

## VILLAGE HALL

2 THUNDER ROAD COLONIE, NY 12205 (518) 869-7562 FAX (518) 464-0389

**JAMES M. RUBINO** MAYOR

villagehall@colonievillage.org www.colonievillage.org

FRANK A. PREVRATIL **DEPUTY MAYOR** 

**PATTY SCHWARZ LOCKART** TRUSTEE JASON M. DEPAULO TRUSTEE **MARK STEVENS** TRUSTEE

> JAMIE L. BLOT VILLAGE CLERK

NOTE: THERE IS A PUBLIC HEARING TAKING PLACE PRIOR TO THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 6:30 P.M. FOR RESOLUTION 2025-52 "AUTHORIZE TO EXPEND FUNDS OUT OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE RECREATION CENTER FUND" FOR HVAC REPAIRS/UPGRADES - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000 REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW

## MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES **AGENDA MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025** 6:30 P.M.

6:30 P.M. Mayor opens the meeting – pledge of allegiance – Exit signs noted

## ROLL CALL

Mayor Rubino Deputy Mayor Prevratil

Trustee Lockart

Trustee DePaulo

Trustee Stevens

## **MINUTES**

1. Regular meeting minutes 7/21/2025

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Vote on Resolution 2025-52 "Authorize to expend funds out of the capital reserve recreation center fund"
- 2. Vote on Resolution 2025-54 "Emergency expense sewer repair Vly Road"
- 3. Vote on Resolution 2025-55 "Authorize to accept the bid for the 2015 Chevy Tahoe"
- 4. Vote on Resolution 2025-56 "A resolution rescinding the vote of Local Law #5 of 2025 "Amendments to the Village of Colonie Code" adding article IV: Cats" note: approval of this resolution also authorizes the Clerk to advertise for a public hearing to be held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for Local Law #5 of 2025



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TRUSTEE

## **MINUTES**

# MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2025 AND THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 6:30 P.M.

The meeting of the Mayor and Board of Trustees and the Public Hearing for Local Law #5 of 2025, was held on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 2 Thunder Road, Albany, NY 12205. Mayor Rubino opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Mayor Rubino Present
Deputy Mayor Prevratil Present
Trustee Lockart Present
Trustee DePaulo Excused
Trustee Stevens Present
Clerk Blot Absent

Acting Secretary Sim Present

Mayor Rubino requested prayers for employee David Langlois.

Mayor Rubino stated that there is proposed Local Law #5 before the board for tonight's meeting regarding legislation regarding feral cats.

Ms. Ellen Collins of 8 Grace Street was present with some questions regarding the proposed feral cat law and how it would be addressed. Mayor Rubino asked Ms. Collins to leave her information with the board and they would have Chief Code Enforcement Officer call her tomorrow to address her questions.

Minutes of the regularly scheduled board meeting held on July 7, 2025, were reviewed by the present members of the board.

A motion was made by Trustee Lockart to approve the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Stevens.

Vote:

Trustee Lockart Yes

Trustee Stevens Yes
Deputy Mayor Prevratil Yes

Mayor Rubino Yes

Motion passed.

Acting Secretary Sim requested a vote on Local Law #5 of 2025 "Amendments to the Village of Colonie code".

A motion was made by Trustee Lockart to approve Local Law #5 of 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Prevratil.

Vote:

Trustee Lockart

Yes Yes

Trustee Stevens Deputy Mayor Prevratil

Yes

Mayor Rubino

Yes

Motion passed.

Acting Secretary Sim requested authorization to advertise for a public hearing to be held on August 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for Resolution 2025-52 "Authorize to expend funds out of the capital reserve recreation center fund", in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for HVAC improvements. Mayor Rubino explained that we replaced the one HVAC system at the recreation center that needed replacing and now the other one needs to also be replaced, and this expenditure is to do so, and would include any other miscellaneous heating/cooling upgrades that need to be done at that time.

A motion was made by Trustee Lockart to authorize to advertise, as presented. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Prevratil.

Vote:

Trustee Lockart

Yes

Trustee Stevens

Yes

Deputy Mayor Prevratil Mayor Rubino Yes Yes

Motion passed.

Acting Secretary Sim requested a vote on Resolution 2025-53 "Authorize the Mayor to execute agreement supplemental police personnel" for police coverage at the "Tuesday's in the Park" concert series for the 2025 season. Mayor Rubino stated that this is for police coverage during our Tuesday concerts in Cook Park for the 2025 season. He added there is a lot of activity in the park and people using the park which is great, but with a lot of people at the park it can lead to some issues and we want to just ensure everyone stays safe.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Prevratil to approve Resolution 2025-53, as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lockart.

Vote:

Trustee Lockart

Yes

Trustee Stevens Deputy Mayor Prevratil Yes Yes

Mayor Rubino

Yes

Motion passed.

## Reports Submitted:

Senior center expenditure vs. revenue report 6/30/2025 – 7/11/2025

Abstract #4

General: \$77,832.64 Water: \$6,782.40 Sewer: \$2,488.07 **Total: \$87,103.11**  Mayor Rubino asked if there were any questions or comments from the board or audience, to which there was none.

Trustee Lockart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Prevratil.

Vote:

Trustee Lockart

Yes

Trustee Stevens

Yes

Deputy Mayor Prevratil

Yes

Mayor Rubino

Yes

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Sim Acting Secretary

## **RESOLUTION 2025-52**

## AUTHORIZE TO EXPEND FUNDS OUT OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE RECREATION CENTER FUND

WHEREAS, the Village of Colonie pursuant to Section 6-c of the General Municipal Law, created a Capital Reserve Fund with Pioneer Bank entitled "Recreation Center"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Colonie wishes to expend funds out of said account for HVAC improvements, not to exceed \$40,000; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorizes the expense for HVAC improvement expenses, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 to be expended from the Capital Reserve Recreation Center Fund.

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk

## RESOLUTION 2025-54 EMERGENCY EXPENSE – SEWER REPAIR VLY ROAD

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Village of Colonie procurement policy, and pursuant to section 103 of the General Municipal Law, exceptions to competitive bidding or offering exist if an emergency shall arise; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Colonie has deemed there is an emergency situation on Vly Road and the sewer line is in need of immediate repair and replacement; and

WHEREAS, prolonging attention to fix the issue could cause a threat to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, it was necessary to take immediate corrective action and thereby dispense with public competitive bidding requirements,

WHEREAS, we wish to expend funds out of the Capital Reserve Sewer Repair and Replacement Fund for said repairs,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Village of Colonie contacted ANJO construction to assist with the necessary steps needed to complete the repairs and to repair the sewer lines accordingly,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Village of Colonie Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Treasurer and/or Clerk to expend funds in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the Capital Reserve Sewer Repair and Replacement fund.

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk

## **RESOLUTION 2025-55**

## AUTHORIZE TO ACCEPT THE BID FOR THE 2015 CHEVY TAHOE

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Colonie declared a 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN#1GNSK3EC8FR305829 as surplus on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2025, and authorized Fire Chief Jeffrey Kaysey to dispose of the Tahoe according to state statutes, including disposal, sale or trade-in on new equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Jeffrey Kayser listed the Tahoe for auction from July 8<sup>th</sup> thru July 31<sup>st</sup> on Govdeals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Colonie wishes to accept the auction bid offered at the closing bid date of July 31<sup>th</sup>, in the amount of \$15,600,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees accept the auction bid amount of \$15,600, and that pursuant to Resolution 2025-50, proceeds from this disposition will be deposited into the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve held at Pioneer Bank.

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk

## **RESOLUTION 2025-56**

# A RESOLUTION RESCINDING THE VOTE OF LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2025 "AMENDMENTS TO THE VILLAGE OF COLONIE CODE" ADDING ARTICLE IV: CATS

WHEREAS, the Village of Colonie voted to approve Local Law #5 of 2025 "Amendments to the Village of Colonie Code" regarding adding Article IV: Cats to the code, on July 21, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Colonie now wishes to rescind the vote for Local Law #5 of 2025 and hold a new public hearing regarding the matter since procedural steps of the public hearing were not clear and the Village feels it is in the best interest in the public to give another opportunity for input on said matter; and

WHEREAS, the Village Clerk is requesting a vote to rescind the vote that took place on Local Law #5 of 2025 on July 21, 2025, and further requests authorization to advertise for a public hearing to be held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for Local Law #5,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Colonie:

- 1) That the vote for Local Law #5 of 2025 adopted on July 21, 2025 is hereby rescinded.
- 2) That the Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for a public hearing to be held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for Local Law #5 of 2025.

