VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS

March 11, 2026

5:45 P.M. Budget Workshop

6:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Deputy Mayor Connie McAllister, Trustee Samanth Booth, Trustees Nicholas Calton and Shirley Calton, Village Clerk Lisa Hammond, Ralph Hammond, 1st Assistant Rescue Squad Chief Scott Rivers and 2nd Assistant Rescue Squad Chief James Blackburn

Absence: Code Enforcement Officer Ron Dulmage, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford and Attorney Henry Leader

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

5:50 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond opened the 2nd Budget workshop session for the proposed 2026-2027 Budget. Hammond noted that Becky Donnelly, Clerk Lisa Hammond and himself have been working on the proposed upcoming budget with input from Mark Basford and board members. Hammond noted that the Library Grant monies have been added to the budget under Grant Loan application and expenses.

Mayor Hammond handed out 2nd draft copies of the proposed budget to the board for review and discussion. Mayor Hammond added that he and Mark Basford, Sewer Superintendent have continued to hold discussion on the phone and emails pertaining to the Budget. Mayor Hammond noted that the Sewer Plant employees have not seen a raise and they are instrumental in the running of the plant. Hammond feels that Mark Basford is the Supervisor and that Jared Murray is a great employee. Mayor Hammond and Village Board members went over changes to the budget. Street Lighting will see an increase. Trustee Samantha Booth asked about monies under the celebration line. Mayor Hammond noted that he has applied for the grant monies through St. Lawrence County in the amount of $1,000.00 and was awarded for the Village. Mayor Hammond asked the board members for permission to put $1,776.00 in the celebration line in honor of the 250 year anniversary. Board members agreed that that is a great idea.

Both members Rivers and Blackburn of the Rescue Squad were given an opportunity to speak. Both members gave an overview of some of the equipment, staffing, billing issues at the station. Village Board members were in full understanding. Scott Rivers stated that he is going to try to attend more Village Board meetings and looks forward to having a good working relationship with the Village Board. James Blackburn provided the Village Board with a copy of the rescue and fire department budgets. Discussion continued. Questions and answers were

received. A signed contract was executed and the 2025-2026 check was provided to Blackburn in the amount of $4,000.00 to the rescue squad.

6:10 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond closed Budget workshop

6:11 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond opened the regular meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance - above

2. Appropriations: Sewer and General

Bills were audited by Trustees Samanth Booth and Connie McAllister

Motion to approve bills.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Nicholas Calton Vote: unanimous

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of January 5, 2026 and February 9, 2026 were approved

Motion: Shirley Calton Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

4. Reports: Departments and Committees

a. Sewer Report: Mark Basford was not present. Mayor Michael Hammond stated that he and Basford spoke on the phone about current Sewer matters and the upcoming budget requests. 27 Hours reported by Mark Basford and 30 Hours reported for Jared Murray for the Month of February. Basford will be placing a cold patch around a manhole on State Street due to a washout from rain. Basford will be ordering some craftsman handheld tools out of this current year's budget.

b. Code Enforcement Report: Code Officer Ron Dulmage was not present. Mayor Hammond noted that Ron Dulmage is always doing things behind the scenes and is always available for any questions or concerns the board members may have.

c. Clerk's Report: Clerk Lisa Hammond reported that she reported to the retirement system for the Sewer Department employees. Budget items are flowing smoothly. Clerk Hammond noted that she is continuing with the Library Grant meetings in Canton and Rensselaer Falls to discuss reimbursement from the State and Fund

raising efforts. Hammond has received a couple phone calls over the increased assessments in the Township. Tradesman Contracting helped in the removal of metal hanging from a building on Main Street, owned by Jackie Lane. Cones were placed under the area until the metal was removed. Village board members asked Clerk Hammond to reach out to the Fire Department to flush out sewer lines in the Village.

d. Mayors Report: Mayor Michael Hammond stated that his report is the Budget proposals and correspondence with issues arising within the Village. The Mayor's Dinner was canceled this quarter.

e. Committees - Falls Festival/Trees/Village Office - Library

A meeting will be scheduled for the Falls Festival committee soon. Many ash trees are dying in the area.

All reports approved by blanket motion.

Motion: Nicholas Calton Seconded: Samantha Booth Vote: unanimous

5. New Business:

a. Mowing Bids: Discussion and approval

Mayor Michael Hammond asked the board members for consent to advertise on social media for bids for mowing the Village Properties. Mayor Hammond and board members were in agreement that Michael Wainwright, who has mowed in the past years does a great job and that he may want to submit a bid.

All board members gave their approval to advertise.

6. Updates: Library/Village Office Updates and Discussion:

Mayor Hammond stated that he attends meetings on the ongoing project. Recently I have been meeting on the computer with engineers and on the phone with the Steering Committee. The most recent donation was from Beaver Creek in the amount of $2,000.00. Electrical is moving forward on the addition to the Library.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE VILLAGE BOARD

A Public Hearing will be held on April 13th, 2026 at 5:30, before the regular monthly board meeting.

Next Village Board meeting will be held on April 13, 2026 at 6 p.m

6:35 p.m. Closed Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Motion:Connie McAllister Seconded: Nicholas Calton Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk