VILLAGE OF WALTON, NEW YORK
Board of Trustees — September 2026 Meeting

Unofficial Transcript of the Meeting Video

Source: Village of Walton Facebook video, "September 2026 Meeting" (posted 2026-09-01; running time 1:22:32).

UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT — prepared from the video's auto-generated captions, lightly cleaned for readability. Caption errors are possible. This transcript is an aid for the Village Clerk in preparing the official minutes. It is NOT the official minutes of the Village of Walton; minutes are adopted by the Board of Trustees.

COVERAGE NOTE: The audio in the Village's video cuts out about 25 minutes into the meeting (the Village noted this when posting the video). This transcript covers only the portion with sound, 00:00 to 00:25:28 of the 1:22:32 video. The remainder of the meeting has no audio to transcribe.

[00:00:00] Alright, we'll start the meeting. I'll rise for pledge allegiance. Mister Eric Noll, would you mind leading us today? It's your birthday. Thank you. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. And to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under god, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Amen. Thank you. Do we have a great job as we extinguish your career? Thank you. Alright, we're going to start off with something pretty awesome actually. Mister Gardape, would you mind coming on up here? I know you're on retirement so we want to hurry up and get you back to it. No, So, we have a certificate today to give to mister Gardaby. Unfortunately, it's not a Rolex or something bigger but still want to recognize your service.

[00:00:59] Mister Gardaby is retiring or has retired, shall we say and this is in recognition of your outstanding dedication, commitment, and valuable contributions to the Village of Walton for the past 25 years. 25 years of dealing with these guys mowing lawns and our sewer system. So, I just want to say thank you so much. You're welcome. Thanks. Thanks. But there's 200 grand. Spend it wisely. Yeah. Alright, we'll move on to public input. So, anybody, feel free. Go ahead. Real quick. I know I sent out Larry before you start. Can you just state your name and. Okay. Quick. My name is Eric Noll.

[00:01:48] I'm here on behalf of the Walton Accurrance Initiative Corporation. Um I put in a request. I believe I sent it to the mayor and I hopefully he sent it all out to you and you had the opportunity to review it about a project that we're looking at doing with Lowe's. Um they a program that they do like small town help with repairs or projects and things like that. So, I submitted one for a park beds to be installed down at the vault or at off the Lincoln. Um I sent the schematics of the bench and location and all that stuff to you guys and we're going to see if we can get some pavers and pave a nice little path to that to those with wheelchairs and accept it and so forth. So, I'm just here to see if you guys would approve that moving forward if we do get approved through the Lowe's program. That's all I'm here for. I I would say contingent we have to wait until we have an approval and exact what they're going to do from Lowe's program. Do you

know when they might have like if they're going to do this or not because it's kind of. We don't know if they're going to do it just yet. Um they that it's like a competition on those books like the the project that they feel they want to be a part of. Um I did get a timeout either the end of

[00:02:58] this month or somewhere toward the beginning of October. That's usually their time frame when they do these projects. And what they do is they bring their crew down. They'll bring all their volunteer excuse me. Um their staff and so forth and know they put in all the work and they do all the the stuff to put it in so that's the only thing I I'm waiting on that part but I wanted to seek approval or we tell them no and go with someone else for you know that happens I know it's last minute and I apologize for that they called me and said hey this what we got coming up can you do something and this is something that we internally in my organization we've been discussing for a little bit so that's why we had it like right there in hip pocket to throw but I know last minute for you guys. I apologize about that. That's not normally how I operate but I didn't want to waste an opportunity. So, here we are. I mean I don't see any reason why we wouldn't accept such a a gracious offer. No cost to the village. No there's no cost of ability at all. I mean I think it's a wonderful idea. I was going to say. It'll be cemented in and everything.

[00:04:03] It's not just free fitting. Right. Yeah it's it'll be in the ground. So you said if you can get pavers involved that was the operative part I was looking for too. I I would like to get that secured as well like know exactly what you're going to do. Okay. But I I think collectively the ball I mean we're all about enhancements and nice things for the village so. Esceptionally us but we'll see about practical once the everything's. I just think it it's not I mean there's only a few benches down there and I've heard a lot of complaints about you know that blocking path that goes around off in Lincoln. There's not a lot of rest stops you know for the elderly and also the path itself being stoned. You know it's hard for some people that might have some balance issues to walk along path so that's something else we'd like to address in the future but that's down the road. Well Eric it's a walking path not a sitting path. They're not sitting on the path but have a place where they can pull off like a wrist off you know and plus it's so nice around here. Very scenic so. Yeah. Be nice to have some stuff put in down there for that. Um and just to update on projects. I mean I'm sure you guys are following what we have done down there. Uh the only last thing that I still owe the village is getting the line painted on

[00:05:11] that other that's well worth. I have all the the stuff I just need two inch rollers. And age doesn't hold and have it so I gotta get up the Indiana so when I get up there to buy those rollers that's what we're going to start doing. And I have the templates too. So if anybody wants to help out I'm always asking we'll we'll need it. So I was thinking possibly this weekend if I can get up there when you own it or not but that's what we're looking at. Okay. Uh there's a big thing on Saturday on this weekend. Don't know what. There's an event down there Saturday. The oh the packed out Saturday so. We'll do Sunday. Anyways, I just want to let you guys know that's where we're at so far. I have to bond it and it's not being abandoned. Just so you know. And Thank you.

[00:05:55] That's all I got. You have anything, Mary? Nothing. Just here to listen. I just want to say thank you for all your efforts at the pool this summer. So, I mean, between you and then we have

Eric with the parks and recreation and stuff like that. I mean, it doesn't, it seems like we're focusing on like little things like the the recreation like that but those are the things that brings families here. You know, it makes people want to stay. I mean, I wouldn't stay here if my kid was screaming every day because he hated it here and he didn't have something to do. So, these are things that makes kids have something to do that's a little more constructive and sitting behind the screen. So, thank you for doing and just I'm sorry just to point you off that. I mean if you guys haven't noticed what the state park committee has put in some obstacles and so forth down there. So that's operational right now. It's not the finished project but it gives people something for the kids to look forward to and see and envision what that's going to become. Dust the waters. I just want to reemphasize that as well. You have something for public input? No public input. I do.

[00:06:59] Go ahead. Um I'm Jennifer Davis Mason. Um William Street, the car is parked on one side. It's making it hard for the people who live there to park their cars and then them tractor trailers, they're not getting through there very very safely. I've I've noticed that and I want to thank the Walton Police Department for for having police presence because I've seen it more and more now than I did before. So, song to go. Yup, they've been out there moving and shuffling. We're working on, I know that Butch and I and members are working on a no parking here to corner regulation with our attorney.

[00:07:46] So, hopefully they'll be coming down the pipeline here. We're working on footage locations. Stuff like that where they'll be practical but we do notice a lot of people parking right on the stop sign which makes it difficult to see around corners. So, we're working on that. We're also working on signage. We're working on a whole bunch of things. We've got a list long list but I mean, I had Butch every single day on things that went done. So, but yes, I agree with you. William Street is seeing that. I will reach out to Boomer at the hospital to see if there's some other way we can advocate for the people that live there versus the contractors coming in and parking. See if they can use the hospital parking lot. I don't know if you have some connection with the hospital. You're over there if you want to say something. Me? No, Jenny. I'm going to say you would, my name. I can I can talk to Boomer. Okay. So. Sure. Mary says I should go. Yeah.

[00:08:38] Great. My name is Holly Hughesley and we are here to ask questions about our water that we've been having machines work for. 19 years. 19 years. We've been to one meeting before a while back. Um we had a electric hydrant foot in so it flushes automatically. Um our water is okay sometimes. Other times it's not. It's nasty and brown and rust and sediments. I took butched a sample of it and they said they won't even drink it but I'm paying for it. So, I it's like I have I'm paying for water that I can't use like my appliances are going to be replaced our dishwasher, our washing machine, our hot water tank. Hot water tank. What's your address? Um two six nine lower Dirt Brook Road and I understand we're the last house on the line for Village Water but the has to be something that can be done. I don't know.

[00:09:38] The flush is right across from your house, right? It does. Yeah. Sometimes it doesn't. I know they came up and turned turn it up to do it more. Um yeah so the issue with that one also is not only that the come on that one also flushes longer than the other ones because it doesn't shut off

fast enough so a lot of times that will like 20 minutes yeah and then that I think it takes like half an hour 40 minutes where it shuts off yeah but I asked Matt the other day about the one on the it's flushing more but the water is still not you know I mean I can I can run my water all day long to try to get those out but I'm still paying for it that is the last place on your on the line. In your service too. Yeah. It might be someone in your line. So I don't know if like the lines need to be to be replaced. Um oh well be put in. I I I'm not quite sure what to do but it's it's annoying that you know I'm paying for water so. Or next if you'd watch over it. We don't have a hot water boiler in your house where you can heat your

[00:10:51] hot water hot water tank yeah hot water kill your equipment like a boiler that way yeah you don't have hot base if I forced hot air that what you mean John yeah yeah so with a boiler on it yeah okay no I wasn't aware of this I'll take I'll dig deeper into this with like the last time we were here when Ed Snow was there and that's when that new hydrant was put in okay I I know. We usually complain and then we go off in the banner places that we're finding for but my my appliances are getting rushed it again. We just bought a washing machine two to three months ago. Yeah. And it's already get Let me look into this. Why don't you connect with me later this week to the office then we'll see what we can do for you, okay? Okay. You have their contact information, right?

[00:12:03] I've also had it where you guys work on the lines replacement. Yeah. That water line. Whenever you guys open up the lines and work on so my back beams out. It sucks my hot water tank right that empty. Oh yeah for sure. It keeps pulling air washing machine in there so my heating elements keep kicking on. So I have to run down the basement and That burned up elements. We've had this problem in that area for a long time. Yeah, I would I would rather not just spit out and just make solutions. Let's we'll regroup later in the week so we can go but he's getting your information right now. Let me talk to these guys and see what we can do. We'll go figure.

[00:12:51] Sorry. Sucks. It is. Do you have anything? You got something? Of course I do. Alright. So we're Walton Kindness for cats. Um so we're almost up to 300 cats that we've helped. Um the issue we're having right now is the tremendous amount of kittens. And I would love to say they're both from our community cats but they're not. I would say more than half of what I've done through my house which is probably close to 125 kittens since March. Um most of it and more than probably have them have been from residents. Um I'm you know trying to help everybody spay and neutere as quick as I can. I'm at the point where I can no longer pay out of my own pocket because most of the residents I've had personally pay for their cats to be spayed and neutered. So I wouldn't take the money away from the community cats because that's what we were fundraising for. I can't do that at this point. Um I've currently have I took three kittens to the shelter today for adoption so I have 21 kittens in my house. Currently three of them are

[00:14:02] bottle babies so I'm feeding them every three to four hours plus I was for the second time from the the same resident I in April she gave me 14 very very sick sick when I see sick really really sick kittens which the shelter worked with me we divided between two shelter employees and myself the kittens to take you know to foster and get them you know back where they could be

up for adoption and may happen she just gave me twelve more and I've already neutered two of her cats. I've already it was the first time I will say that I lost my call. I am very I'm very kind when I talk to people and everything but this is this is neglect. This is neglect.

[00:14:50] And I warned her. I told her if you know she doesn't show up for the appointment I sent set for her for her last remaining of personal cats that I will be showing up to her house with the police or the sheriffs because these kitten are six weeks old and they don't even want you half a pound and they should weigh a pound and a half. Is this right here in the village? Yes. Are you guys aware of it but have you been commuting? The problem is is her personal adult cats are all in great health. It's the kittens and I don't know what she's doing and why she's weaving six to eight weeks after they're born to bring them to me in the condition they are. I've already lost three. Tessa and I are literally working around the clock and because I have bottled babies, we have to divide because I can't get the other kittens sick. So, sometimes my four grandma daughter's in there syringe feeding little kittens and it's irresponsible it it I I'm I'm to be totally honest I am angry I am so angry because one time I can forgive a second time there is no reason for it because when I made the the

[00:15:58] appointment for the other cat she no showed me and then here we are a couple of months later I have a problem yeah you do you have a big Yeah because it's it's just not right. Yeah. I mean and it's the the condition of these kittens. It's heartbreaking. It's heartbreaking. I mean we're and we're we have a colony in the town that we're trying to deal with because and this is the reality people have to understand when these cats get dumped over the years they start to inbreed. I pulled eight kittens out of this colony. Three only have survived because they were born with such severe abnormalities. Their ear is born on the side of their heads. Hydrocephalus. I mean most of them both had hydrocephalus. I mean and we did everything with it. Tessa was I mean and Tessa handled those ones herself. I mean she was right on dealing with them. Trying to care for them. You know medicate them. Do everything you possibly can to to save them and it's just you know that's the reality and we're hitting the reality. Now we've been very fortunate up to

[00:17:09] this point. We've been overall the colonies had been healthy. I mean minus hit by cars and stuff like that or FIV but this is this is a a major problem, a major, major problem and I am going to speak to the town also about it because we have to figure something out. These cats, I understand not everybody is a cat lover and I can respect that but they're a living being that needed to be treated with kindness and compassion just like anybody's dog or anything. It's not their fault that they're on the street living like this. It's not. They didn't they didn't go, oh Wilton looks like a good place to settle. No, they were here because people continue to dump. My three bottle babies are dumped. Kittens. Over the course of a couple of days and a wonderful resident found them and then continued to look to make sure no mother showed up and not only did she though it's not her responsibility called me for me to take them. She has continually given me donations has bought me kitten food to make sure that I have all my kittens are fed. I'm going through 30 cans of kitten's food a day. I just spent $119 at Tractor Supply because I ran out of all the kitten food that was donated.

[00:18:21] I'm paying, you know, I have to order prescription food for certain sick ones. I mean, Delhi Animal Hospital, I can't rave about them enough. They've been phenomenal support. Part of the Catskills Humane Society has been right there with me in the trenches. You know, what can we do? What do you need? I have a rescue down in New Jersey that is supplying me medication. So, you know, I can get it, you know, the dewormers and everything. I give them the money. They order it for me and have it shipped to me but this is the reality is this is not a good situation and unfortunately because we live in an area where we only have dog control where I'm from we had animal control we need animal control here these cats need to be protected people need to be answering for this we can't just leave it to the police because they're busy with everything we need somebody to oversee it just like we have a dog control officer and I am going to speak my mind at the town about this too because I'm I'm so fed up with this it's not even been a year and what I'm seeing is it's heartbreaking. It's heartbreaking. I haven't

[00:19:29] showered. This is the first time I've showered in two days because I'm constantly the phone calls and this and plus trying to work my job but and and I love taking care of these cats. It's not that. It's you know but I don't want to have to take care of them. I shouldn't have to. It shouldn't be this bad. It shouldn't be this bad and I have a wonderful group, the sewing group that just that Maxine headed up with and these women are making you know beautiful items to sell to help raise money for us I mean there have been wonderful people people when I put out I need pedialyte I need this it shows up at my door you know people are helping there are I mean one resident I I mean I'm just in tears about it they I get a check not marked from Fidelity Brokerage they took $1500 out of their retirement fund to send us to take care of these cats. And it's not just and it's not and these people didn't put these cats out here. You know but the you know people Adrian do you have room for this? Do you have room for

[00:20:39] this? And the shelter and I are working as quick as we can together. I mean I go they vaccinate. I bring them back. Here what do you need? You know you know I'm on the phone with them here. I have three more. And we just have a list of you know like I said I she goes what do you want to bring this time? I said here these are the three oldest ones. Take these guys. Next time I want to bring ones. You know, I mean, we have a great working relationship. I'm I can't thank Carter the Catskills enough and Beth and Deb there, they've been a tremendous support and you know, and you know, even talking to the sheriff's department when I've had issues in the town, you know, with a particular resident that was said some very weird things to me. You know they you know I called them up and they were wonderful about hey you know this is not a safe situation for you. We don't want you to go there. But this is what we're going to look for. If he says this isn't this then we'll we'll intervene but this is how we're going to handle it. You know Chad Hall has been you know working helping me organize things for you know big time fundraising and grants and stuff. He's been giving me

[00:21:51] information from what he knows and stuff. I mean there's tremendous support that way that I'm I'm just really upset with you know the repeat and I'm seeing it on Facebook you know like oh I have kittens wait a second three months ago I took kittens from you already and now you have

three more you know but you didn't tell me you needed help getting your pets spayed or neutered and yes I understand the cost but the reality is you can't afford it you have to look at this you know thing there Susquehanna SPCA has a low cost spayed clinic based on you know need. You know all animal matters does it. Love and Hope Sanctuary in Franklin has been their next week while I'm doing a 20 cat clinic with them. You know. You know Delhi Suny Delhi does low cost bay and neuters.

[00:22:46] Delhi Animal Hospital does low-cost bayan noodles. There's no excuse. If you can go to the store and buy a pack of cigarettes or case of beer or you could go to McDonald's and buy jung food or go to the five days at the fair buying food you can spay and neutere your pet it's as simple as that because it's $75 to neutere a male pet that includes a vaccine 85 to $100 to spa a female. So one time cost and then it's done. Then there's a free rabies claims all year. All different towns have them. County pays for it. There's no reason for this anymore. And I'm a as I'm real I told you and texted you the other day that I have I really feel like I've lost hope in humanity here for what I've been seeing the last month it's been heartbreaking to me and I know not everybody's an animal lover like me but when I have to sit there and watch these animals die and my 14 year old is doing it because she's handling it so maturely you know and people just keep oh I got more like it's no big deal so I mean I'm

[00:24:04] saying it publicly because I that's how angry I am like I'm just really really upset because it's not these cats folds and everybody wants all these cats these cats they they didn't do this they're they're animals I never I I can honestly say that I I don't ever think it was the cats I think it was irresponsible pet ownership yeah I mean these people that think that they want this cat because they saw a nose look beautiful and they wanted that one night and then when the cat needed care it's like they abandoned it oh yeah this is ridiculous really cute they're really adorable but then they grow up and then they start taking advantage of other people's properties and destroying other people's properties you know I mean it's nice I'm trying so hard I mean like to move fast as I can and I have to prioritize based on being like this one colony is a priority because of how sick these kittens are being born and the condition of the the adults so I have to prioritize that way and I know some people get annoyed with me but you know the cat's welfare is you know the most important thing to me it's my priority and right now that's you know what I think is the most important don't be afraid to set boundaries too I mean you're

[00:25:15] doing so much for the community I mean I I see how much you're doing don't be afraid to say no especially when you know that somebody has money or you see them at the fair as you use the example. Don't be afraid to say no. Nobody's going to shame on you for that. I mean