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2025 "CHANGES TO THE VILLAGE OF COLONIE CODE"

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE,** that there has been duly presented before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Colonie, a need for a public hearing for

LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2025 "CHANGES TO THE VILLAGE OF COLONIE CODE" a local law amending the Village of Colonie code as follows: Chapter 68 "Animals: adding Article IV: Cats

Note: the legislative intent of this local law is to address both outdoor and feral cats

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE,** that a public hearing will be duly held on August 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at such hearing, all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk

Dated: August 4, 2025



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## VILLAGE OF COLONIE LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2025 "AMENDMENTS TO THE VILLAGE OF COLONIE CODE"

A local law amending the Village of Colonie code as follows:

Chapter 68 Animals Add

Article IV: Cats

## Section 1. Legislative Intent.

The Village of Colonie recognizes that both outdoor and feral cats are often the focus of compassionate care by well-intentioned residents. While these efforts are appreciated, unmanaged populations of feral and free-roaming cats can lead to unintended consequences, including overpopulation, unsanitary conditions, public health concerns, and disruptions to nearby properties.

This Local Law is intended to establish fair and humane guidelines that promote responsible care, minimize nuisance conditions, and reduce the overpopulation of outdoor and feral cats through sterilization and sound management practices. The Village is committed to addressing these issues with sensitivity and respect for those who care about animal welfare, while ensuring the health, safety, and quality of life of the broader community.

Nothing in this Local Law shall be construed to permit or encourage cruelty, abuse, or harm to any cat. The purpose of this law is not to euthanize or otherwise destroy feral cats as a method of population control, but rather to support humane solutions such as Trap-Neuter-Return, responsible feeding practices, and the prevention of conditions that create nuisance or public health hazards.

This law is enacted pursuant to the Village's municipal home rule powers, in full compliance with the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law and Public Health Law.

## Section 2. Definitions.

All terms used in this chapter shall have the meanings set forth below regardless of any inconsistent provisions elsewhere in the Village Code.

(a) "Outdoor Cat" means any cat that is permitted by its owner or caretaker to spend time outdoors without continuous supervision or physical restraint.

- (b) "Feral Cat" means a cat that is born in the wild or has reverted to a wild state and exhibits behavior consistent with little or no human socialization. Feral cats are typically fearful of people and may live in colonies, often relying on outdoor food sources and shelter.
- (c) "Caretaker" means any person who provides food, water, or other basic sustenance to a cat they do not legally own, including to stray or feral cats, without assuming legal ownership or full responsibility for the animal. Caretakers are typically persons who feed cats that remain free-roaming and are not socialized household pets.
- (d) "Responsible Party" means any person who owns a cat, or who has accepted legal custody or control of a cat, including through keeping, harboring, or sheltering the cat on a regular basis as a household pet. Responsible Parties are considered the primary custodian of the cat, as distinct from a Caretaker who feeds a feral or free-roaming cat without claiming ownership.
- (e) "Nuisance" means behavior by cats that results in property damage, strong odors, habitual trespass, or the creation of unsanitary conditions.
- (f) "Sterilization" means surgical spay or neuter, or another approved method of rendering a cat permanently unable to reproduce.
- (g) "Code Enforcement Officer" means any official designated by the Village to enforce this Local Law.

## Section 3. Outdoor Cat Limit.

No person shall own, keep or harbor for more than four (4) outdoor cats at a single dwelling unit or property, whether owned or unowned, without written approval from the Village. Any person who exceeds this limit must submit a cat management plan and receive conditional authorization, subject to inspection and compliance with sterilization, sanitation, and nuisance-prevention standards.

