

# VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Annual Organizational Meeting

April 3, 2023 7:00PM

Barker Fire Hall



Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley

Trustee Aaron Davis

Trustee Melanie Hirschman

Trustee David Quiett

In **Attendance:** DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Laurel Cantella, Aaron Nellist, Eric Alivers, Neal Gordon, Izzy Curcio, Peyton Bradley, Ireland Brady, Jon Hotaling, Cheryl Par

At **7:00pm meeting was called to order** by Mayor Corwin-Bradley by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

NC Legislator Shawn Foti **administered the oath of Office** to Mayor Corwin-Bradley, Trustee Davis and Trustee Hirschman.

### Mayoral Appointments:

Village Clerk-Treasurer-Amanda M. Detschner  
Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer-Laurel Cantella  
Code Enforcement Officer: Mark Remington  
Village Historian: Pete Devereaux  
Official Newspaper: Union Sun & Journal  
Village Attorney: Daniel Seaman, Seaman & Norris LLP  
Alternate Village Attorney: Thomas Caserta  
Village Engineer: Barton & Loguidice  
Registrar-Tracy Carmer  
Ethics Board-Christine Diez (exp. 3/31/2026)  
Planning Board-Thomas Gancasz Jr. (exp. 3/31/2026)  
Planning Board-Samantha Wilson (exp. 3/31/2028)  
Zoning Board-Joseph Naish (exp. 3/31/2028)  
Zoning Board- Holly Carges (exp. 3/31/2027)

NC Legislature Shawn Foti administered the **Oath of Office** to Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Laurel Cantella and Code Enforcement Officer Mark Remington.

### Mayoral Assignments for the Board of Trustees:

Deputy Mayor: Aaron Davis  
Deputy Mayor Davis-Property Maintenance and Improvements  
Mayor Corwin-Bradley-Grant, Research, Policies and Procedures  
Trustee Quiett- Fleet Equipment Maintenance and procurement  
Trustee Hirschman-Parks, Recreation & Main Street Beautification

### PROCLAMATION

#### Honoring Past Mayor Aaron Nellist for the past 12 years of dedicated service to the Village of Barker

WHEREAS, Aaron Nellist, former Mayor of the Village of Barker officially vacated the office of Mayor on March 31, 2023, after twelve (12) years of outstanding and meritorious service to the residents of Barker; and

WHEREAS, throughout his twelve years of service as an Elected Official first serving as Trustee from 2011-2013 and then Mayor from 2013-2023;

WHEREAS, Mayor Nellist boldly lead the Village through historic times during his tenure; including navigating the Village Hall/Library fire on January 20, 2019 and the rebuilding process afterwards, that continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, Aaron has served as an example to his peers, and the residents of this community and this State, in his achievements as an Elected Official through fairness and unwavering dedication;

WHEREAS, on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees, we want to express our sincere appreciation to former Mayor Aaron Nellist for his dedication to the Village of Barker;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE I T RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker, take this opportunity to express our sincere and grateful appreciation, and hereby extend to former Mayor Aaron Nellist, our congratulations on this well-earned hiatus and our best wishes to him for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Mayor Nellist was honored with a proclamation plaque and gift from the Village Board and other officials.

*The public hearing for the FY 2023-2024 budget was opened at 7:08pm by Mayor Corwin-Bradley.*

Tax Rate at \$7.80 /M

**TOTAL \$ 545,121**

**The public hearing was closed at 7:10pm.**

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the tax rate for the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget be set at \$7.80 per thousand.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

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Write In: Aaron Nellist 1

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**Resolution # 10-2023- Work Place Violence Prevention Policy**

This policy is on file with the Village Clerk-Treasurer

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #10-2023** was made by Trustee Quiett and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution # 11-2023- Sexual Harassment Policy**

This policy is on file with the Village Clerk-Treasurer

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #11-2023** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #12-2023- Mileage Allowance**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to officers and employees of the Village who use their automobiles while performing their official duties on behalf of the Village of Barker; and

WHEREAS, the rate determined by the IRS may change throughout the year, at any point shall the rate of reimbursement change it shall change the reimbursement allowed under Village Policy, as well.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees shall approve reimbursement to such officers and employees at the rate of 65.5 cents per mile.

Section 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #12-2023** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Quiett. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #13-2023- Advanced Approval of Claims**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges, and

WHEREAS, all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit; and

WHEREAS, the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any movement disallowed by the Board of Trustees;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges and all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2. That is resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #13-2023** was made by Trustee Quiett and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #14-2023- Attendance at Schools and Conferences**

WHEREAS, there is to be held during the coming fiscal year:

New York State Conference of Mayors and Fall Training School for Board members and Clerks

New York State Conference of Mayors Public Works Training School

New York Association of Local Government Records Officers

Niagara County Municipal Clerks Association meetings

Niagara County MuSIP Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

Niagara County Association of Town Highway Superintendents

Western New York Water Works Association

Western New York Fire Marshall's Inspectors Association

Niagara Frontier Building Officials Association

New York State Municipal Finance Officers Association

New York State Office of the State Comptroller

New York State Association of City and Village Clerks

New York State and Local Retirement System

New York State Association of Tax Receivers & Collectors

International Municipal Clerks (IIMC) Approved Institute

WHEREAS, it is determined by the Board of Trustees that attendance by certain municipal officials and employees at one or more of these meetings, conferences or schools benefits the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Superintendent of Public Works, Clerk-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer and Building Inspector be authorized to attend these previously names meetings with the understanding that their primary responsibilities to the Village are met. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #14-2023** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #15-2023 - Designation of Official Depository**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker has determined that Village Law 4-412(3)(2) requires the designation of the banks or trust companies for the deposit of all Village monies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker does hereby designate M&T as the depository of all money received by the Village Clerk-Treasurer

Section 2: That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #15-2023** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Quiett. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #16-2023- Authorizing the Official M&T Bank signers**

WHEREAS, The Village of Baker has designated M&T Bank as the official depository of all money received by the Village Clerk-Treasurer on April 1, 2023 by Resolution #15-20223;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1: That following are authorized signers to all Village accounts at M&T Bank

Mayor- Seanna Corwin-Bradley  
Clerk-Treasurer- Amanda M. Detschner  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer- Laurel Cantella

Section 2: That this resolution shall take effect on April 3, 2023

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #16-2023** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Quiett. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution # 17-2023- Setting the Monthly Meetings of the Village of Barker Board of Trustees, regular work sessions and setting the Annual Organizational Meeting**

WHEREAS, the Village of Barker Board of Trustees meets on a monthly basis; and  
WHEREAS a regular time and day for these meetings is necessary to provide public attendance  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the first Monday of the month is hereby established as the regular work session at six o'clock PM in the Village Hall/Police Station and  
THEREORE BE IT RESOLVED that he monthly meetings of the Village of Barker Board of Trustees shall be held on the second Monday of each month at seven o'clock PM in the Barker Fire Hall and  
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the annual organizational meeting of the Village of Barker Board of Trustees shall be held on the first Monday of April at seven o'clock PM replacing the regular Board Meeting for April.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #17-2023** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Resolution #18-2023- Procedure for Calling Special Meetings**

WHEREAS. It is not uncommon for special meetings to be necessary in the addition to the regular meetings of the Village of Barker Board of Trustees, and  
WHEREAS, it is necessary, as well, to have a procedure for calling such meetings, and  
WHEREAS, it is also necessary to notify the public and the news media of these special meetings,  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that these special meetings may be held at the request of the Mayor alone and/or at the request of two or more Trustees, and  
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk-Treasurer will notify each member individually and that in the absence of the Clerk-Treasurer, the Mayor will provide the notification and  
That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #18-2023** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Unpaid Water-** Authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to collect unpaid water rents, delinquent as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 by sending the outstanding amounts to Niagara County Department of Real Property for placement on the Village Tax Roll. The total unpaid amount as of April 1, 2023 is \$10,601.14.

A **motion to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to collect unpaid water rents onto the Village tax roll in the amount of \$10,601.14** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Quiett. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

The **Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports** were reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

- ✓ Water bills will be mailed April 7<sup>th</sup> and are due May 10<sup>th</sup> without penalty
- ✓ Spring 2023 Newsletters will be prepared shortly and will be mailed when the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is finalized after its sent by Niagara County. Any contributing articles please by in by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

A **motion to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to close the RD Short Lived Asset Reserve Account at Tompkins Bank of Castile and move the money into the NYCLASS subaccount RD Short Lived Asset Reserve Account** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Quiett.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

The **Public Works Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Quiett inquired about how easy it was to shut off water to a residence, he will need this done for work at his home.

The **Code Enforcement Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.  
1 permit- porch

**Correspondence:** Village's Fiscal Stress Report & Environmental Stress Report- No Designation  
Application of filing for Liquor License- The Grain Tap House, LLC  
NC Gallonage Report

**Approval of Claims and Bill Payment:** Abstract 011 Voucher #'s 345-371  
General Fund-\$6,201.14 Water Fund-\$689.13 T&A Fund-\$1,400.00 \$TOTAL \$8,290.27  
A **motion to approve the above claims and bill payment audited by the entire Board of Trustees** present was made by Trustee Quiett and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Budget Transfers:** A9010.8 State Retirement \$62.00 to A1410.4 Deputy CT Contractual  
A9010.8 State Retirement \$300.00 to A620.42 VH-Heat  
A9010.8 State Retirement \$300.00 to A1640.44 VH-Contractual  
A9010.8 State Retirement \$400.00 to A1640.45 DPW-Misc.  
A **motion to approve the above budget transfers** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Public Comment** was offered by:  
Jon Hotaling: The Town of Somerset congratulates Mayor Corwin-Bradley on taking office tonight.  
Eric Alivers: Stated he owns property in the Village and would like to open three businesses. He inquired as to the process that he needed to go through. Mayor Corwin-Bradley stated a letter of intent with a detailed business plan needs to be submitted to the Clerk-Treasurer. After being submitted to the Clerk-Treasurer it is forwarded to the Village attorney. After review from the Village attorney a planning board meeting will be called, and Mr. Alivers would be present to present to the planning board.  
Aaron Nellist: Congratulated Mayor Corwin-Bradley on her first organizational meeting as Mayor. He thanked the village residents for their years of support. He thanked the current Board of Trustees for their support. He thanked members of the past Board of Trustees for their service and support. He thanked Amanda and Mark for their dedication and support over the years.

**Board Comment** was offered:  
Trustee Quiett: Congratulated former Mayor Nellist on his hiatus and for his service for the last 12 years.  
Deputy Mayor Davis: Ditto  
Trustee Hirschman: Thanked Aaron Nellist for the nice job over the years and welcomed Laurel as Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.  
Mayor Corwin-Bradley: Thanked Mayor Nellist for the advice and fun meetings over the years.

A motion to enter into **Executive Session to discuss pending litigation was made at 7:35pm**, inviting Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Laurel Cantella was made by Trustee Quiett and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Attendance in Executive Session:** All 4 members of the Board of Trustees, Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Laurel Cantella

A **motion to exit Executive session was made at 8:03pm** by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

A **motion to authorize Mayor Corwin-Bradley to execute the confidential settlement agreement and general release of the matter brought by former Police Officer Anthony S. Bartucca** was made by Trustee Quiett and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

A motion for **Adjournment was made at 8:08pm** by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman,Quiett NAYS-0/None Motion Carried

**Next work session will be Monday, May 1, 2023@ 6:00pm @ the Barker Fire Department**  
**Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 8, 2023 @ 7:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall**

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC, RMC, CMFO  
Clerk-Treasurer