SPENCER VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES
November 2, 2026

Regular Meeting called to order- 7:00PM

Board members present- Gil, Kevin, Mike, Donna, Andy, Atty.

Absent- Sean, Kyle

Public Present- see attached

Agenda Changes- None

Guest Speaker- Lion's Club

Mayor's Report- Letter to the town of Spencer re: dog control

Regular Reports of Officers and Committees

- Fire Department- 29 Total calls- 7 village, 22 town.
- Police Department- CFS Total- 12
- Police Commission- None
- Code Enforcement- 0 application, 13 inspections, 2 violations. Meeting with Shur Fine owner Tuesday.
- Building and Grounds- Waiting on furnace quotes
- Park/ Pond- trees
- Grants- None
- Roads- CHIPS filed, letter to NYSDOT, letter to Broome Bituminous
- Youth- Digital sign up, PAK flyer
- Village atty.- NYMIR
- Village Planning Board- new member/ revisiting comprehensive plan

Consent Items
Approve the minutes of October 5, 2026

Motion made by: Kevin
Seconded by: Mike (3/0)

Public Comment-

Kermit- Food Cupboard numbers up 20%, no correlation to Shur Fine loss, no financial stress
Joan Weston- pond Sunday before thanksgiving decoration
Sabrina Slater- 12PM church Thanksgiving

Financial Updates from Clerk- Treasurer-

Financials: Abstract #: 11022026
Starting & Ending check #s: 26075- 26097
Total Revenues: $ 17,120.15
Total Expenditures: $ 20,526.66
VOIDS: 0 Room/Park Rentals: 1 Tax Search: 1

Total Revenues YTD: $ 218,013.22
Total Expenditures YTD: $ 295,083.55

- Relevy sent back to Tioga County
- Snowplowing with Town set for village streets
- PAK transportation grant
- Grants/ FD
- NYMIR

New Business – None

Items for Board Action-
Motion to accept bid from Scenic Landscaping for the 2026- 2027 winter season.

Motion made by: Donna
Seconded by: Kevin (3/0)

Motion to accept Shelia Covelle as village planning board member.

Motion made by: Kevin
Seconded by: Donna (3/0)

Calendar-
Town of Spencer Board Meeting- Tuesday, November 10, 2026 @ 6PM
Council of Government Meeting- Thursday, November 18, 2026 @ 7PM
Village office closed Thursday, November 26, 2026- Thanksgiving
Village of Spencer Board Meeting- Monday, December 7, 2026 @ 7PM

Letters & Correspondence-
Letter from Al Faulkerson- Dog control
Letter from Chief of Police to SVE School District
Rec'd phone call regarding open burn at 32 Nichols Street 10/13/26 @ 7:51PM

Appropriations and Auditing
Financial Transactions – ***Motion*** to accept deposits of revenue, fines and other money having been received since October 1, 2026, AND payment of invoices and other debts as present by the Clerk-Treasurer, Erika Brown, AND whereas the Village Trustees acknowledgement that Village expenses, receipts of payment and bills to be paid have been reviewed by a minimum of two Trustees prior to said motion to approve payment of the bills and accept any funds/donations.

Motion made by: Mike
Seconded by: Donna (3/0)

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Made by: Kevin
Seconded by: Donna (3/0)
Adjourned at: 7:56PM

Respectfully submitted,
Erika Brown
Village Clerk- Treasurer

VILLAGE OF SPENCER MONTHLY MEETING

MEETING DATE: 11/21/24

LOCATION: 41 N. Main Street

NAME	SIGNATURE	NAME	SIGNATURE
JOAN WESTON	Joan Weston		
DONNA BURGH	Donna Burgh		
RUTH VAUGHT	Ruth Vaught		
SHEILA COVELL	Sheila Covell		
Sally Bunce	Sally Bunce		
JC			
Kevin	Kevin Bunce		
DAVID	DURRETT		
Nicole Oland			
William Garrison			

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Town Board
Town of Spencer
79 East Tioga Street
Spencer, New York 14883

RE: Town Obligation to Provide Dog Control Services Within the Village of Spencer

Dear Town Board:

We recently received concerns from the Town of Spencer ("Town") concerning the provision of dog control services for the Village of Spencer ("Village") and wished to respond to those concerns.

The Village has reviewed the relevant statutory frameworks, guidance from New York State, and the Town's own laws regarding the provision of dog control services to a village wholly situated within a town in New York. Based upon that review, the Village has determined that the Town is able and obligated to provide a dog control officer, whose jurisdiction includes the Village for enforcement and service.

New York State Agriculture and Markets Law ("Ag. Law") § 114 requires each town to appoint one or more dog control officers for the purpose of assisting with the control of dogs and the enforcement of Article 7 of the same within its boundaries. In interpreting this statutory provision, the New York State Comptroller ("Comptroller") has concluded that the jurisdiction of the town dog control officer embraces the entire town, including a village wholly within its boundaries, and is therefore required to provide services to such a village. A copy of the relevant Comptroller's opinion is enclosed herein.

Similarly, the New York State Attorney General ("AG") has concluded that a town must enforce Article 7 of the Ag. Law throughout its territorial limits, including in "a village which lies within the town." The AG additionally clearly recognized that a town dog control officer possesses jurisdiction within such villages. A copy of the relevant AG opinion is enclosed herein.

While a subsequent informal AG opinion addresses the ability of the Village to mandate enforcement of local Town codes or legislation within its jurisdiction, that opinion relates specifically to Town legislation, and does not relate to the enforcement of Article 7 of the Ag. Law which the Town must enforce, and (2) does not address the fact that the Town of Spencer code expressly provides for the enforcement of Chapter 45 of the Town Code "in all areas of the Town of Spencer, including the Village of Spencer."

As such, while the Village may not unilaterally mandate enforcement of the Town Code in the Village, the Town is legally responsible for enforcement of its own Town Code, which includes

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the provision of dog control services and applicability of Chapter 45 to the Village of Spencer, and is regardless responsible for the enforcement of the Ag. Law in the Village.

Accordingly, the Town remains legally responsible for providing dog control services within the Village and may not unilaterally discontinue such services under its own Town Code and under the Ag. Law. No provision of Article 7 relieves the Town of its obligation to provide dog control services within the entirety of the Town, including the Village located wholly within the Town's borders. Guidance makes clear that there is no "compliance" issue created by the Town's provision of dog control services within the confines of the Village wholly situated in the Town. Of additional note, Village residents also pay taxes to the Town of Spencer and are entitled to services as any other taxpayer would be.

The Village respectfully requests written confirmation that the Town will continue to provide dog control officer services within the Village of Spencer. If the Town takes a contrary position, please provide the specific statutory authority, legal opinion, or citation for the basis upon which it relies.

Respectfully,

Gilbert Knapp
Village of Spencer Mayor

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