were updated to emphasize the Village's need to respond quickly to sewer blockages, protect stream-adjacent infrastructure, and reduce reliance on outside emergency contractors.
- I also assisted with emergency purchase language for replacement of the Village's 1988 sewer cleaner, focusing on public health, environmental protection, and maintaining the Village's ability to respond to sewer main blockages without delay.

Village Engineer Monthly Report

By Trustee Williams

Motion to approve and place on file the April 2026 Village Engineer report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Dyer. Ayes all.

Public Hearing Local Law # 1-2026 Authorizing A Property Tax Levy in Excess of The Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c

Mayor Mary E. Puznowski at Village Hall called this Public Hearing of the Dolgeville Village Board of Trustees to order at 6:15 p.m.

Comments/questions included:

People opposed the increase, hurts small businesses when their expenses are going up as well, suggest no raises.

By Trustee Randall sec. Trustee Gridley motion to close public hearing at 6:20 p.m. Ayes all.

Public Comment

Elaine Sperbeck from the City of Little Falls regarding Saratoga Bio Char changed to Dolgeville Organics. Elaine provided several handouts regarding previous Environmental Assessment for Saratoga Biochar dated November 1, 2024, stating the SBS is likely to have significant adverse impacts and requires an Environmental Impact Statement. Previous D.E.C. permits were denied for S.B.

James McKinney – Faville Avenue asked where the No Parking signs are for Helmer Avenue? The village will erect signage on Helmer Avenue as directed.

Department Heads

WRRF

WRRF Chief Operator Amy Mowers came before the Board with the following:

Amy wanted to thank the Board for the purchase of the new sewer cleaner.

Water/Sewer Rate Study

The Village continues to work with Syracuse University-EFC as part of the free Rate Study program for which we were selected.

WRRF Monthly Report

By Trustee Randall

Motion to approve and place on file the March 13, 2026 – April 16, 2026; WRRF report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Gridley. Ayes all.

Water Plant

Water Plant Operator Neal Winkler came before the Board with the following:

Logging Job

Neal and Trustee Randall met with the forester regarding current situation off the North Road (logging job).

Filter Cleaning

The village cleaned two filters this past month. The silt is deeper than we thought. We will remove one foot of sand and replace it. We can no longer get our sand from Poland Sand and Gravel due to new specs from D.O.H. The current suggestion is to purchase from Ohio or Rhode Island. The village will continue to research other options.

***Water Connections
Main Street Project***

Village will set up a special meeting with Barton & Loguidice regarding water laterals moving forward.

***Water Treatment
Operator Interviews***

The Village conducted interview on 4/13/26 and will do follow-up interviews 4/22/26 & 4/23/26.

***Leak Detection Survey
Resolution # 36A-2026***

The following resolution offered by Trustee Randall sec. Trustee Dyer. Ayes all.

Motion to approve the leak detection survey in the amount of \$ 3,000.00 as requested. Sec. Trustee Dyer. Ayes all.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Irondale Road Land
Purchase Request***

The Village received a request from Leighann Sherwood to buy land that borders her property line near the watershed.

The Village is currently in negotiations with the N.Y.S.D.E.C. to sell a portion of watershed land.

***Annual Drinking Water
Quality Report for 2025***

Place on file the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025 and submitted to D.O.H.

Water Monthly Report

By Trustee Gridley

Motion to approve and place on file the April 2026 verbal Water report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

Police Department

Officer-In-Charge Philip Klosner came before the Board with the following:

***Temporary No-Parking
Signs – Helmer Avenue***

The Police Department and D.P.W. will work together and erect signs on Helmer Avenue per order of Board of Trustees and enforce traffic laws as needed.

***Supervisor School
Completion***

O.I.C Philip Klosner completed Supervisor School as of April 3, 2026, and meets the State requirement for Supervision through DCJS.

Extended Hours

The current request for extended hours on Friday/Saturday is o.k. for now.

Police Budget

Trustee/Liaison Marilyn Williams reminded O.I.C. Klosner

to be careful with scheduling for the Police Department budget so they do not run out of money.

E-bikes/Mini-bikes

The Mayor is requesting information/enforcement of State Legislation regarding E-bikes/mini-bikes.

Police Monthly Report

By Trustee Williams

Motion to approve and place on file the March 2026 Police report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

D.P.W.

D.P.W. Superintendent David Jaquay came before the Board with the following:

***No Parking Signs
Helmer Avenue***

Dave will order more signs to fulfill the Board of Trustee request.

***Cramer Lane
2-way Traffic
During Construction
Temporarily***

The Board of Trustees agreed to temporarily allow 2-way traffic during construction on Cramer Lane.

***Possible Sink Hole @
WWTP and Van Buren
Street Extension***

Village will continue to investigate a possible sink-hole activity.

Sink hole @ Car Wash

The issue is between the landowner, Attorney and D.O.T. The village will do whatever we can do legally.

Beaver Brook

Beaver Brook walls – where do the property lines end?

***Yearly Street Paving
Schedule***

The Village is requesting an updated paving schedule for the 2026-2027 year. D.P.W. The list will depend on oil prices.

Gazebo Steps

Board is requesting D.P.W. repair/replace non-slip strips on the Gazebo stairs.

D.P.W. Monthly Report

By Trustee Gridley

Motion to approve and place on file the April 2026 D.P.W. report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer Steven Elwood submitted the following:

***Code Enforcement
Availability***

Code Officer advised the Board he will be unavailable for monthly meetings due to minor timing conflicts.

People needing to contact Codes can call his cell phone and he will get back to them as soon as he can.
The Village could investigate something different.

***Code Enforcement
Monthly Report***

By Trustee Randall

Motion to approve and place on file the 3/6/26 – 3/26/26 Code Enforcement report as submitted. Sec. Trustee Gridley. Ayes all.

Treasurer

Village Treasurer Amber Kraszewski came before the Board with the following:

Paid off USDA water bond today.
Police Department outside 911 phone is working.
Water/Sewer 2026-2027 increases – set up public hearings.
SRF Funding – continuing to work on options.

***Expenditures,
Encumbrances, and
Appropriations***

By Trustee Randall

Motion to place on file the Statement of Expenditures, Encumbrances, Appropriations for the period ending 3/31/26. Sec. Trustee Williams. Ayes all.

Balance Sheet

By Trustee Randall

Motion to place on file the Balance Sheet for the period ending 3/31/26. Sec. Trustee Williams. Ayes all.

Planning Board

Small Projects Grant

Planning Board reviewed the Small Project application for Tara Lyon – NYF-01 Creekside Spirits LLC.
Planning Board recommendation to forward to NYDHCR for review.

Stewarts Corporation

Stewarts needs a permit for subdivision of a private lot adjacent to Stewarts' property.

The next steps are approval from County Planning Board, ZBA.

The Village Planning Board will consider the permit approval following approval by County Planning Board meeting on 4/20/26.

Dolgeville Organics

The Dolgeville Planning Board has been designated as the Lead Agency for the SEQR process.

Dolgeville Organics will need to fund an escrow account for upcoming paperwork to hire an outside environmental

engineer/lawyer to ensure steps are taken regarding the building of a plant in the Town of Manheim Industrial Park.

***Planning Board
Meeting Minutes***

By Trustee Randall

Motion to approve and place on file the April 14, 2026 Planning Board meeting minutes as submitted. Sec. Trustee Williams. Ayes all.

Old Business

N/A

New Business

***Check Reconciliation
Resolution # 37-2026***

By Trustee Williams

Motion to place on file the check reconciliations as presented. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

Center Park Restoration - 5441	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 730,565.40	

D.P.W. - 3068	2/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 43,386.00	

Economic Development - 8330	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 150,368.05	

Fink Creek - 5458	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 40,251.27	

General Fund - 8233	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 102,811.27	

General Fund Savings – 5177	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 1,071,745.96	

Helterline Park – 5185	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 3,736.92	

Housing Rehabilitation – 8322	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 48,159.49	

Main St. Sewer Improvements – 5466	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 6,815.52	

N. Main St. Homes – 5474	3/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 11,109.31	

Police Vehicle – 3118	2/2/26-3/31/26
Balance - \$ 11,020.08	

Sewer Savings – 5193 Balance - \$ 472,834.44	3/2/26-3/31/26
Spohn’s Disposal – 3043 Balance - \$ 664.07	1/1/26-3/31/26
Trust & Agency – 8225 Balance - \$ 39,275.27	3/2/26-3/31/26
Unemployment – 5201 Balance - \$ 38,182.18	3/2/26-3/31/26
Waste Water Savings – 5219 Balance - \$ 141,823.06	3/2/26-3/31/26
Water/Sewer – 8349 Balance - \$ 9,043.83	3/2/26-3/31/26
Water Capital Reserve – 5227 Balance - \$ 18,479.22	3/2/26-3/31/26
Water Fund Savings – 5235 Balance - \$ 73,075.22	3/2/26-3/31/26
New York Forward – 6423 Balance - \$ 2,409.41	3/2/26-3/31/26
North Main St. Waterfront Park – 5722 Balance - \$ 79.95	3/2/26-3/31/26
GIGP Water Meters – 7256 Balance - \$ 224,814.19	3/2/26-3/31/26

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Payroll Certification
Resolution # 38-2026***

The following resolution offered by Trustee Williams sec.
Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

WHEREAS, Amber Kraszewski hereby submits for certification the following payroll period of 2/28/26-3/13/26 in the amount of \$ 42,723.19 be approved for payment from the appropriation authorized by the Village of Dolgeville Board of Trustees.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Payroll Certification
Resolution # 39-2026***

The following resolution offered by Trustee Williams sec.
Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

WHEREAS, Amber Kraszewski hereby submits for certification the following payroll period of 3/14/26-3/27/26 in the amount of \$ 38,121.93 be approved for payment from the appropriation authorized by the Village of Dolgeville Board of Trustees.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Payroll Certification
Resolution # 40-2026***

The following resolution offered by Trustee Williams sec.
Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

WHEREAS, Amber Kraszewski hereby submits for certification the following payroll period of 3/28/26-4/10/26 in the amount of \$ 47,266.73 be approved for payment from the appropriation authorized by the Village of Dolgeville Board of Trustees.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Dolgeville Community
Band - Use of Village
Premises***

Request to use Plowe Park for the Dolgeville Community Band 2026 concert series. Board approved request.

***Dolgeville Central School
Band - Use of Village
Premises***

The Dolgeville Central School Band is requesting the use of the Gazebo for June 11th for a concert. Board approved request.

***Dolgeville Forward
Use of Village Premises***

Dolgeville Forward, Inc. group is requesting use of Plowe Park for the 2026 Farmers' Market – 5/9/26 – 10/31/26. Board approved request.

BOCES Annual Report

Place on file.

***Budget Adoption
Resolution # 41-2026***

By Trustee Randall

Motion to adopt the 2026-2027 Budget as presented. Sec.
Trustee Dyer. Ayes all.

Total to be raised in taxes \$ 1,224,693.55.

Town of Manheim Rate - \$ 26.663450 per 1000

Town of Oppenheim Rate - \$ 38.419957 per 1000

The proposed compensation to the Mayor shall be in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00), the Board of Trustees shall be in the amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$ 3,000.00) and the Deputy Mayor Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00) per annum.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

***Local Law # 1-2026
Authorizing A Property
Tax Levy in Excess of
The Limit Established in
General Municipal Law 3-c
Resolution # 42-2026***

By Trustee Williams

Motion to adopt Local Law # 1-2026 - Authorizing A Property Tax Levy in Excess of The Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c as presented. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

AYES: Trustees Dyer, Gridley, Randall, Williams

NAYS: None

ADOPTED – April 20, 2026

Attorney

Village Attorney Karl Manne came before the Board on the following:

***Proposed Local Law # 2
Administration and
Enforcement of the NYS
Uniform Fire Prevention
Code***

Board needs to determine definitions for Appendix A. NO ACTION - PLACE ON HOLD.

Future Meetings

Tentative - Special Meeting – April 28, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting May 18, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. – Village Hall.

Adjournment

By Trustee Dyer

Motion to adjourn regular meeting at 7:22 p.m. Sec. Trustee Randall. Ayes all.

Mayor

Village Clerk

