

**VILLAGE OF PERRY  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 2, 2026**

A regular board meeting of the Village of Perry was held at the Village Hall, 46 North Main Street, Perry, New York at 7:30 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2026.

PRESENT:	Rick Hauser	Mayor
	Arlene Lapiana	Trustee
	Joel Bouchard	Trustee
	Richard Muolo	Trustee
	Sandy Lawrence	Trustee
ALSO PRESENT:	Christina Slusser	Village Clerk
GUESTS:	Lorraine Sturm	Perry Herald
ABSENT:	Samantha Marcy	Administrator

Mayor Hauser called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Trustee Lapiana made a motion to approve the minutes for 2/17/2026 which was seconded by Trustee Bouchard and carried with all voting aye.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS FOR THE 2026-2027 RENEWAL CYCLE**

**WHEREAS**, the Village Administrator has reviewed and evaluated the health insurance options; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Administrator is recommending to continue offering the current plans, BCBS of WNY Silver POS 7100 HDHP, BCBS of WNY Gold POS 7100 HDHP and BCBS of WNY Bronze HMO 8000 HDHP, for the April 1, 2026 renewal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village contribution for the Silver POS 7100 HDHP will remain the same, funded at 80% of the premium and 75% of the deductible into a health savings accounts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village contribution for the Gold 7100 and Bronze 8000 plans will not exceed the Village's yearly contribution to the Silver 7100 plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Perry Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation to continuing offering the Silver POS 7100 HDHP, Gold POS 7100 HDHP and Bronze HMO 8000 HDHP for the 2026-2027 renewal year; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Perry Village Board directs the Village Administrator to execute any and all documents relative to the health insurance services for the upcoming plan year.

Motion was made by Trustee Bouchard to adopt the resolution authorizing health insurance plans for the 2026-2027 renewal cycle which was seconded by Trustee Muolo and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE SUBMISSION OF A 2025 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, all Village Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Section 94 of the Public Officers Law (Public Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Transportation announced the availability of Transportation Alternatives program (TAP) grant funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the TAP grant program provides up to \$7 million in grant funding for communities to implement alternative transportation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the TAP grant program provides up to 80 percent of total project costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Perry has successfully administered TAP and TEP grants previously; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Perry Transportation Safety and Access Study funded by the GTC MPO recommended multi-modal improvements on Center Street between Watkins Avenue and Parker Lane; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Perry desires to implement the Center Street Multi-Modal Improvements project.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Perry Board of Trustees does hereby enthusiastically authorize submission of a 2025 Transportation Alternatives Program grant for the Center Multi-Modal Improvements Project; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village's share of the project to equal 20% of total project costs; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village understands the TAP program is a reimbursement program requiring the Village to pay all project costs and get reimbursed for 80 percent of those project costs.

A planning study was completed a few years ago for North Center Street improvements. The TAP grant application is due next week. Letters of support have been requested from business owners and other interested parties. There is a high likelihood that the NYS DOT may help cover up to ¾ of the 20% required match but the Board should be prepared to consider long-term borrowing for the project. Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adopt the resolution to support the submission of a 2025 Transportation Alternatives Program grant which was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING STANDARD FORM OF AGREEMENT WITH ELEV8 ARCHITECTURE, PLLC**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Perry released a Request for Proposals for Architectural/Engineering Design Services for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative project to Transform the Assembly Hall; and

**WHEREAS**, nine proposals were received and three consultants were interviewed; and

**WHEREAS**, the selection committee has recommended selecting Elev8 Architecture, PLLC for the project; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Perry Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the Standard Form of Agreement with Elev8 Architecture, PLLC in an amount of \$167,000.00 and authorizes the Village Administrator to sign the Standard Form of Agreement.

Elev8 is currently working on the Village Hall project. Trustee Muolo made a motion to adopt the resolution approving standard form of agreement with Elev8 Architecture, PLLC. This motion was seconded by Trustee Lapiana and carried with all voting aye.

**RESOLUTION CREATING CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE GRANT TO TRANSFORM THE ASSEMBLY HALL TO EXPAND ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY VENUES IN PERRY (HI)**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Perry has been awarded a Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant to Transform the Assembly Hall to Expand Accessible Community Venues in Perry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Administrator has proposed a budget for the capital project fund (HI):

REVENUE:

HI3097	State Aid	<u>\$ 2,016,000.00</u>
		\$ 2,016,000.00

EXPENDITURE:

HI1620.4	Village Hall – Design	\$ 167,000.00
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HI1620.41	Village Hall – Construction	\$ 1,849,000.00
		\$ 2,016,000.00
	<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 2,016,000.00</b>

; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Village of Perry Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the project budget for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant to Transform the Assembly Hall to Expand Accessible Community Venues in Perry (HI).