## Section 4. Sterilization Requirement.

Each Responsible Party for an outdoor cat shall ensure that the cat is sterilized and vaccinated for rabies, unless medically exempt by a licensed veterinarian.

## Section 5. Abandonment Prohibited.

No person shall intentionally release, dump, or abandon any cat onto public or private property in the Village for the purpose of discarding, relinquishing, or evading responsibility for the animal. For the purposes of this Local Law, the return of a sterilized and vaccinated feral cat to its original colony location as part of an organized and humane Trap-Neuter-Return process shall not be considered abandonment.

## Section 6. Trap-Neuter-Return and Movement Restrictions.

The Village of Colonie encourages humane Trap-Neuter-Return as the preferred method of managing feral cat populations. Private individuals and approved rescue organizations may conduct Trap-Neuter-Return. Trap-Neuter-Return participants shall use humane trapping methods, ensure that cats are sterilized and vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian. Returned cats must be released only to their original colony location. Relocation, transfer, or release of feral cats to any other location within or outside the Village is prohibited without prior written approval of the Village.

## Section 7. Obligations for Caretakers.

Any person who regularly provides food, water, or other basic sustenance to one or more stray or feral cats they do not own, shall be deemed a Caretaker for those cats under this Local Law. Caretakers are not required to sterilize feral cats but are encouraged to participate in a Trap-Neuter-Return program. Caretakers must ensure that feeding activities are conducted in a manner that avoids nuisance conditions and limits congregation and trespass onto neighboring properties. All feeding areas must be kept clean, with uneaten food promptly removed, and the location of feeding stations may be subject to review and modification by the Village to reduce impacts on the surrounding area.

No more than four (4) feral cats may regularly fed or sheltered at any one property, unless the Village grants written authorization for a larger managed colony under specific conditions. Exceeding this limit without such authorization shall be deemed a violation of this Local Law.

If repeated complaints or observations indicate that feral cat activity at a property exceeds acceptable limits or creates a nuisance, the Village may issue a Notice to Remedy requiring reduction in the number of cats, relocation of feeding areas, or cessation of feeding activities.

## Section 8. Code Enforcement Authority.

The Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate complaints, inspect properties, and enforce this Local Law. The Officer may issue Notices to Remedy with a compliance deadline of fifteen (15) days, direct remedial actions including reduction in cat populations or sanitation improvements, and impose fines for violations.

The Code Enforcement Officer shall have discretion to determine the most appropriate course of action, which may include requiring the reduction of cat populations, relocation or removal of feeding stations, mandatory cleanup of unsanitary conditions, or coordination with animal control or public health authorities. In cases where suspected hoarding, animal cruelty, or abandonment is observed, the Officer is authorized to refer the matter to the Albany County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, or other appropriate state or nonprofit animal welfare agencies for investigation or assistance.

The Officer may also work with rescue organizations to facilitate humane Trap-Neuter-Return programs or structured management plans for feral cat colonies, provided such programs comply with the provisions of this Local Law. The Village may adopt administrative forms, procedures, and agreements to support enforcement and colony oversight.

Any person receiving a Notice to Remedy must take the steps identified therein, which may include demonstrating proof of sterilization or vaccination, reducing the number of cats to four (4) or fewer, relocating or removing feeding stations, or submitting a cat management plan acceptable to the Village. Failure to comply within the stated time period shall constitute a separate violation for each day the condition remains uncorrected.

## Section 9. Effective Date.

Any person who violates this Local Law shall be subject to a civil fine of up to one hundred dollars (\$100) for a first offense, and up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each subsequent offense. Each day a violation continues beyond the compliance deadline shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to fines, the Village may seek injunctive relief, including but not limited to court orders requiring sterilization, limiting the number of outdoor or feral cats, or halting feeding where appropriate.

## Section 10. Severability and Compliance with State Law.

If any provision of this Local Law, or its application, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions. This Local Law shall be interpreted and enforced in a manner consistent with New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, Public Health Law, and all other applicable laws. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit or require any act inconsistent with state law governing animal welfare, cruelty prevention, or rabies control.

## Section 11. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

#### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk