The regular meeting of the Walton Village Board was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street, Walton.

Present:	Mayor Bjorn Eilertsen	Attorney:	David Merzig, not required to attend
Trustees:	Stephen Condon	Clerk:	Jody L. Brown
	Richard Doig		
	Eric Northrup		
	Beth O'Brien		

Mayor Eilertsen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rev. Paul Huh of the United Presbyterian Church led the invocation.

Mayor Eilertsen presented Kristen Beers and Timothy Wood with certificates to acknowledge their 25 years of service to the Village of Walton.

PUBLIC HEARING – TAX LEVY LIMIT

Trustee Condon made a motion to open a public hearing on a local law to override the tax levy limit. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously. Lillian Browne asked what the levy limit was this year. The allowable limit is 1.02% again this year.

Trustee Condon made a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously. Trustee Northrup made a motion to pass local law 4-2026 to override tax levy limit. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING - WATER RATES

Trustee Northrup made a motion to open a public hearing on a local law to amend the water charges. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously. The suggested rate increase is $.10 per 1,000 gallons. No public input.

Trustee Condon made a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously. Trustee Doig made a motion to pass local law #5-2026 to amend water charges to $6.65 per 1,000 gallons. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Eric Noll, Walton Experience Initiative Corp., requested the use of Austin-Lincoln Park on May 24, 2026 from noon to 5 p.m. for a festival to include 3 on 3 basketball, homerun derby, pickleball, temporary skateboard area, food, etc. to bring interest to the park. Trustee Condon made a motion to allow the W.E.I.C. to use Austin-Lincoln Park contingent on pavilion rental and Little League use. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Trustee Northrup made a motion to accept the minutes. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried Unanimously.

ABSTRACTS:

The audit committee reviewed the abstracts and recommended approval as follows:

The General Fund Abstract in the sum of $54,408.36 was presented to the Board.

The Water Fund Abstract in the sum of $5,574.37 was presented to the Board.

The Sewer Fund Abstract in the sum of $175,606.13 was presented to the Board.

The Clarifier Project Fund Abstract in the sum of $2,450.00 was presented to the Board.

After review, Trustee Condon made a motion to approve the abstracts as submitted. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

THEATER

On March 14th, there will be a**n** Emergency Preparedness Workshop in the Theater at 1:00 p.m.

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS Butch Smith, Superintendent D.P.W. submitted a report to the Board for February 2026. We have used 400 ton of salt this season.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Tahir Haqq, Chief of Police, submitted a written report to the Board for February 2026.

DELAWARE ENGINEERING Bill Brown, Delaware Engineering, submitted a written report to the Board for February 2026.

STREET LIGHTS Bill Brown has been working with NYSEG to get a quote for two new street lights for the Water St. area. The NYSEG quote is $2,955.72 to install two additional poles. Electric service could be extended to provide power for green space events at an additional cost. An alternative to NYSEG fixtures would be private poles and solar powered street lights. Bill will look into the alternative lighting and report back to the Board.

SURVEY – CHERRY ST. & WHITE ROCK RD. Bill Brown received quotes for the surveys from Regen Surveying, Cherry St. $3,800 and White Rock Rd. $4,800. The Board will decide what budget line to pull the money from so this was tabled.

CEDARWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL Shane Boice, Cedarwood Environmental, submitted a report to the Board for February 2026. Clarifier project is complete.

COMPOSITE SAMPLER REFRIGERATOR Shane Boice requested a replacement refrigerator. After review, Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the purchase of a refrigerator from Manning Environmental at the cost of $1,200 from budget line G8130.515, 100% NYC DEP. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

SENATOR GRANT APPLICATIONS Received a phone call from Senator Schumer's office and an email Senator Riley regarding grant funding applications. Trustee Condon made a motion to move forward with a grant application to Senator for a water/stormwater project in the Franklin Rd. area. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously. Trustee Northrup made a motion to move forward with a grant application for a wastewater treatment plant grant. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT The A.R.C. has donated some artwork done by their participants which has been hang in the lobby and the Clerk's office.

FREEDOMFEST The Mayor recommended the use of the greenspace for Freedomfest. Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the use of the greenspace on Water St. for the 2nd Annual Freedomfest on July 4th to celebrate America's 250 years. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

BOARDROOM SMART BOARD The Mayor would like to update the Board and bring in technology. A quote was received for a 65" smart board. Trustee Doig suggested that the Mayor check out what the library has before we proceed.

FIRE LANE - TOWNSEND SCHOOL Trustee Northrup read a resolution to designate a fire lane in front of the Townsend School on North St. Trustee Northrup made a motion to pass the resolution to establish a no standing fire lane on the easterly side of North St. as submitted. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

2025-2026 BUDGET AMENDMENTS The Clerk submitted budget amends to the Board. After review, Trustee Condon made a motion to amend the 2025-2026 budget as submitted. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

2026 ELECTION LEGAL NOTICE — Trustee Doig made a motion to authorize the Clerk to post a legal notice for the 2026 Village election in *The Reporter* stating that the Village election will be held on WEDNESDAY, March 18th, in the Village Hall from noon until 9:00 p.m. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

PORCHFEST BANNER — Linda Belmont submitted a request for a banner on Delaware St. for Porchfest. Trustee Northrup made a motion authorize the Clerk to submit an application to NYS DOT for a banner permit for May 15th – June 30th for Porchfest. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

RIVERWALK GRANT SURVEY — The bids for the Riverwalk Grant have been reviewed. Trustee Doig made a motion to award the survey bid to JHA Companies for $12,800.00 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

LEVY LETTERS FOR ALL UNPAID BALANCES — The Clerk submitted reports of unpaid invoices to the Board. After review, Trustee Doig motion authorize the Clerk to mail the letters for all unpaid invoices and water/sewer customers that all balances need to be paid by March 31st or they will be levied to the 2026-2027 Village Tax. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE — Trustee Northrup read a letter of support and a resolution regarding the increased State Aid. After review, Trustee Northrup made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Governor Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Sterwart-Cousins, and Assembly Speaker Heastie and sending a copy of the resolution supporting increased aid to municipalities and strengthening New York's State -Local partnership. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION — Trustee Condon made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss PBA contract negotiations, Police Personnel and Code Enforcement Personnel. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Northrup made a motion to close Executive Session. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

ADJOURN — Mayor Eilertsen adjourned the meeting at 7 :55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING — The next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street.

Jody L. Brown, Clerk-Treasurer