Trustee Bouchard made a motion to create the capital project budget for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant to transform the Assembly Hall to expand accessible community venues in Perry. This motion was seconded by Trustee Muolo and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE SEWER FUND FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

**WHEREAS**, at the February 17, 2026, Village Board meeting, the Board of Trustees discussed allocating Fund Balance in the Sewer Fund for equipment purchases; and

**WHEREAS**, the equipment purchases included:

Mixer for sludge - \$16,000

3hp grinder pump - \$12,000

Sludge flow meter - \$11,000

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Perry Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Village Administrator to amend the 2025-2026 Village Sewer Fund Budget to increase expense account G8130.2 (Sewage Treatment – Equipment) by \$39,000.00 from fund balance for the purpose of the above-mentioned equipment purchases; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to the Village Administrator.

Motion was made by Trustee Lapiana to authorize the budget amendment in the sewer fund for equipment purchases which was seconded by Trustee Muolo and carried with all voting aye.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED AID TO MUNICIPALITIES AND STRENGTHENING NEW YORK’S STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years; and

**WHEREAS**, these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York's strength begins in its cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services, infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living; and

**WHEREAS**, NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State, testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted aid and a strengthened state-local partnership; and

**WHEREAS**, the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Perry applauds Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to strengthening New York's cities and villages; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Village of Perry urges the New York State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted state budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Village of Perry calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure long-term fiscal stability for New York's local governments; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State Legislature representing the Village of Perry.

Mayor Hauser made a motion to adopt the resolution supporting increased aid to municipalities and strengthening New York's State-Local partnership. This motion was seconded by Trustee Lapiana and carried unanimously.

**CLERK/DEPUTY TREASURER REPORT**

**VILLAGE OF PERRY**

**Abstract # 019  
Summary by Fund**

03/02/2026  
13:14:54

<b>Code</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Prepays</b>	<b>Unpays</b>	<b>Totals</b>
A	GENERAL FUND	451.30	42,695.69	43,146.99
CD	SPECIAL GRANT FUND		1,790.75	1,790.75
F	WATER FUND	235.96	6,492.80	6,728.76
G	SEWER FUND	37.99	11,925.95	11,963.94
HF	WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT		22,076.25	22,076.25
HH	DRI - TRAIL AND STREETSCAPE		6,030.00	6,030.00
JA	SILVER LAKE WATERSHED COMMISSI	37.99		37.99
TA	TRUST & AGENCY		17,940.00	17,940.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>763.24</b>	<b>108,951.44</b>	<b>109,714.68</b>

There was a minor change to the amount prepaid, but no change to the total abstract amount. Vouchers were audited by Trustee Lawrence. Trustee Bouchard made a motion to approve payment of abstract #19 in the amount of \$109,714.68 which was seconded by Trustee Muolo and carried with all voting eye.

**DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Police Committee - Town Police Protection Agreement**

Mayor Hauser introduced a proposed agreement for a no cost trial for Perry PD to provide police protection throughout the Town of Perry. At the discretion of the Police Chief, when availability allows, Village of Perry Police Officers will be able to respond to calls within the town limits. This will allow for faster response times to assist with calls on Routes 39 and 20A for example, which are more heavily travelled and often closer for Perry PD to respond to instead of a Sheriff. Chief Grover indicated in Police Committee that this opportunity may help to leverage state funds. In six months, the plan is to sit down with the town to measure the success of the trial and in September the town can determine if they want to fund police protection in their budget. Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adopt the agreement between the Village and Town of Perry to Provide Police Protection which was seconded by Trustee Bouchard and carried unanimously.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustee Lawrence is attending problem properties on Thursday.

Trustee Bouchard attended the Police Committee meeting this afternoon. There were budget discussions on the investigator role and Chief Grover mentioned he is okay with reducing other budget lines to accommodate the position. A \$4,000 traffic grant was received. The Parks Committee, who also met this afternoon, discussed rebidding the boardwalk project, adding a new sculpture along the trail, and the possibility of adaptive baseball fields at the park.

Trustee Muolo will attend the Office Committee meeting on Wednesday and DPW Committee next week.

Mayor Hauser had a conference call with the Wyoming County IDA, Town of Perry, and Walgreens. Walgreens is exploring how to save money on property taxes. They are a private company now and not publicly traded. Their issues are not specific to Perry but rather the pharmacy business in general. The Village Board indicated they are supportive of negotiating and offering openness to reassessment if it will help keep Walgreens in Perry.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:13 pm, Mayor Hauser made a motion to enter executive session for discussion related to salaries of particular people. Trustee Lapiana seconded the motion and it was carried.

At 8:29 pm, Mayor Hauser made a motion to exit executive session which was seconded by Trustee Muolo and carried.

At 8:30 pm, Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Christina Slusser, Village Clerk